

Certified Mediation Program



Overview

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Certified Mediation Program makes grants to state designated entities that provide alternative dispute resolution through mediation to agricultural producers, their creditors (as applicable), persons directly affected by the actions of the USDA, and any other persons involved in covered issues for which mediation services are provided by a Certified Mediation Program. In mediation, a trained, impartial mediator helps participants review and discuss their conflicts, identify options to resolve disputes and agree on solutions. Mediation helps to avoid expensive and time-consuming administrative appeals and/or litigation.

These grants are administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Cases that may be mediated include, but are not limited to, agricultural loans, whether made by USDA or commercial lenders, and disputes involving USDA actions on farm and conservation programs, wetland determinations, rural water loan programs, grazing on national forest system lands, pesticides, rural housing and business loans, and crop insurance.

How Mediation Works

USDA program participants are offered the opportunity to request mediation prior to a formal administrative appeal. If this option is requested, some state programs are able to provide assistance to prepare participants for the mediation session, which is held at a time and place convenient to all parties.

Unlike a judge or arbitrator, the mediator has no decision-making authority and is present only to help participants discuss and explore their issues in a useful, non-confrontational manner. Successful mediation is based on the cooperation and involvement of all participants.

Mediation can be accomplished in one meeting or may take several sessions depending on the complexity of the issues and the number of participants. If an agreement is not reached, the case is closed, and all parties remain free to pursue other available administrative appeals and/or legal action.

Mediation Benefits

Successful mediation benefits participants in the following ways:

- Mediation may resolve disputes within a participant's financial means, providing a low-cost alternative to appeals or often expensive litigation.
- Mediation may reduce stress caused by lengthy litigation. While it can take years for a case to filter through the courts, mediation generally takes only a few meetings to complete.

What Can Be Mediated

- Agricultural loans, regardless of whether the loans are made or guaranteed by USDA or made by a third party — mediation services must be provided.
- Wetland determinations.
- Compliance with farm programs,

conservation programs, and the National Organic Program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990.

- Rural water loan programs.
- Grazing on National Forest System lands.
- Pesticides.
- Lease issues, including land leases and equipment leases.
- Family farm transition.
- Farmer-neighbor disputes.
- Other issues as the Secretary or the head of the Agriculture Department of each participating State considers appropriate for better serving the agricultural community and persons eligible for mediation.

In addition, Certified Mediation Programs may provide credit counseling prior to the initiation of any mediation involving the USDA or unrelated to any ongoing dispute or mediation in which USDA is a party.

For More Information

For more information about FSA and its programs, visit your local FSA office or online at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

To find your local FSA office, visit <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/index>.

Cost to Participants

Certified Mediation Programs may charge participants a nominal fee for mediation services. When mediation services are needed in a state that does not have a Certified Mediation Program, FSA contracts with a reputable mediator and there may be fees participants will be required to pay. If your state is not listed, please contact your local FSA office.

Certified Mediation Programs		
<p>Alabama Alabama Agricultural Mediation Program 1445 Federal Drive Montgomery, Alabama 36107-1123 Phone: (334) 240-7151 Email: mediation@agi.alabama.gov Website: www.agi.alabama.gov</p>	<p>Colorado Colorado Agricultural Mediation Program Colorado Agricultural Mediation Program (CAMP) 305 Interlocken Parkway Broomfield, Colorado 80021 Phone: (303) 869-9095 Email: leif.jacobsen@state.co.us Website: https://ag.colorado.gov/ics/colorado-agricultural-mediation-program-camp</p>	<p>Georgia Georgia Agricultural Mediation Program (GAMP) Federation of Southern Cooperatives/ Land Assistance Fund 2769 Church Street East Point, Georgia 30344 Phone: (404) 765-0991 Fax: (404) 765-9178 Email: info@federation.coop Website: https://www.federation.coop/</p>
<p>Alaska Alaska Agricultural Mediation Program P.O. Box 231211 Anchorage, Alaska 99507-9998 Phone: (907) 206-0096 Fax: (509) 838-5588 Email: gcooper@fulcrumdispute.com Website: https://www.fulcrumdispute.com</p>	<p>Connecticut Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program Center on Dispute Resolution Quinnipiac University School of Law 275 Mount Carmel Avenue Hamden, Connecticut 06518 Phone: (800) 870-2577 Email: CTAMP@quinnipiac.edu Website: https://ctagmediation.org</p>	<p>Hawaii Hawaii Agricultural Mediation Program 1428 South King St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Phone: (808) 447-1790 ext. 101 Email: matts@emcenter.org Website: www.hiamp.org</p>
<p>Arkansas Arkansas Agricultural Mediation Program The Arkansas Farm Mediation Program Arkansas Department of Agriculture 1 Natural Resources Drive Little Rock, Arkansas 72205 Phone: (501) 451-0041 Email: cami.davis@agriculture.arkansas.gov Website: www.agriculture.arkansas.gov</p>	<p>Delaware Delaware Agriculture Mediation Program Delaware Agriculture Mediation Program (DEAMP) 8 The Green #18365 Dover, Delaware 19901-3618 Phone: (302) 321-5961 Email: Loraine@DelawareAgMediation.org Email: Bill@DelawareAgMediation.org Website: www.DelawareAgMediation.org</p>	<p>Idaho Idaho Agricultural Mediation Program 8596 N. Wayne Suite G-120 Hayden, Idaho 83835 Phone: (208) 667-5325 Fax: (509) 838-5588 Email: gcooper@fulcrumdispute.com Website: https://www.fulcrumdispute.com/</p>
<p>California California Agricultural Mediation Program c/o California Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 N. St. Suite 400 Sacramento, California 95814 Phone: (916) 330-4500 ext. 101 Email: matts@emcenter.org Website: https://www.calamp.org</p>	<p>Florida Florida Agricultural Mediation Program (FAMP) Federation of Southern Cooperatives/ Land Assistance Fund 2769 Church Street East Point, Georgia 30344 Phone: (404) 765-0991 Fax: (404) 765-9178 Email: info@federation.coop Website: https://agmediation.org or https://www.federation.coop</p>	<p>Illinois Illinois Agricultural Mediation Program Dispute Resolution Institute, Inc. P.O. Box 1136 Carbondale, Illinois 62903 Phone: (618) 549-1300 Email: iamp@dri-inc.org Website: https://dri-inc.org/illinois-agricultural-mediation-program</p>

