## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice FI-2526** 

For: State and County Offices

# Handling Assignments of Payment Under the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002

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Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Management

1 Overview

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**Background** 

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the Act) was signed into law on May 13, 2002. The Act:

- publicly announced new farm programs to be administered by FSA and CCC for fiscal years 2002 through 2007
- extended some existing farm programs through fiscal year 2007
- provided an immediate termination of some existing farm programs that were due to expire at the end of fiscal year 2002.

The automated assignment system will be modified to provide for new programs, and remove terminated programs. When the program is implemented, the assignment system will be updated to record assignments under the program.

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**Purpose** 

This notice provides policies and procedures for handling CCC-36's as farm programs are being implemented.

programs are being implemented.

Contact

If there are any questions about this notice, contact Vivian Lu, FMD, at 703-305-1313.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2003	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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## 2 Accepting CCC-36 for New Programs Included in the Act

A Designating Programs on CCC-36

CCC-36 dated on or after May 13, 2002, may be accepted for new programs included in the Act. An assignor may designate more than 1 program on a single CCC-36, however, each program must be listed separately, with an assigned amount designated for each program.

**Note:** County Offices should encourage the assignor to complete a separate CCC-36 for each program designated.

If a program year or payment year is entered as a multi-year entry, CCC-36 must specify the amount to be assigned each year, rather than as an aggregate amount over the life of the CCC-36. For example, if the program year is 2003 through 2007, and the assigned amount is \$2,000 per year, a \$2,000 assignment will be entered for each year of the program years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007.

**Note:** The assigned amount may vary by year, if specified. For example, the CCC-36 may designate \$2,000 for program year 2003, \$4,000 for program year 2004, \$3,000 for program year 2005, \$2,000 for program year 2006, and \$1,000 for program year 2007. Enter the assigned amount specified for each program year in the Assignment System.

B Handling Improperly Designated CCC-36's

A properly designated CCC-36 identifies the full program name of the program that payments are being assigned under. If the County Office receives a CCC-36 that is improperly designated, such as "all programs under the 2002 Farm Bill", the County Office shall enter the date and time the improper CCC-36 is filed and notify the assignor and assignee that the form is incomplete. Allow the assignor and the assignee 30 calendar days from the date the assignor is notified by County Office to provide written notification of the programs, program years, and dollar amounts covered by CCC-36. The written notification received must include the signature of both the assignor and the assignee.

If the written notification is received within 30 calendar days, attach the written notification to the original CCC-36. Use the date and time the original CCC-36 was received as the date and time for priority purposes, if additional assignments are received. When software is available to enter the program assignment in the assignment system, use the date in block 17 as the date filed.

If the written notification is not received within 30 calendar days, send a letter to the assignor explaining that the incomplete assignment cannot be accepted. Attach a copy of the CCC-36 to the letter. Send a copy of the letter and the CCC-36 to the assignee.

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# 3 Handling CCC-36's on File for Existing Programs

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CCC-36's for Programs Extended by the Act CCC-36's on file for programs that were extended by the Act shall continue to be valid only through the program year or payment year shown on CCC-36. A CCC-36 cannot automatically be extended beyond the terms of the original CCC-36, even if the program has been extended.

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CCC-36's for Programs That Are Terminated

CCC-36's on file for programs that have not been extended, or have been terminated by the Act, are void when the program expires or is terminated. CCC-36 cannot be automatically extended to a different program, even if the programs are similar in nature.

## 4 County Office Action

# A Receiving CCC-36

Upon receipt of CCC-36, County Offices shall enter the date filed and the time filed. The date and time filed are used in determining the priority of assignments if more than 1 assignment is received, or if the County Office receives a request from another Government agency for offset.

**Note:** See 63-FI, paragraph 13, for policies about the priority of CCC-36's.

# B Reviewing CCC-36

Review all CCC-36's immediately upon receipt to determine if the CCC-36 is proper. Immediately notify the assignee and the assignor if additional information about the applicable programs is necessary, according to subparagraph 2 B.

# C Entering CCC-36 in System

If the program being assigned on CCC-36 is:

- an existing program, enter CCC-36 in the automated Assignment System immediately, according to 63-FI
- not yet available in the automated Assignment System, put CCC-36 in a pending folder until the software is available. Record the assignment in the system, according to 63-FI, when the program has been implemented and a program code is made available.

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