



Landowner Eligibility Types

RIM Handbook

RIM's definition of an eligible "Landowner" means an individual or entity that is not prohibited from owning agricultural land under section 500.24 and either owns eligible land or is purchasing eligible land under a contract for deed.

[MN Statute Section 500.24](#) was passed in 1971 to "encourage and protect the family farm as a basic economic unit, to insure it as the most socially desirable mode of agricultural production, and to enhance and promote the stability and well-being of rural society in Minnesota and the nuclear family." As such, section 500.24 requires certain entities be certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture before engaging in farming or having an interest in agricultural land.

In order to meet Landowner eligibility requirements, the following entities will need to either be certified or determined exempt by the Department of Agriculture:

- Trust, Pension, or Investment Fund
- Corporation
- Limited Liability Company (LLC)
- Limited Partnership (LP)
- Limited Liability Limited Partnership (LLLP)

Note that General Partnerships and Limited Liability Partnerships do not need to submit an application. Also, Trusts that had owned land prior to May 16, 2000 are grandfathered in and do not need to submit an application.

If the Landowner is one of the listed entities, and is not already certified or exempt, complete a corporate farm application and send it to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, along with a \$15 fee. Note that copies of recorded deeds are required to be sent with the application. Applications are located on the [Department of Agriculture's webpage](#). If the entity satisfies the requirements of the statute, the Department of Agriculture will send a certificate signed by the Commissioner stating that the entity is in compliance with the law.

The Department of Agriculture maintains the following guidance documents that will assist you with application preparation and submittal:

[Corporate Farm Application "How To"](#)

[Explanation of Exemptions](#)