

# What an FSA Farm Number Can Do for You

*A Farm Number is an invaluable tool that can open up opportunities for you and your farm. Read on to learn about what an FSA Number can do for you and how to obtain one.*

To find your local FSA office, scan the QR below or visit:

[farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator](https://farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator)



## WHAT IS A FARM NUMBER?

A farm number is a unique, identifying number assigned to a farm by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), which helps the agencies map the farms within a particular region. Contacting your local FSA office for a farm number is the first step to accessing FSA farm loans, disaster assistance, crop insurance, and conservation programs offered through the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

## IS MY OPERATION CONSIDERED A "FARM?"

The notion of what is considered a farm has recently expanded to include more small-scale and urban agriculture producers. If you are cultivating, processing, and distributing agricultural products, you will likely be considered a farm. Rooftop gardens, community gardens, hydroponic farms, vertical farming, and indoor and backyard growing operations are just some examples of the types of operations that could be eligible to receive a farm number.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF OBTAINING A FARM NUMBER?

Farm numbers help provide the USDA with valuable information on the number and types of farms in the area, which can influence the resources directed to that area. There is strength in numbers!

You could be eligible to elect FSA County Committee members

While a farm number is not required to apply for USDA grants, it is required to determine your eligibility for many other invaluable USDA programs such as:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**, which provides financial and technical support for implementing high tunnels, raised beds, and more
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**, which provides financial and technical support for upholding conservation practices on their farms
- **FSA Loans**, which may be available to farmers and farm businesses that might not qualify for conventional loans
- These are just a few of the programs that require a farm number. Even if none of the above are relevant to your farm today, obtaining a farm number now will proactively position you to be ready to apply when new programs are created and/or current programs are expanded

## WHAT DO I NEED IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR A FARM NUMBER?

Farm numbers are voluntary and free! You will need contact info and proof of legal access to steward the land you are on (e.g. a deed, lease, or documented permission from the owner of the land, etc.). If you want to use your farm number to apply for farm programs, you'll also need a Social Security Number (SSN) or an Employer Identification Number (EIN).

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Visit or call your local FSA office and their experienced team will help you get started. **If you aren't sure you have everything you need to enroll, it's still worth reaching out! The FSA staff is there to help.**

**Pasa** SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Creating a world where agriculture nourishes, heals, and empowers.