

Instructions for completing the Acknowledgement Form

This guide helps you complete the Acknowledgement form by providing step-by-step instructions on the information required and how to enter it in the system. After completing Registration and selecting a Funding Opportunity, start a new application and enter general information. You will then be taken to the Application Details page. From the **Application Details** page, click on **Review, Acknowledge and submit** from the list of forms.

See all application components below. Click on the component that you would like to edit or see in more detail. You can click the "Online Help" link for more information.

Application Preview Attachments Alert History Map

Application Details

Application cannot be Submitted Currently

- Application components are not complete

Component	Complete?
General Information	✓
Business Information	
Property Information	
Timber Loss	
Infrastructure Loss	
Aquaculture Infrastructure Loss	
Above Ground Irrigation Loss	
Future Economic Loss	
Loss of Market	
Plasticulture Loss	
Review, Acknowledge and Submit	



Step 1 – Review the acknowledgement and confirm the Acknowledgement Form

- Review all legal, linkage, tax, and recordkeeping requirements shown on the page.
- At the bottom of the Acknowledgement, select **Yes** from the dropdown of the **I Confirm** box to certify that all information provided is truthful and complete.

Review, Acknowledge and Submit Current Version

The form must be "Mark As Complete" before submitting the application.

Review, Acknowledge and Submit Save Form

Legal Requirements

- I acknowledge that assistance provided through the Virginia Agriculture Recovery Block Grant is only made available for applicants in designated localities within the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I certify that I am an eligible applicant with eligible losses in an eligible locality as required by this grant.
- I understand that only losses related to Hurricane Helene in eligible localities in Virginia are covered under this grant, and I acknowledge that assistance provided through the Virginia Agriculture Recovery Block Grant is only for eligible purposes within the Commonwealth of Virginia and shall not be used in any other state or for any other purpose. I understand that any assistance obtained or used in any manner other than the eligible purposes may create a civil or criminal liability including the return of any and all funds.
- I authorize the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and its agents to share my application, submitted documents associated with the application, all information contain within the application and submitted documents, and subsequent information provided as part of an audit inquiry or compliance investigation with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Risk Management Agency (RMA) of the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of ensuring producer compliance with all insurance linkage, legal, and recordkeeping requirements of this grant related to Market Loss, Future Loss, Plasticulture Crop Loss and Aquaculture Loss.
- I authorize the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and its agents' physical access to the locations claimed on this application for the purpose of ensuring compliance with all terms of this grant.
- I agree to provide additional information and documentation upon the request to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to prove all loss claims and information made on this application.

Linkage Requirements

Please note that there will be linkage requirements for insurance required for certain losses in this block grant. The linkage requirement will be required for the following losses:

1. Future Economic Loss
2. Market Loss
3. Plasticulture
4. Aquaculture

Please note that infrastructure losses except aquaculture infrastructure will not be required to have linkage insurance. Listed below are the specific criteria of the linkage requirement:

