

Farm Service Agency, USDA

§ 784.10

(4) Submit supporting documentation to the local county office to prove that page 4 of the LMAAP application was completed and faxed according to paragraph (g)(2).

(5) Applicable FSA program forms, office addresses, and fax number information is available on the internet at www.sc.egov.usda.gov.

(h) In order for an eligible sheep and lamb operation to receive a ewe lamb incentive payment, the producer must certify that the ewe lamb, at the time of certification is:

(1) Not older than 18 months of age;

(2) Has not produced an offspring;

(3) Does not possess the following characteristics:

(i) Parrot mouth; or

(ii) foot rot.

(i) In addition, to qualify for ewe lamb incentive payment, the sheep and lamb operation must:

(1) Certify that it will maintain the qualifying ewe lambs in the herd for at least one complete offspring lambing cycle and actually maintain the lambs for that period in accord with that certification.

(2) Upon request by an AMS agent, agree to allow the AMS agent to verify that the ewe lambs meet qualifying characteristics. These qualifying characteristics inter alia, must be certified by an AMS agent as equal or superior to those required for lamb incentive payments, as described in paragraphs (b) and (e) of this section.

(3) Maintain documentation of any death loss of qualifying ewe lambs.

(4) Agree to refund any payments made with respect to any ewe lamb which has died before completing the full program requirements where said deaths for the operation exceed 10 percent per program year.

(5) Be in compliance with all requirements relating to Scrapie, as described in 9 CFR part 79; and

(j) To be eligible for any payments addressed under this section, sheep and lamb operation must be engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products at the time of filing the application.

(k) In addition, to be eligible for Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 payments, a sheep and lamb operation must submit a timely application during the applica-

tion period for Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 benefits and comply with all other terms and conditions of this part or which are contained in the application to be eligible for such benefits.

§ 784.9 Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 rate of payment and limitations on funding.

Subject to the availability of funds, and the proration rules set out in § 784.10, Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 payments may be made to sheep and lamb operations at the following rates:

(a) \$3 for each qualifying feeder lamb; plus

(b) \$5 for each qualifying slaughter lamb marketed in any covered month except for June or July of the applicable program year, and

(c) \$8 for each qualifying slaughter lamb marketed in June or July of the applicable program year.

(d) \$18 for each qualifying ewe lamb retained or purchased for breeding purposes for Year 3 and Year 4 only.

§ 784.10 Availability of funds for Year 1 through Year 4.

(a) Total payments under this part, unless otherwise determined by the FSA, cannot exceed \$67.7 million. At the close of Year 3, FSA will determine if the remaining available funds will be sufficient for program Year 4. In the event that funds should be insufficient to complete the expected payments to eligible producers during program Year 4, then the payment rates for that program year shall be prorated by a national factor so as to reduce the expected payments to be made to the amount available and payment shall be made at those rates until monies are expended. Payments made during a prorated program year shall be made first-come, first-served so long as there are monies available in the manner set for in these regulations. Payments for preceding years will not be affected.

(b) A national factor shall be determined, if necessary for slaughter lamb and feeder lamb payments based on the factoring of the remaining available funds at the conclusion of Year 3 divided by the average number of slaughter and feeder lambs that qualified for benefits during Year 2 and Year 3.