Certified Mediation Programs

Indiana

Indiana Agricultural Mediation Program
 Indiana Ag Mediation of RSI
 610 Monroe Street
 LaPorte, Indiana 46350
 Phone: (574) 299-9640
 Email: RSI.ramor@gmail.com
 Website: <https://www.ruralservices.net/>

Iowa

Iowa Agricultural Mediation Program
 Iowa Mediation Service
 1441 29th Street
 Suite 120
 West Des Moines, Iowa 50266
 Phone: (515) 331-8081
 Email: kiley2@iowamediasonservation.com
 Website: www.iowamediasonservation.com

Kansas

Kansas Agricultural Mediation Program
 Kansas Agricultural Mediation Service
 P. O. Box 222
 Manhattan, Kansas 66956
 Phone: (800) 321-3276
 Email: kams@ksu.edu
 Website: <https://www.ksre.ksu.edu/kams/>

Louisiana

Louisiana Agricultural Mediation Service (LAMP)
 Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund
 2769 Church Street
 East Point, Georgia 30344
 Phone: (404) 765-0991
 Fax: (404) 765-9178
 Email: info@federation.coop
 Website: <https://www.federation.coop/>

Maine

Maine Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP)
 University of Maine
 1 York Complex
 Orono, Maine 04469
 Phone: (207) 974-9637 or (207) 827-6557
 Email: maineagmediation@maine.edu, Lucille.wess@maine.edu
 Website: <https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/agricultural-mediation/>

Maryland

Maryland Agricultural Mediation Program
 Maryland Agricultural Conflict Resolution Service
 50 Harry S Truman Parkway
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 Phone: (410) 841-5778
 Email: kay-megan.washington1@maryland.gov
 Website: www.marylandacres.com

Minnesota

Minnesota Agricultural Mediation Program
 Regents of the University of Minnesota
 Sponsored Projects Administration
 450 McNamara Alumni Center
 200 Oak Street SE
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-2070
 Phone: (612) 624-5599
 Email: awards@umn.edu
 Website: www.research.umn.edu/units/spa

Mississippi

Mississippi Agricultural Mediation Program
 Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
 233 E. Hamilton St.
 Jackson, Mississippi 39202
 Phone: (601) 944-0592
 Email: LYTANYABROWN@gmail.com
 Website: www.federation.coop

Missouri

Missouri Agricultural Mediation Program
 Missouri Department of Agriculture
 P.O. Box 630
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
 Phone: (573) 751-5520
 Email: mediate@mda.mo.gov

Montana

Montana Agricultural Mediation Program
 Montana Ag Mediation Program
 P.O. Box 200201
 Helena, Montana 59620
 Phone: (406) 444-9126
 Email: ag.mediation@mt.gov
 Website: <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/H-M/Mediation>

Nebraska

Nebraska Agricultural Mediation Program
 Negotiations
 P.O. Box 94947
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4947
 Phone: (402) 471-4876
 Email: agr.negotiations@nebraska.gov
 Website: <https://negotiations.nebraska.gov>

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Agricultural Mediation Program
 c/o New Hampshire Department of Agriculture
 P.O. Box 2042
 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-2042
 Phone: (603) 685-4780 ext. 101
 Email: matts@emcenter.org
 Website: <https://emcenter.org/nhamp/>

Certified Mediation Programs

New Jersey

New Jersey Agricultural Mediation Program
 New Jersey State Agriculture Development
 P.O. Box 330
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625
 Phone: (609) 913-6594 or (609) 984-2504
 Email: David.kimmel@ag.state.nj.us or sadc@ag.nj.gov
 Website: <https://nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/agmediation/>

