



## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Eligibility Fact Sheet

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
12200-B Airport Road  
Jackson, CA 95642  
(209) 223-3581 extension 8050, 8045, 8046

### Do you farm, ranch or manage a forest and want to improve the land that you own or lease?

Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers technical and financial assistance to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners implement conservation practices to address natural resource concerns. NRCS staff can help you develop the conservation plan that is needed before applying for EQIP. Please call the Local NRCS Field Office to request a site visit.

### If you want to apply for financial assistance through EQIP, here are a few things to consider:

#### What Kind of Land is Eligible?

- Private agricultural land is eligible regardless of the crop, type of livestock or farm size.
- Non-industrial private forest land and Tribal land engaged in agriculture are also eligible.
- For financial help with irrigation improvements you will need to show irrigation history for 2 out of the past 5 years.

#### What Do I Need to Bring?

- A property deed or lease agreement showing you have control of all the property you wish to enroll.
  - In most areas, control is needed for a minimum of three years.
  - Lease templates are available and require the signature of the legal owner.
- If leasing land, you will also need a letter from the legal owner giving permission to apply structural or vegetative practices, unless this information is already included in your lease agreement.
- A farm & tract number.\*
  - If you have not already done so, you will need to establish farm records with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), the local NRCS office will help you do this.
- A CCC-941 Average Adjusted Gross Income Certification and Consent to Disclosure of Tax Information.\*
  - You will need to self-certify that your average adjusted gross income (considering all sources) is less than \$900,000 based on tax returns for the specific three year qualification period preceding the year before the application.
- An AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certification, which ensures a conservation plan is in place before lands with highly erodible soils are farmed. It also ensures no wetland areas are farmed.\*

\* These items can be completed at the local FSA office or at the local NRCS office where they will be forwarded to FSA. Note: Applicants must comply with the Drug-Free Workplace requirements as outlined in 2 CFR Part 182 and 2 CFR Part 421.

Additional restrictions and program requirements may apply. Refer to the NRCS-CPA-1200 Conservation Program Application for additional requirements specific to entities and joint operations.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To find out more, go to: [www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov)