

U.S. standards for grades of canned tomato products	Effective date	Proposed color section revisions	Other proposed revisions
Tomato Catsup	02/26/92	Remove text under section 52.2106, "Color," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed. Change "catsup" to "ketchup" throughout the standard.
Tomato Sauce	11/17/94	Remove text under section 52.2372, "Color," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed. Revise section 52.2371, "Product description," to highlight the refractive index criteria and include the low individual sample allowance. Revise table 1 of section 52.2375, column "U.S. Grade B" Reasonably Good Consistency to align with the definition, "3.0 to less than 4.0 or more than 12.0 but not more than 15.0."
Tomato Juice	07/22/85	Remove text under section 52.3622, "Definitions of terms," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color. Remove Munsell address as a contact to order the tomato color standards.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed.
Canned Tomato Paste.	09/19/77	Remove text under section 52.5048, "Color," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color. Remove Munsell address as a contact to order the tomato color standards.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed. Replace two-term grading language (dual nomenclature) with a single term to describe each quality level with the grade statements. For example, the term "U.S. Grade A or U.S. Fancy" would be revised to use the term "U.S. Grade A" under section 52.5044.
Canned Tomato Puree (Tomato Pulp).	05/01/78	Remove text under section 52.5088, "Color," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color. Remove Munsell address as a contact to order the tomato color standards.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed.
Canned Tomatoes	04/13/90	Remove text under section 52.5164, "Definitions of terms," pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Canned Tomatoes for determining color.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standard, which had been erroneously removed. Revise section 52.5166, including changing the title from "Minimum drained weight averages" to "Drained weight" and reorganizing content into a better order. Reorganize section 52.5166 for clarity, including moving sections. Add a new table in section 52.5170 to show the low individual drained weights and re-number all subsequent tables.
Concentrated Tomato Juice.	02/25/70	Remove text under section 52.5205 pertaining to the use of the Munsell color discs. Add information about the USDA Color Standards for Tomato Products for determining color.	Add section headings from the previous version of the standards, which had been erroneously removed. Replace two-term grading language (dual nomenclature) with a single term to describe each quality level with the grade statements. For example, the term "U.S. Grade A or U.S. Fancy" would be revised to use the term "U.S. Grade A" under section 52.5202.

The proposed revisions to these grade standards would provide a common language for trade and better reflect the current marketing of fruits and vegetables.

A 60-day period is provided for interested persons to submit comments on the proposed grade standards. Copies of the proposed revised standards are available at <https://www.regulations.gov>. After the 60-day comment period, AMS will proceed in accordance with 7 CFR 36.3(a)(1) through (3).

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

Erin Morris,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2025–17772 Filed 9–12–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS–2025–0013]

Availability of Guideline for Applying for Food Safety and Inspection Service Inspection

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: FSIS is announcing the availability of and requesting comments on a new guideline titled FSIS Guideline for *Applying for USDA FSIS Inspection*. FSIS developed this guideline to provide businesses interested in applying for FSIS inspection with information about determining the need for FSIS inspection, products exempt from routine inspection, the application process, FSIS verification activities, and resources to support new applicants.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 14, 2025.

ADDRESSES: A downloadable version of the FSIS Guideline for *Applying for USDA FSIS Inspection* is available to view and print at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/fsis-guidelines>.

FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this document. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

- **Hand- or Courier-Delivered Submittals:** Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 350–E, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS–2025–0013. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, call (202) 720–5046 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Edelstein, Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development, at (202) 205–0495 or docketclerk@usda.gov with a subject line of “Docket No. FSIS 2025–0013.” Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access

telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FSIS is responsible for ensuring that the nation’s supply of meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. FSIS administers the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031 *et seq.*). Establishments producing products subject to these Acts must apply for and receive FSIS inspection services unless they qualify for an exemption.¹

To assist prospective applicants, particularly those operating small and very small businesses, FSIS developed the guideline *Applying for USDA FSIS Inspection*. The guideline provides information on finding resources for small and very small establishments, determining whether FSIS inspection is required based on the type of the product and intended distribution, identifying products that are exempt from routine FSIS inspection, meeting the requirements for applying for FSIS inspection, accessing commonly used FSIS guidance documents related to food safety requirements, understanding FSIS verification activities in inspected establishments, and contacting FSIS for further assistance throughout the application process.

The guideline is designed to make the application process more transparent and accessible, thereby facilitating compliance with the FMIA, PPIA, EPIA and implementing regulations. It does not establish any new regulatory requirements. It simply explains existing statutory and regulatory requirements and provides information to assist applicants in understanding how to comply with those requirements.

