AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

(c) *Borrower training.* The applicant must agree to meet the training requirements of § 1924.74 of subpart B of part 1924 of this chapter unless a waiver is granted in accordance with that section. In the case of a cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint operation, any individual member, stockholder, partner, or joint operator holding a majority interest in the operation or who is operating the farm must agree to complete the training or qualify for the waiver on behalf of the entity. However, if one entity member is solely responsible for financial or production management, then only that entity member will be required to complete the training in that area for the entity or qualify for a partial waiver. If the financial and production functions of the farming operation are shared, the knowledge and skills of the individual(s) with the responsibility of production and/or financial management of the operation will be considered in the aggregate for granting a waiver or requiring that training be completed. If a waiver is not granted, these individuals will be required to complete the training in accordance with their responsibilities. If the applicant has previously been required to obtain training, the applicant must be enrolled in and attending, or have satisfactorily completed, the training required.

[53 FR 35692, Sept. 15, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 21528, May 25, 1990; 56 FR 3972, Feb. 1, 1991; 58 FR 69199, Dec. 30, 1993; 62 FR 9355, Mar. 3, 1997; 62 FR 28619, May 27, 1997]

§ 1943.13 Outreach program for applicants/borrowers who are members of socially disadvantaged groups.

The purpose of this section is to establish procedures and responsibilities for carrying out the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 Farm Ownership (FO) Direct Loan and Acquired Property Outreach Program to Applicants/ Borrowers who are members of socially disadvantaged groups.

(a) *Policy.* The FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 FO Loan Outreach Program is a concerted effort to:

(1) Surface and correct problems and obstacles that prevent the participation of members of socially disadvantaged groups in the FO loan program.

(2) Target direct FO loan funds to members of socially disadvantaged groups to ensure they are provided access to FO loan funds, as outlined in exhibit B of this subpart.

(3) Provide pamphlets, publications and general information on the direct FO loan program to members of socially disadvantaged groups.

(4) Provide assistance to members of socially disadvantaged groups to assure that the application process is expedient and complete. Assistance will be provided to borrowers of socially disadvantaged groups through special farm initiatives to assure that sound operating procedures are implemented to enhance the borrower's chances for successfully achieving the objectives of the direct FO loan program.

(b) *Field action.* The State Director shall designate the Farmer Programs Chief to coordinate the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 Farm Ownership (FO) Loan Outreach Program to members of socially disadvantaged groups. The State's Civil Rights Coordinator will act as a resource person for this program. The Farmer Programs Chief will:

(1) Maintain close liaison with local, State and national organizations serving social disadvantaged groups to ascertain the reasons for the lack of participation of members of socially disadvantaged groups in FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 direct FO loan program.

(2) Work closely with County Supervisors, District Directors, and National Office officials to remove obstacles and solve problems relating to the making of direct FO loans and credit sales to members of socially disadvantaged groups.

(3) Attend meetings of local, State, and Federal Governments and private organizations concerned with the economic and social development of members of socially disadvantaged groups.

(4) Train members of socially disadvantaged groups, interested individuals and groups involved with socially disadvantaged activities, in the packaging of applications and distribution

of materials for use in the direct FO loan and credit sale programs.

(5) Provide pamphlets and publications on the direct FO loan and credit sale program.

(6) Initiate special media outreach activities to inform members of socially disadvantaged groups of the availability of acquired farmland and of targeted and non-targeted direct FO loan funds.

(i) Information must be provided to community and farm oriented organizations, agriculture colleges, other USDA agencies and community leaders who are active in the farming area.

(ii) Newspaper articles, radio announcements and public television broadcasts will be used to publicize the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 Farm Ownership (FO) Direct Loan and Acquired Property Outreach Program to members of socially disadvantaged groups. *State Directors and required to publicize the program at least twice annually in a newspaper most used by members of socially disadvantaged groups.* This effort will be monitored by the National Office through Coordinated Assessment Reviews (CARs) and special planned visits to selected States.

(c) *Reports.* (1) State Directors will keep the Assistant Administrator, Farmer Programs, advised of any problems encountered in carrying out the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 Farm Ownership (FO) Direct Loan and Acquired Property Outreach Program to Members of Socially Disadvantaged Groups which prevent their participation in this program.

(2) *Each State Director will make a semi-annual memorandum report to the Assistant Administrator, Farmer Programs, on May 1 and September 30 of each fiscal year on the Farm Ownership (FO) Direct Loan and Acquired Property Outreach Program to members of Socially Disadvantaged Groups.* The report will summarize accomplishments on the items set forth in § 1943.13(b) of this subpart. The following should also be included in the report:

(i) The State and County of each direct FO loan and credit sale made to applicant/borrowers who are members of socially disadvantaged groups.

(ii) Number of applications for direct initial and subsequent FO loans and credit sales received during the period.

(iii) Number of direct initial and subsequent FO loans and credit sales approved during the period.

(iv) Number of applications on hand for direct initial and subsequent FO loans and credit sales at the end of the reporting periods.

(v) Number of announcements placed in local newspapers, on radio and public television.

(vi) Amount of each initial and subsequent direct FO loans and credit sales approved during the reporting periods.

(vii) Total dollar value of direct initial and subsequent FO loans and credit sales approved during the reporting periods.

[53 FR 35692, Sept. 15, 1988, as amended at 57 FR 19524, May 7, 1992; 62 FR 28619, May 27, 1997]

§ 1943.14 Downpayment FO loan program for beginning farmers or ranchers.

(a) *Objectives.* The basic objective of the downpayment FO loan program is to provide credit and assistance to eligible beginning farmers or ranchers to become owner-operators of family-size farms, including inventory farm property. Supervision will be provided borrowers to the extent necessary to achieve the objectives of the loan and to protect the interests of the Government in accordance with subpart B of part 1924 of this chapter.

(b) *Eligibility requirements.* Applicants must meet the ''beginning farmer or rancher'' definition in § 1943.4 of this subpart to qualify for a downpayment loan.

(c) *Loan purposes.* Loans may be made to provide an amount equal to 30 percent of the purchase price or appraised value, whichever is lower, of the farm or ranch to be acquired, unless the applicant requests a lesser amount. The remaining balance of the purchase price or appraised value, whichever is lower, not to exceed 60 percent, may be guaranteed by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354.

(d) *Loan limitations.* In addition to the loan limitations stated in § 1943.17 of this subpart, the loan will not be approved if: