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About USDA

Mission Statement

We provide leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, and related issues based on sound public policy, the best available science, and efficient management.

Vision

We want to be recognized as a dynamic organization that is able to efficiently provide the integrated program delivery needed to lead a rapidly evolving food and agriculture system.

Strategic Plan Framework

USDA has created a strategic plan to implement its vision. The framework of this plan depends on these key activities: expanding markets for agricultural products and support international economic development, further developing alternative markets for agricultural products and activities, providing financing needed to help expand job opportunities and improve housing, utilities and infrastructure in rural America, enhancing food safety by taking steps to reduce the prevalence of foodborne hazards from farm to table, improving nutrition and health by providing food assistance and nutrition education and promotion, and managing and protecting America's public and private lands working cooperatively with other levels of government and the private sector.

- [Annual Report](#)
- [Strategic Plan](#)

USDA Recovery

**USDA Recovery Geo Map**[USDA Recovery Geo-Spatial Map](#)

About USDA

Secretary of Agriculture

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Structure and Organization

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Contact Us

Location

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., USDA's Postal Service mailing address is:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Information Hotline: (202) 720-2791

Ask the Expert

If you have specific USDA questions you would like an expert to respond to, please submit an Ask the Expert form. Please remember that an email address is required for a response.

- [Go to Ask the Expert Form](#)

Directories

To find contact information for USDA agencies, offices, and personnel, please use one of the following directories.

- [USDA Phone Directory \(Washington DC Area\)](#)
- [USDA Email Directory](#)
- [USDA Organizational Phone Directory \(PDF\)](#)
- [USDA Agency and Office Information Directory \(PDF\)](#)
- [Federal Phone Directory](#)
- [USDA Service Center Locations](#)
- [How to Get Information](#)

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Section 207(f)(2) of the E-Government Act of 2002 requires federal agencies to develop an inventory of information to be published on their Web sites, establish a schedule for publishing information, make those schedules available for public comment, and post the schedules and priorities on the Web site.

- [Schedules and Comment Form](#)

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Farm Service Agency



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About FSA

Structure & Organization

The Farm Service Agency's national administrative functions are managed in Washington, D.C. Computational and statistical work is done in Kansas City. Implementation of farm policy through FSA programs is the responsibility of field offices based in states, counties and territories.

The organizational structure of FSA is laid out by Congress and overseen by the secretary of agriculture. The FSA administrator reports to an undersecretary of agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS).

Headquarters Delegation of Authority:

- Administrator
- Associate Administrators for Programs and Operations
- Deputy Administrators (five), Programs and Operations
- Division Directors within different Programs and Operations
- Branch Chiefs
- Section Chiefs
- Managers

Field Delegation of Authority:

- State Executive Director (SED)
- State Committee
- County Executive Director (CED)
- Farmer County Committee (FCC)

Field Structure

More than 2,346 state and county offices are the primary distributors of FSA programs in the 48 continental states. FSA is also represented in Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Farmer county committees replaced the New Deal AAA committees in the 1950s. By 2005, more than 8,000 farmers were elected by their peers to be county committee members.

Committee members are the local authorities responsible for fairly and equitably resolving local issues while remaining dually and directly accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture and local producers through the elective process. They operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and provide a necessary and important voice in Federal decisions affecting their counties and communities.

Committee members make decisions affecting which FSA programs are implemented county-wide, the establishment of allotment and yields, commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities, and other farm disaster assistance.

Related Topics

- ◊ [Organizational Chart](#)
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About FSA

Office of the Administrator

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers and manages farm commodity, credit, conservation, disaster and loan programs as laid out by Congress through a network of federal, state and county offices.

These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of the agricultural industry and to help farmers adjust production to meet demand. Economically, the desired result of these programs is a steady price range for agricultural commodities for both farmers and consumers.

In the Eisenhower administration, the Congress split the functions of the Triple A committees, creating the state and county office system to take care of administrative functions and kept the farmer county committee to oversee implementation of federal programs in their county.

State and county offices directly administer FSA programs. These offices certify farmers for farm programs and pay out farm subsidies and disaster payments. Currently, there are 2,346 FSA county offices in the continental states. FSA also has offices in Hawaii, and a few American territories.

More than 8,000 farmer county committee members serve in FSA county offices nationwide. Committee members are the local authorities responsible for fairly and equitably resolving local issues while remaining dually and directly accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture and local producers through the elective process. They operate within official regulations designed to carry out Federal laws and provide a necessary and important voice in Federal decisions affecting their counties and communities.

Committee members make decisions affecting which FSA programs are implemented county-wide, the establishment of allotment and yields, commodity price support loans and payments, conservation programs, incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for commodities, and other farm disaster assistance.

Structure & Organization

Provides contact information as well as a listing of the programs and offices that make up the Farm Service Agency.

FSA Biographies

Includes biographies of the Farm Service Agency leadership.

History & Mission

Provides a history of the agency and describes its vision and mission.

Related Topics

- ◉ [Structure and Organization](#)
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Budget & Performance

Includes information about the budget, the strategic plan, and efforts to ensure that activities are managed efficiently.

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The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is an independent legal agency within the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). OGC provides legal advice and services to the Secretary of Agriculture and to all other officials and agencies of the Department with respect to all USDA programs and activities. All legal services are centralized within OGC and the General Counsel reports directly to the Secretary.

The General Counsel is assisted by a Deputy General Counsel, a Senior Counselor, six Associate General Counsels, a Director of Administration and Resource Management, and four Regional Attorneys.

Leadership

- Steven C. Silverman, Deputy General Counsel, 202-720-3351
- James Michael Kelly, Associate General Counsel, Legislation, Litigation, & General Law, 202-720-3351
- John Golden, Associate General Counsel, Marketing, Regulatory & Food Safety Programs, 202-720-3155
- David P. Grahn, Associate General Counsel, Rural Development, 202-720-6187
- Arlean Leland, Associate General Counsel, Civil Rights, 202-720-1760
- Ralph A. Linden, Associate General Counsel, International Affairs, Commodity Programs & Food Assistance Programs, 202-720-6883
- Thomas Millet, Associate General Counsel, Natural Resources, 202-720-2063
- Charlene Buckner, Director, Administration and Resource Management, 202-720-6324
- Andrea Foster, Regional Attorney, Atlanta, GA, 404-347-1060
- Randall J. Bramer, Acting Regional Attorney, Denver, CO, 303-275-5555
- Ruth M. Worthington, Regional Attorney, Kansas City, MO, 816-823-4646
- Jeff Moulton, Regional Attorney, San Francisco, CA, 415-744-3011
- Maria Giatrakis, President, AFGE Local 1106, San Francisco, CA, 415-744-3163

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- [The USDA Symbol](#)

The work of the office is carried out in Washington, D. C., four regional offices, and 13 branch offices as follows:

DC Main Office

Room 107W, Whitten Building
1400 Independence Ave, SW.
Washington, D.C. 20250-1400

Eastern Region:

- Atlanta, Georgia
- Columbus, Ohio
- Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Montgomery, Alabama

Central Region:

- Kansas City, Missouri
- Chicago, Illinois
- Little Rock, Arkansas
- St. Paul, Minnesota
- Temple, Texas


Mountain Region:

- Denver, Colorado
- Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Missoula, Montana
- Ogden, Utah

Pacific Region:

- San Francisco, California
- Juneau, Alaska
- Portland, Oregon

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