



KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

SCS vs EQIP

District Employees Express Training

November 2024

This training is brought to you by the KACDE professional development committee. The intent of this short training is to aid in the understanding of different topics for administrators, educators, and technicians alike.

	State Cost Share	EQIP
Timeline	1 year (two potential six-month extensions)	3-5 years* (potential for extensions <i>if</i> approved by state conservationist)
Financial Reimbursement	75/25 Cost Share with a maximum reimbursement of \$20,000	Flat rate reimbursement based on practice unit, max of \$450,000 for general EQIP (per farm bill)**
Contracting Process	Needs board approval, entered into SCS system, ranked/scored by DOC based on SWCC criteria, high vs. medium vs. low priority practices, Nov. 15 th application submission deadline and conservation districts set individual application deadline	Entered into conservation desktop for NRCS state office review based on ranking scores from resource concerns; state-wide application deadline, ranking deadline, and obligation deadline for all NRCS offices
Funding Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock: Animal Feeding Operation • Livestock: Pastureland • Cropland • Forestland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General EQIP: High Tunnel System, Manure Management, Pastureland, Urban Agriculture, Irrigation Water Management, Cropland • EQIP-IRA: Forest Health, Energy Conservation, Pasture Management, Soil Health • EQIP Act Now: Conservation Planning Activities, Fayette County Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative, Historically Underserved, Organic Initiative, Season Extension Production Initiative, Urban High Tunnel initiative, Wildlife, and SEKESH Initiatives

	State Cost Share	EQIP
Practices Specific to Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter Feeding Areas • Gravel/Concrete Heavy Use Area • Fence line Feeders • Bo Renfro Structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Tunnel • Conservation cover • Energy plans • Herbaceous weed treatment • Conservation crop rotation • Contour farming • Prescribed burning • Dike and levee • Irrigation water management • Irrigation pipeline • Access control, access road • Forage harvest management • Streambank/shoreline protection • Pest management conservation system • Upland wildlife habitat management • Structures for wildlife, etc.***

*Contract time can vary based on practices planned and what funding accounts contracts are obligated.

**General EQIP has a different payment limitation then EQIP CIC, and within EQIP subsections, gen/individual, organic, and joint operations have varying payment maximums.

***Additional practices that are not eligible for SCS and are eligible for EQIP can be found under the “Fiscal Year 2024 Kentucky EQIP Payment Schedule” with NRCS.