New Mexico

Iowa Agricultural Mediation Program
 New Mexico State University/Cooperative Extension Service
 P.O. Box 30003
 MSC 3AE
 Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-0003
 Phone: (800) 289-6577 or (575) 646-2925
 Fax: (575) 646-3808
 Email: emw@nmsu.edu
 Website: <https://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/nmamp/index.html>

North Carolina

North Carolina Agricultural Mediation Program
 North Carolina Agricultural Mediation Program (NCAMP)
 College of Business
 Western Carolina University
 Bob Holbert, Mediation Director
 Phone: (828) 200-5261
 Email: rholbert@wcu.edu
 Website: <https://affiliate.wcu.edu/agriculturalmediation/ncamp/>

North Dakota

North Dakota Agricultural Mediation Program
 North Dakota Department of Agriculture
 North Dakota Mediation Service
 600 E. Boulevard Ave.
 Dept. 602
 Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0020
 Phone: (701) 328-2231
 Email: ndms@nd.gov
 Website: www.nd.gov/ndda

Ohio

Ohio Agricultural Mediation Program
 Ohio Farm Resolution Services at The Ohio State University
 26 Agricultural Administration Building
 2120 Fyffe Road
 Columbus, Ohio 43210
 Phone: (614) 247-8260
 Email: moore.301@osu.edu
 Website: <https://farmoffice.osu.edu/ofrs>

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Agricultural Mediation Program
 Oklahoma Agriculture Mediation Program, Inc.
 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.
 2nd Floor
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
 Phone: (405) 521-3934
 Email: mediation@ag.ok.gov
 Website: www.ok.gov/mediation

Oregon

Oregon Agricultural Mediation Program
 Six Rivers Dispute Resolution Center
 P.O. Box 1594
 Hood River, Oregon 97031
 Phone: (541) 386-1283
 Email: info@6rivers.org
 Website: www.usdamediationoregon.org

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Agricultural Mediation Program
 The Pennsylvania Agricultural Mediation Program c/o Penn State Center for Agricultural and Shale Law
 329 Innovation Blvd. Suite 118
 University Park, Pennsylvania 16802
 Phone: (814) 865-4290
 Email: AgMediation@pennstatelaw.psu.edu
 Website: <https://aglaw.psu.edu/pennsylvania-agricultural-mediation-program/>

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Agricultural Mediation Program
 Center for Mediation & Collaboration
 Rhode Island
 831 Bald Hill Rd.
 Warwick, Rhode Island 02886
 Phone: (401) 273-9999
 Email: triciaa@cmcri.org
 Website: <http://www.cmcri.org/>

South Dakota

South Dakota Agricultural Mediation Program
 South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
 523 East Capitol Avenue
 Pierre, South Dakota 57501
 Phone: (605) 773-5559
 Phone: (605) 773-4026
 Email: DANRMail@state.sd.us
 Website: <https://danr.sd.gov> or <https://danr.sd.gov/Funding/AgricultureMediation/default.aspx>

Texas

Texas Agricultural Mediation Program
 Texas Dispute Resolution System
 P.O. Box 10536
 Lubbock, Texas 79408
 Phone: (806) 775-1720 or (866) 329-3522
 Email: odr@lubbockcounty.gov
 Website: www.lubbockcounty.gov

Utah

Utah Agricultural Mediation Program
 P.O. Box 146500
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
 Phone: (385) 245-5222
 Phone: (801) 982-2200
 Email: agmediation@utah.gov
 Website: <https://ag.utah.gov/office-of-the-commissioner/ag-mediation/>

Certified Mediation Programs

<p>Vermont Vermont Agricultural Mediation Program 177 Paddy Hill Road Moretown, Vermont 05660 Phone: (802) 583-1100 ext. 101 Email: matts@emcenter.org Website: https://emcenter.org/vtamp/</p> <p>Virginia Virginia Agricultural Mediation Program Farm Agricultural Resources and Mediation of Virginia (FARMVA) College of Business Western Carolina University Bob Holbert, Mediation Director Phone: (828) 200-5261 Email: rholbert@wcu.edu Website: https://affiliate.wcu.edu/agriculturalmediation/farmva/</p>	<p>Washington Washington Agricultural Mediation Program 1212 N. Washington Suite 206 Spokane, Washington 99201-2441 Phone: (509) 838-2799 Fax: (509) 838-5588 Email: gcooper@fulcrumdispute.com Website: https://www.fulcrumdispute.org/</p> <p>Wisconsin Wisconsin Agricultural Mediation Program Wisconsin Farm Mediation and Arbitration Program Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection 2811 Agriculture Drive P.O. Box 8911 Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8911 Phone: (800) 942-2474 Email: farmcenter@wisconsin.gov Website: https://datacp.wi.gov/Pages/AgDevelopment/FarmMediation.aspx</p>	<p>Wyoming Wyoming Agricultural Mediation Program Wyoming Agriculture & Natural Resources Mediation Program 2219 Carey Avenue Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0100 Phone: (307) 777-8788 Email: lucy.pauley@wyo.gov Website: https://agriculture.wy.gov/mediation-program</p>
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