

Q: When can work begin under the CRP Incentive State Grants Program?

A: Work cannot begin on any BWSR grant until the date when the grant is officially executed by BWSR. The project period starts when the grant agreement is “executed,” meaning all required signatures have been obtained. Work that occurs before this date is not eligible for reimbursement with grant funds and cannot be used as match.

For the CRP State Incentive Grant Program, a funding request and a work plan must be completed by the grantee and approved by BWSR staff before the grant agreement can be signed by BWSR.

Q: Is there a spending limit for administration cost or project development costs?

A: Yes, no more than 10% of the total grant amount can be used to pay for administration and project development costs. Grantees should ensure costs are allocated to the appropriate budget category.

Q: Is match required for the CRP State Incentive Grant Program?

A: No, there is no match requirement for the CRP State Incentive Grant Program.

Q: Can grant funds be used to purchase equipment?

A: No, equipment purchases are not eligible.

Q: What activities can the grants fund be used for?

A: CRP State Incentive Grant Program funds can be used for incentive payments that encourage the enrollment or re-enrollment into the federal Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) for the installation or preservation of CCRP practices that improve or protect surface water or groundwater pollution, drinking water, soil health, pollinator and wildlife habitat, and other conservation enhancements. A maximum of up to 10 percent (10%) of the total grant may be used for administrative and project development expenses.

Q: Are grantees required to map and report indicators in eLINK?

A: No, grantees are not required to map or report nutrients reductions in eLINK. A separate survey requesting information on practice types and sizes will be sent out at the end of each of calendar year and at the time of closing out the grant.

Q: Is a local cost share policy required?

A: Yes, before the eLINK workplan is approved a copy of the local cost share policy that guides the use of these funds is required to be uploaded in eLINK. See the [Recommended Local Policies and Requirements](#) chapter of the Grants Administration Manual for guidance.

Q: Can CRP State Incentive Grant Program funds be used for practices enrolled in CREP, CLEAR30, or General CRP?

A: No, these funds are to be used only for incentivizing enrollment or re-enrollment into the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program.

Q: When can the Incentive be paid to the land occupier?

A: The incentive payment can be made after the Farm Service Agency (FSA) has approved the Continuous CRP Contract (CRP-1 form).

Q: Is a cost share contract required?

A: Yes, if a land occupier is receiving an incentive payment a contract is required. The effective life of the contract will match the FSA CRP contract effective life. For optional and example cost share contract templates, please see the BWSR [Optional and Example Forms](#) chapter of the Grants Administration Manual.

Q: What is the Grant Agreement expiration date for the CRP State Incentive Grant Program?

A: December 31, 2026