1. I understand that if I receive Relief Fund payments from VDACS under this Agreement I must agree to obtain Federal Crop Insurance or NAP for the next available two reinsurance years. Availability will be based on the date the payment is received by VDACS and may vary depending on the timing and availability of crop insurance or NAP coverage. The coverage will be purchased for crop years 2026 and 2027 if available, with 2028 being the final crop year to purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage to meet the second year of coverage for this requirement.
2. I understand that if I receive Relief Fund payments that I must obtain Federal Crop Insurance for all insurable crops, trees, bushes, or vines, for which I have received a payment due to aquaculture infrastructure, future economic, market, or plasticulture loss at the 60/100 level of coverage (or equivalent) where insurance is available. I understand that Whole Farm Revenue Protection at the 60 percent level may also be purchased. I understand that where Federal crop insurance is not available, Eligible Producers who receive Relief Fund payments are required to purchase NAP coverage at the 60/100 level of coverage (or equivalent).
3. I understand that if I receive Relief Fund payments and am ineligible to receive a NAP payment due to my average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), then I must purchase Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) at the 60/100 coverage level or equivalent, if qualified to purchase. If AGI is exceeded for NAP eligibility and I cannot meet WFRP eligibility, then I will be required to obtain NAP coverage at the 60/100 level or equivalent, if available, including paying the administrative fee and filing an annual acreage report with FSA.
4. I understand that if I am a producer, who is a legal entity (including joint operation) dissolves; or a member, stockholder or partner leaves a legal entity and farms under a different Tax Identification Number (TIN), linkage requirements must be met for the applicant if the majority share of the persons receiving payments under the terms of this Agreement meet the linkage requirements.
5. I understand that if, after receiving payments under the terms of this Agreement I cease to farm or do not have risk or interest in a crop for which assistance under this Agreement was provided, that I will not be considered in violation of the linkage requirement.
6. I understand that if I cease to plant the crop, tree, bush, or vine for which I received a payment on in one or both of the next available two reinsurance years provided in this Agreement after receiving payments under the terms of this Agreement, that I will not be required to meet linkage requirements for the year(s) that I did not plant that crop, tree, bush, or vine that I received a payment on.
7. I understand that VDACS is responsible for obtaining my acknowledgment of linkage requirements, monitoring and enforcing the linkage requirements, and collecting refunds within 60 days when linkage is not met. Further, I understand that if I do not refund the applicable Relief Fund payment, that VDACS will pursue appropriate debt collection measures as defined by the Commonwealth Accounting Policies and Procedures (CAPP) Manual. Once a failure of an Eligible Producer to meet linkage requirements is discovered, VDACS will notify the USDA within 60 days of its discovery.
8. I understand that if I am indebted to Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) and will be unable to purchase crop insurance until the debt is satisfied, according to RMA regulations. Nonetheless, if I am indebted to FCIC, I am eligible to receive Relief Fund payments under the terms of this Agreement, provided the linkage requirements are met. But I understand that it is my responsibility to satisfy the debt to FCIC so crop insurance can be purchased in order to meet the linkage requirements.
9. I understand that VDACS is responsible for obtaining my acknowledgment of linkage requirements, monitoring and enforcing the linkage requirements, and collecting refunds within 60 days when linkage is not met. Further, I understand that if I do not refund the applicable Relief Fund payment, that VDACS will pursue appropriate debt collection measures as defined by the Commonwealth Accounting Policies and Procedures (CAPP) Manual. Once a failure of an Eligible Producer to meet linkage requirements is discovered, VDACS will notify the USDA within 60 days of its discovery.
10. I understand that, for purposes of this Agreement, linkage requirement interpretations shall be made in a manner consistent with the American Relief Act, 2025, including but not limited to the determination of the persons and entities that are required to meet (and to not meet) the linkage requirements.

USDA Consent Authorization for Release of Information

- A. Information that the Risk Management Agency (RMA) has in its possession regarding Federal crop insurance is confidential pursuant to Section 502(c) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. § 1502(c)). 7 U.S.C. § 1502(c)(2)(b) allows disclosure of information provided by an agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land concerning the agricultural operation, farming or conservation practices, or the land itself, in order to participate in crop insurance programs pursuant to the consent of the agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land.
- B. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) must have your permission to release your crop insurance and other program information to others. By signing below, you hereby authorize FSA to release your Federal crop insurance information, applications, data, and other relevant documents in their possession for the purpose specified.
- C. I hereby authorize FSA to release selected Federal crop insurance information, as determined by FSA, related to Future Economic Loss, Market Loss, Plasticulture and Aquaculture Infrastructure for the 2026, 2027, and/or 2028 reinsurance years.
- D. This information may only be released directly to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in accordance with established safeguards to protect confidential data.

Taxes

Please note that funds received from the VFRG are taxable. There is not a federal or state exemption from taxes being paid on VFRG grant funds received and should be treated as taxable income.

Recordkeeping Requirements

I agree to retain financial and other records relating to any funds awarded for a period of 3 years after receiving funds through this grant or until final resolution of any audit findings or litigation claims relating to the distribution of such funds, whichever is later.

Submission Acknowledgement

I attest that the statements made and information provided on this application and any other submitted documents are truthful, complete, and correct, and I understand that any false statements made as part of this application or any other submitted documents can be the subject of substantial civil and/or criminal liability and sanctions.

I Confirm:



Step 2 – Fill Out the Acknowledgement Form

On the form:

- **I Affirm:** Select **Yes** from the dropdown.
- **Applicant Name:** Enter your *First* and *Last Name*.
- **Date:** Enter the current date.
- **Title:** Enter your role (e.g., Owner, Manager).

I certify the statement above is correct.

I Affirm*:

Applicant Name*:
First Name Last Name

Date*:
Date Title

Click **Save Form**.

Step 3 – Mark the Form as Complete

1. After saving, click **Mark as Complete**