

POLICY ADDRESSING SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATIONS OF COST SHARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

This policy specifies the process for allocating supplemental funds for cost share financial assistance to districts each spring.

Supplemental allocation requirements

By January 15th of each year, the division will determine if sufficient funding is available to conduct a supplemental allocation. Sufficient funding is defined as having \$200,000 or more available for allocation to districts. Division staff will send a notice to districts stating the amount of funds available for a supplemental allocation, and requesting cancellations be completed by February 1st.

Eligibility

To be eligible to request funds, a district must meet the requirements below:

- Obligate 75% or more of BMP funds to contracts in the cost share online contracting system by February 15th March 1st. Contracts do not have to be approved by the district board or division in order to meet this percentage.
- Request a supplemental allocation amount by February 15th March 1st.

Allocation methodology

Funds will be allocated using the same parameters as the initial allocations for the current program year. Districts will not receive more than the amount of their supplemental allocation request.

Policy distribution

- Information about this policy will be distributed electronically with the initial financial assistance allocation of the program year.
- A reminder will be distributed electronically by January 15th regarding the supplemental allocation request and contract cancellation timeline.
- A final reminder will be distributed electronically by February 1st.

Comments on the Draft Supplemental Allocation Policy

Our Board had no further comments. Thanks.

It is bad business not having the board's approval to obligate funds. The board needs to be in the loop. I think the board's approval would be sufficient to satisfy the commission for supplement funding.

We discussed it at our board meeting Tuesday and there were no recommendations for any changes. Thanks.

This sounds fair to us. Guess after it's done a year or so there will possibly be additional comments that need to be heard.

Good Morning. The Board reviewed the Policy Addressing Supplemental Allocation of Cost Share Financial Assistance at their May meeting. All supervisors agreed with the new procedure.

The [board] has reviewed the draft of Policy addressing supplemental allocations at its monthly meeting and is in agreement with the proposed changes.

Board met yesterday. They saw no problem with version. They liked a standard time table.

My Board met May 24th and this was one of the topics. They asked that I respond to you and that the request would be made to make the date March 1st or 15th. February is just too soon and April seems to be too late. Sign up for us is heaviest in the late January to March 1st time frame because of early planting dates. So we would have a better idea in March if we could use allocation monies.

The Supervisors discussed this policy yesterday in a meeting. They recommended that these dates be revised:

- Obligate 75% or more of BMP funds to contracts in the cost share online contracting system by ~~February 15th~~ (March 15).
- Request a supplemental allocation amount by ~~February 15th~~ (March 15th).

February 15th marks 63% of the PY whereas March 15th marks 71% of the PY. It's difficult for us to determine as early as February 15th whether we are going to need additional funds and this year has been no exception. Our District would have requested additional funds but we didn't know we would need more until it was too late to ask for it. We realize that there are other things to consider but from our perspective an extra month would be very helpful.

We reviewed with our Board on Tuesday, and they have not comments or suggestions. Thanks for the opportunity to give input!

If we know a supplemental allocation may be available we will prepare according. The dates seem fine with us.

June 14, 2012

Ms. Kelly Ibrahim, NCASCP Manager
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SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Ms Ibrahim,

At our last monthly board meeting, June 4th we discussed how the new policy addressing supplemental allocations would affect Martin County. In the past we have used a variety of resources to assist our landowners in a manner in which we considered to be most beneficial to them. Some programs pay 90% cost share as well as soil rental rates for extended periods of years.

We have situations where NC Ag Cost Share dollars are a better fit for the landowner and sometimes this makes using these funds a "wait and see" situation. Therefore January and February deadlines pose a hardship on us for spending our current funding and getting a reallocation. If the deadline could be moved back it would work better for our program.

Thank you