FSIS invites comments on all aspects of the guidance, including its clarity, completeness, and usefulness for establishments seeking to apply for inspection services. After reviewing the comments received, FSIS may update the guideline as necessary.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is

¹Exemptions can be found in 21 U.S.C. 623 for meat products, 21 U.S.C. 464 for poultry products, and 21 U.S.C. 1044 for egg products.

important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS web page located at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to this **Federal Register** publication through the FSIS *Constituent Update*, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The *Constituent Update* is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service that provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. The available information ranges from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD–3027, found online at *How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint* and at any USDA office or write a letter

addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Justin Ransom,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2025-17737 Filed 9-12-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket #: RBS-25-BUSINESS-0005]

Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2026

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), invites applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs (REDLG or Programs) for fiscal year (FY) 2026, subject to the availability of funding. This notice is being issued prior to the passage of a FY 2026 Appropriations Act, which may or may not provide funding for this program, to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, prepare and submit their applications, and give the Agency time to process applications within FY 2026. Based on FY 2025 appropriated funding and current budget situation, the Agency estimates that approximately \$50,000,000 for Loans and \$10,000,000 for Grants will be available for FY 2026. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded to the extent that funding may ultimately be made available through appropriations. All applicants are responsible for any expenses incurred in developing their applications.

DATES: The deadlines for completed applications to be received in the RD State Office for quarterly funding competitions are no later than 4:30 p.m.

(local time) on: First Quarter, September 30, 2025; Second Quarter, December 31, 2025; Third Quarter, March 31, 2026, and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2026. The Agency will not consider any application received after the deadline for funding competition in that fiscal quarter.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted in paper or electronically to the RD State Office of the state where the project is located. A list of the RD State Office contacts can be found at: rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices. This notice will also be announced at grants.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cindy Mason at cindy.mason@usda.gov, Program Management Division, Business Programs, RBCS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 3201, Room 5803-South, Washington, DC 20250-3201, or call (202) 690-1433. For further information on this notice, please contact the RD State Office in the state which the applicant's headquarters is located. A list of RD State Office contacts is provided at the following link: rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Federal Awarding Agency Name: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS).

Funding Opportunity Type: Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants (REDLG).

Announcement Type: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Funding Opportunity Number: RD-RBCS-26-REDLG.

Assistance Listing Number: 10.854.

Dates: The deadlines for complete applications to be received in the RD State Office for quarterly funding competitions are no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) on: First Quarter, September 30, 2025; Second Quarter, December 31, 2025; Third Quarter, March 31, 2026, and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2026.

A. Program Description

1. *Purpose of the Program.* The Rural Economic Development Loan (REDL) and Grant (REDG) Programs (REDLG or Program(s)) provide financing to eligible Rural Utilities Service (RUS) electric or telecommunications borrowers (Intermediaries) to promote rural economic development and job creation projects. Assistance provided to rural and Tribal areas, as defined, under this program may include business startup costs, business expansion, business incubators, technical assistance feasibility studies, advanced telecommunications services and

computer networks for medical, educational, and job training services, and Community Facilities, as defined at 7 CFR 4280.3, projects for economic development.

2. *Statutory and Regulatory Authority.* These Programs are authorized under Section 313B of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended and implemented by 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A.

The Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (Pub. L. 119-4) extends the set aside guidance from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 that designates funding for projects in persistent poverty counties. Persistent poverty counties is "any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses, and 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-year average, or any territory or possession of the United States". Section 736 expands the eligible population in persistent poverty counties to include any county seat of such a persistent poverty county that has a population that does not exceed the authorized population limit by more than 10 percent, expanding the current 50,000 population limit to 55,000 for only county seats located in persistent poverty counties. Therefore, assuming the Appropriations Act for 2025 has similar language, applicants and/or beneficiaries located in persistent poverty county seats with populations up to 55,000 (per the 2010 Census) are eligible.

3. *Definitions.* The definitions applicable to this notice are published at 7 CFR 4280.3.

4. *Application of Awards.* The Agency will review, evaluate, and score applications received in response to this notice based on the provisions found in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A, and as indicated in this notice. Awards under the REDLG programs will be made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A and as indicated in this notice. The applicant bears the full burden in preparing and submitting an application in response to this notice regardless of whether or not funding is appropriated for the programs in FY 2026.

B. Federal Award Information

Type of Awards: Loans and Grants.

Fiscal Year Funds: FY 2026.

Available Funds: Dependent upon FY 2026 appropriations. Funding is anticipated to be approximately \$50,000,000 in Loans and \$10,000,000 in Grants based on FY 2025 amounts.