when EM loans are made available, State Directors are required to promptly contact the FICIC Field Operations Office Director to review the Memorandum of Understanding and agree on how each agency will fulfill its responsibilities in dealing with the disaster situation.

(d) Notification to County Offices. State Directors will provide instructions for actions to be taken by County Supervisors in maintaining a good relationship with FICIC Insurance Representatives.

§ 1945.28 Relationship between ASCS and FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354.

Exhibit A of FmHA Instruction 2000–JJ (a copy of which is available in any FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 office) is a Memorandum of Understanding between ASCS and FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354. This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to assist in maintaining and improving the working relationship between the ASCS and the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 by coordinating certain ASCS disaster programs with the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 EM loan program. It specifically identifies the administrative responsibilities of FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 County Supervisors and ASCS County Executive Directors concerning disaster benefits.

§ 1945.29 [Reserved]

§ 1945.30 FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 Emergency Loan Support Teams (ELST).

(a) Use of ELSTs. ELSTs are to be used when a disaster warrants immediate attention by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 in implementing the EM loan program. Also, ELSTs are used when unusually large numbers of EM loan applications are received and personnel from other areas are required to be temporarily assigned to assist in rendering prompt service to the affected area(s).

(b) State Office ELST. Each State Director shall form an ELST to be deployed, when needed, in areas affected by a major disaster, Presidential emergency, or a natural disaster. ELSTs shall assist the State Directors in expediting the making of EM loans to disaster victims.

(1) State Directors shall use the ELSTs formed in their State(s) and all other FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 personnel within their State(s), as the need arises, in making EM loans. If additional help is needed beyond that available in the State, including the use of overtime, temporary personnel, and/or private contractors, the State Director shall advise the National Office of these needs and request outside assistance.

(2) Upon request from a State Director, the Assistant Administrator, Farmer Programs, will consider detailing ELSTs from other States to assist in the making of EM loans.

(3) State ELSTs will consist of a team leader and team members, selected by the State Director.

(i) The State ELST can include Farmer Programs Specialists, County and Assistant County Supervisors, Program Review Assistants, County Office Assistants, and County Office Clerks.

(ii) So that no one person or County Office unit bears an unfair burden, State team members will be changed from time to time.

(iii) Team members will provide training in EM loan making and EM loan servicing to all County Office employees.

(iv) District Directors are responsible for notifying the State Director of any need to change a team member within their district.

(4) State ELSTs will be trained as follows:

(i) The National Office will hold training meetings or workshops for ELST leaders as needed; and

(ii) State ELST leaders will be responsible for training and keeping the State team and all other State personnel currently informed on all phases of EM loans.

(5) State Directors will issue a State supplement establishing an ELST for the State(s) under their jurisdiction. This supplement will name the team leader and all members. A copy of this supplement will be sent to the National
§ 1945.35 Special EM loan training.

(a) General. When it is evident that a large number of farmers were affected by a widespread disaster in a State, the National Office will send a qualified representative(s) from the Emergency Designation Staff to the State to assist the State Director in conducting a training meeting(s) with State, District and County employees, provided there has not been a recent training meeting in that State.

(b) Purpose. A good training program is a must in disaster areas. This program should adequately instruct State and County Office personnel so that when the training is completed they will be well qualified to process EM loans without undue delay. The training meeting will last two days (16 hours) and include a workshop and a test.

(c) Objective. The basic objective of this training program is to keep State and County personnel properly trained in the current methods of processing EM loan applications and EM loan making. This will result in more expeditious service to disaster victims during critical times and minimize erroneous interpretations of regulations by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 employees in administering the EM loan program.

(d) Comprehensive EM loan training package. A comprehensive EM loan training package has been developed for use by National Office and Staff Office personnel in training all EM loan writers (both regular and temporary employees). This package, including an application kit, will be used for the EM loan training meetings, and any subsequent EM loan training meetings conducted by State or District personnel.

(e) Funding. Travel for the two-day session required in paragraph (b) of this section may be funded from a special purpose account with advance approval from the Budget Division. The