

530.141K Administrative Review Veteran Farmer or Rancher Letter

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

<<Date>>

<<Name and address of participant>>

<<Program and Contract #>>

Dear <<Participant name>>:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) reviews a random selection of contracts each year to verify self-certifications made by applicants at the time of application. You self-certified that you are a veteran farmer or rancher (VFR) on your <<insert contract year>> <<insert program name (program abbrev.)>> application for the subject contract. NRCS determined that you were eligible for higher priority in the selection process, and to receive advance payments and higher payment rates based on this self-certification.

Your self-certification has been randomly selected for review. In order to verify your VFR status, we ask that you provide documentation that will confirm your eligibility as a VFR.

Please submit your DD Form 214 (Report of Separation) showing an honorable discharge and the date of separation. If your separation occurred more than 10 years ago, please also provide at least one of the following:

- One Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 1040 from the last 10 years showing that you did not file an IRS Form 1040, Schedule F.
- A letter from a certified public accountant or attorney certifying that you meet the eligibility requirements for a beginning farmer or rancher.
- For nonindustrial private forestland (NIPF), for which a schedule F is not typically filed, please submit evidence that adequately documents that you have not operated NIPF land for more than 10 consecutive years.
- Other evidence that adequately documents that you have not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 consecutive years.

Please provide the requested information within 30 calendar days of receipt of this letter. If you are unable to provide the requested information, please contact the office to determine appropriate corrective action to avoid contract violation. If NRCS determines that the information you provide does not support your VFR status, your contract may be in violation and subject to either of the following:

- A modification and return of overpayments.
- Your contract may be terminated. Recovery of cost may apply.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. You may securely view and interact with your NRCS Conservation Records through www.Farmers.gov. If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at <<(XXX) XXX-XXXX>> or email at <<first.lastname>>@usda.gov.

Respectfully,

<<Enter DC name>>
District Conservationist