

COVID-19 UPDATE



USDA ANNOUNCES FOURTH ROUND OF FARMERS TO FAMILIES PROGRAM

As part of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Secretary Perdue announced on April 17, USDA is exercising authority under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to purchase and distribute agricultural products to those in need. Through this program, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is partnering with national, regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of restaurants, hotels and other food service businesses, to purchase up to \$4 billion in fresh produce, dairy and meat products from American producers of all sizes. The program will supply food boxes of fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, meat products and a combination box of fresh produce, dairy or meat products. Distributors will package these products into family-sized boxes, then transport them to food banks, community and faith-based organizations, and other non-profits serving Americans in need.

Last week, USDA announced [Round 4](#) of the Farmers to Family program, allocating an additional \$500 million to the program through December 31st. The new solicitation will be available to current [Basic Ordering Agreement \(BOA\) holders](#) to distribute combination boxes to those in need. USDA is expected to award contracts by October 30th with deliveries to occur shortly thereafter.

To date, the Farmers to Families program has delivered nearly 110 million boxes of domestic fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, and meat to food banks and nonprofits. More information can be found on USDA's website [here](#).

USDA BEGINS ALLOCATIONS OF CFAP 2 FUNDING

To date, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) has approved more than \$7 billion in payments to US agricultural producers in the second round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 2). In total, the USDA is making available up to \$14 billion for US crop and livestock producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19.

Thus far, the FSA has approved more than 443,000 applications since CFAP 2 enrollment began on September 21. The U.S. states seeing the most in payments are Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois, and Kansas. Applications for CFAP 2 are available through December 11, 2020.

CFAP 2 application are available on the FSA website [HERE](#).

If you plan to or have already applied for the CFAP 2 funding, please notify the COC office so that we may report back to USDA our industry's participation in the program. If you have any further questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact the COC office.