

For: National, State, and County Offices

Recommendations for National Office-Directed Target Reviews

Approved by: Associate Administrator for Operations and Management



1 Overview

A Background

In 2012, a CORP task force was established to evaluate CORP. In the fall of 2012, recommendations developed by the CORP task force were presented to the FSA Administrator for consideration.

The FSA Administrator's decisions about these recommendations resulted in several significant changes in CORP. Notice COR-118 provides an overview of the planned changes to CORP, which will be fully implemented in FY 2014.

One of the changes described in Notice COR-118 is the 2/3 rule, which is a general rule where approximately 2/3's of a COR's time will be devoted to National Office-directed target reviews. These reviews will include the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (IPIA) reviews and other reviews where the scope will be determined by ORAS, in consultation with SED's and National Office FSA managers.

Every year, ORAS will request input from SED's and National Office FSA managers on the programs and/or administrative operations to be tested during the upcoming FY. This input will facilitate ORAS' development of a 1-year review plan that will outline a series of reviews, each with a specific scope. The plan will be shared with all States for their planning processes.

About mid-way through each FY, ORAS will re-evaluate the review plan for modifications that may be needed because of changes affecting the agency that may have occurred during the first 6 months of the FY, such as legislative changes. Additional plan input from SED's and National Office FSA managers may be requested at that time.

Disposal Date	Distribution
May 1, 2014	National and State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices, CORP Coordinators, and COR's

Notice COR-121

1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice provides instructions for SED's and National Office managers to provide recommendations to ORAS for the development of the FY 2014 review plan.

2 Developing Recommendations

A Areas of Consideration for Review

The following administrative and/or program areas can be considered for inclusion in National Office-directed reviews:

- all administrative operations
- all common provisions, such as HELC/WC, AGI, etc.
- any program **not** included in 2012 and/or 2013 IPIA reviews.

Notes: The following were included in 2012 and/or 2013 IPIA reviews:

- CRP
- LFP
- NAP
- MAL
- MILC
- NAP
- SURE.

For CRP payments, only annual rental payments were included in 2012 and 2013 IPIA reviews. Therefore, the following CRP payments **can** be considered for National Office-directed reviews:

- signing incentive
- practice incentive
- wetland restoration incentive
- cost-share.

B Scope of Recommended Reviews

Either an entire administrative operation and/or program area or a portion thereof may be recommended for review. However, reviews will be designed by ORAS with a limited scope so reviews can be completed in 5 or less workdays for each office selected.

SED's and National Office FSA managers shall carefully consider the scope of each review to be recommended, so only the most critical issues will be addressed in the reviews.

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2 Developing Recommendations (Continued)

C Recommendations

When determining what administrative operations and/or program areas to recommend for review, SED's and National Office FSA managers are encouraged to seek input from CED's, DD's, FLM's, Program Chiefs, Program Managers, etc.

Each SED and National Office FSA manager shall compile input received into 1 response for their area of responsibility.

Note: Applicable National Office FSA managers include the following:

- DAFP
- DAFLP
- DAFO
- DAM
- Director, EPAS
- Director, ITSD
- Director, OBF
- Director, OEA.

3 Submitting Recommendations

A E-Mail Recommendations

SED's and National Office FSA managers shall submit their recommendations directly to Philip Sharp, Director, ORAS by e-mail at **philip.sharp@wdc.usda.gov**.

B Deadline

The deadline for submitting recommendations to ORAS is **September 6, 2013**.

Negative responses are not required. However, if ORAS does not receive a response by the deadline, the lack of response will be considered a negative response.