



South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner

SOUTH CAROLINA DISASTER RELIEF BLOCK GRANT FOR HELENE (SDRBG)

LINKAGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Eligible Producers who receive Relief Fund payments from SCDA under this Agreement must agree to obtain Federal Crop Insurance or NAP for the next two available reinsurance years. Availability will be based on the date the payment is received from SCDA and may vary depending on the timing and availability of crop insurance or NAP coverage. The coverage should be purchased for the next two reinsurance years with the third reinsurance year being the final crop year to purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage to meet the second year of coverage for this requirement.
2. Eligible Producers who receive Relief Fund payments must obtain Federal Crop Insurance for all insurable crops (including aquaculture), trees, bushes, or vines, which they have received payment due to aquaculture infrastructure, future economic, or market losses at the 60/100 level of coverage (or equivalent) where insurance is available. Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) at the 60 percent level may also be purchased. Where Federal Crop Insurance is not available, Eligible Producers who receive Relief Fund payments are required to purchase NAP coverage at the 60/100 level of coverage (or equivalent). Eligible Producers who receive Relief Fund payments for timber, on-farm building structures, above ground irrigation, or on-farm roads, bridges, and culverts losses are not required to obtain Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage.
3. If an Eligible Producer who receives Relief Fund payments is ineligible to receive a NAP payment due to their average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), the Eligible Producer must purchase WFRP at the 60/100 coverage level or equivalent, if qualified to purchase. If AGI is exceeded for NAP eligibility and the Eligible Producer cannot meet WFRP eligibility, then the Eligible Producer is required to obtain NAP coverage at the 60/100 level or equivalent, if available, including paying the administrative fee and filing an annual acreage report with FSA.
4. If an Eligible Producer ceases to plant the crop, tree, bush, or vine they received a payment on in one or both of the next available two reinsurance years provided in Item 1 after receiving payments under the terms of this Agreement, the Eligible Producer will not be required to meet linkage requirements for the year(s) the Eligible Producer did not plant that crop, tree, bush, or vine they received a payment on.
5. If an Eligible Producer fails to meet the linkage requirement in one or both years, SCDA is responsible for requiring the Eligible Producer to refund the applicable Relief Fund payment received under the terms of this Agreement. SCDA is required to remit the refunds to FSA.

6. Eligible Producers who are indebted to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) are unable to purchase crop insurance until the debt is satisfied, according to Risk Management Agency (RMA) regulations. Nonetheless, an Eligible Producer indebted to FCIC is eligible to receive Relief Fund payments under the terms of this Agreement, provided the linkage requirements are met. It is the Eligible Producer's responsibility to satisfy the debt to FCIC so crop insurance can be purchased in order to meet the linkage requirements.
7. SCDA is responsible for obtaining the Eligible Producer's acknowledgment of linkage requirements, monitoring and enforcing the linkage requirements, and collecting refunds from Eligible Producers when linkage is not met. If an Eligible Producer does not refund the applicable Relief Fund payment, SCDA is nevertheless required to remit equivalent funds to FSA. SCDA is required to notify FSA of the need to remit funds to FSA within 60 days of its own discovery of a failure of an Eligible Producer to meet linkage requirements.
8. For purposes of this Agreement, linkage requirement interpretations shall be made in a manner consistent with the American Relief Act, 2025, and the cross-referenced linkage requirement found in the 12th proviso under title I of the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division B of Public Law 117-43), including but not limited to the determination of the persons and entities that are required to meet (and to not meet) the linkage requirements.