



Urgent: Agricultural Management Assistance cost share program update

Dear PCO Community,

As we previously wrote, in a last-minute effort to avoid a government shutdown, Congress passed a spending package in December of 2024 that extends the U.S. Farm Bill for another year. However, this legislation leaves out critical funding for key organic programs, including the Federal Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP).

We want to update you on the status of the [**Agricultural Management Assistance cost share program**](#), which has historically helped cover the cost of the organic certification cost share program in **16 states, including Pennsylvania**. While some funding remains available, there may not be enough to fully support the Cost Share program in 2025.

The Farm Service Agency has yet to determine how the program will operate this year. Without additional funds, they may resort to a **first-come, first-served model, drastically reduce reimbursements, or eliminate support altogether**. This uncertainty poses a significant challenge for organic producers.

If you are a farmer or know farmers in Pennsylvania's 15th congressional district, please consider reaching out to Congressman GT Thompson, Chair of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee and share how this loss of funding

impacts you. [You can contact his office here at this link.](#) Your voice is *crucial* in this advocacy effort!

To apply for the AMA organic cost share program, please reach out to your local NRCS office. You can find the NRCS service locator [here at this link.](#) To learn more about how to apply, head over to [PCO's Funding Resources](#) page. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, but we urge you to apply early due to the uncertainty of available funds.