Grant Program Requirements: CRP Incentives

Eligible Activities

Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Grants provide eligible Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan partnerships and Watershed Management planning areas with funds to incentive landowner enrollment and re-enrollment into the federal Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) and associated administrative and project development responsibilities. Eligible activities include:

- Incentive payments for the enrollment or re-enrollment into the federal 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 of the total grant may be used for administrative and project development expenses.

Watershed Eligibility Criteria

A Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan partnership and Watershed Management planning area are eligible for the FY25 Conservation Reserve State Incentives Grant Program if the following Criteria is met:

- Have a Board of Water and Soil Resource approved Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan authorized under Minnesota statute §103B.801 or Minnesota Statute §103B.231 at the time of program approval.
- Thirty percent or greater of the total Comprehensive Watershed Management (CWMA) Plan acres or Watershed Management Plan acres outside of CWMA Plan boundary(s) having a designation of cultivated acres.

Additional Requirements

- Prior to grant agreement execution the watershed plan partnership must have a locally adopted program policy that specifies financial assistance rates, procedures for addressing conservation practice assistance contract noncompliance, and criteria for practice or project selection.
- Incentive payments should be reasonable and justifiable, supported by grant recipient policy, consistent with prevailing local conditions, and must be based on established standards. BWSR reserves the right to review and approve incentive payment rates established by grant recipient policy.