



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



MORE INFORMATION

For information, resources
and interactive tools visit
farmers.gov/newfarmers.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

NEW FARMERS



GET STARTED WITH USDA

FINANCING | CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE
RISK MANAGEMENT | DISASTER ASSISTANCE



Are You a Beginning Farmer or Rancher?

USDA considers anyone who has operated a farm or ranch for less than ten years to be a beginning farmer or rancher. If that's you, we can provide special assistance to help you get started, sustain, and expand your operation. Our staff and partners are committed to helping you feed the nation by providing access to:

- Advice and technical guidance
- Conservation planning and improvement
- Financial assistance and access to capital
- Insurance and disaster recovery options
- Organic transition and value-added opportunities
- Energy efficiency improvement



How to Get Help

Each state has a Beginning Farmer and Rancher team led by a State Coordinator. Your State Coordinator can help you navigate the USDA process and connect you to partner organizations that specialize in working with beginning farmers and ranchers. Even if you're not USDA-ready, State Coordinators assist you in determining your next steps.

Whether you're just getting started, recovering from a disaster, or looking to expand, your next step will be to make an appointment with your local USDA Service Center to discuss your goals and challenges. The staff there will provide information, technical assistance, and resources to help you participate in the programs that are right for your operation's needs. This free one-on-one assistance includes help with preparing and submitting required paperwork with no need to hire a paid preparer. While some program and loan applications do have an administrative fee for filing, there is never a charge for preparation services provided by USDA staff. Language translation service is available in all USDA Service Centers for real time translation.



RI NRCS Beginning Farmer Coordinator

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To find your local USDA Service Center, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.

