

TAEP Updates 2026-2027 – Quick Summary

TAEP Application & Program Information – Online Only

- Application and program information is available online at the TAEP homepage (www.tn.gov/taep).

TAEP Application Process – Online Only

- The TAEP application process is entirely online.
- Online applications will be available as a **live link** (no downloading required) at the TAEP homepage (www.tn.gov/taep) during the application period (October 1-7).
 - *The application link does not exist within the TAEP Account Portal.*
 - *It is not necessary to have a TAEP Account to apply.*
- Applicants will need the following to apply online:
 - **Email address** – applicant must have a working email address which is exclusive to the applicant and not utilized by other TAEP applicants. *Applicants must be able to monitor email account for confirmation email and other correspondence related to cost share participation.*
 - **Internet access** – applicant will need access to the internet to apply.
 - **Electronic device** – applicant will need access to a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone to apply. *Computers are preferred over smartphones.*
- Applicant will receive a **confirmation email** from taep.confirmation@tn.gov if application is successfully submitted. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to confirm receipt of their confirmation email by checking their email account.**
 - Check spam/junk folder if confirmation email is not received within 15 minutes of submitting application. *Applicant can add taep.confirmation@tn.gov to trusted contact list.*
 - Applicants are encouraged to save confirmation email as proof of applying.

Educational Requirement – Master Certification & Special Requirements

- **Master Certification** - Application A (Hay, Livestock, Poultry, Row Crop, & Swine) - approved applicants will be required to have a current eligible master certification **at time of reimbursement** - not at time of application - to be considered for cost share funding. Eligible master certifications are determined by program.
 - *Beginning Farmer Option – if applicant is approved for the TAEP Beginning Farmer Option, applicant will be required to complete the UT Farming Fundamentals or TSU New Farmer Academy certification for their educational requirement.*
- **Special Requirements** - Application B (Producer Diversification) - approved applicants will be required to have a current eligible master certification or special requirement equivalent for Producer Diversification **at time of reimbursement** - not at time of application - to be considered for cost share funding. Eligible special requirements are determined by program.

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Reimbursement Maximums:

The final program reimbursement maximums will be determined based upon overall demand for cost share funding and specified on approval documentation.

TAEP Program Maximums		
Application	Program	FY26 Maximum
A	Livestock Equipment	\$ 3,000
A	Livestock Fencing	\$ 3,000
A	Genetics	\$ 3,000
A	Herd Health	\$ 4,000
A	Hay Equipment	\$ 5,000
A	Working Structures (<i>cover or pen</i>) & <i>Fence-line Systems</i>	\$ 5,000
A	Farming Solutions (<i>formerly Livestock Solutions</i>)	\$ 6,000
A	Poultry Grower	\$ 6,000
A	Swine Producer	\$ 6,000
A	Hay Storage	\$ 8,000
A	Dairy Solutions	\$ 10,000
A	Row Crop Solutions	\$ 12,000
B	Producer Diversification	\$ 12,000

- Genetics features a maximum per item.
- Hay Storage reimbursements are based upon a maximum per square foot.
- Herd Health reimbursements are based upon a per head amount per item.
- Livestock Fencing reimbursements are based upon a maximum per linear foot.
- Permanent Working Cover (Working Structures) reimbursements are based upon a maximum per square foot.

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Producer Program Updates:

Minimum Requirement Changes

- **Head of livestock definition** – *maximum number of single type, regardless of sex or age, during the last 12 months at time of application.*
- **Hay** – minimum requirement reduced from 100 acres in production to **50 acres** in production (first cutting only); eligible programs for hay producers:
 - Farming Solutions (*previously Livestock Solutions*)
 - Hay Equipment
 - Hay Storage
- **Swine** – minimum requirements reduced from 1,000 head to **100 head** and commercial producer requirement removed; eligible programs for swine producers:
 - Farming Solutions
 - Livestock Equipment
 - Livestock Fencing
 - Swine Producer

Farming Solutions – *previously Livestock Solutions*

- Program name changed to allow additional sectors access to eligible items
 - Row Crop – rotary cutter/pasture clipper, and spreader (fertilizer)
 - Hay – rotary cutter/pasture clipper and hay wrapper
 - Swine – livestock trailer and multi-animal scale
- Changes to eligible items:
 - Hay wrapper – added single bale wrapper as eligible

Hay Storage

- Minimum requirement – reduced from 100 acres to **50 acres** of hay production (first cutting only)
- Hay Storage Projects
 - New structure
 - Additions (side shed or extension) to existing structure

Herd Health

- Lifetime Limit – remove limit of three (3)

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Livestock Fencing

- New program for livestock producers (cattle, equids, goats/sheep, and swine)
- Eligible items include permanent perimeter fencing and permanent cross-fencing
- Reimbursement will be determined based on \$2.00 per linear foot up to the program maximum
- Linear footage is calculated by number of **spans** (space between posts) x **spacing between posts** (measured from the center of one post to the center of the next post).
- Livestock Fencing added to the Beginning Farmer Option as an eligible program

Livestock Equipment

- New eligible items:
 - Automatic waterer – commercially manufactured for livestock; ***not eligible – water trough with float valve secured to hose***
 - Hay feeder – includes hay ring, hay hut, slant bar hay feeder on legs/skids/wheels; cover optional at time of purchase
 - Virtual fencing – minimum purchase of five collars; accessories eligible at time of purchase only

Poultry Grower

- Commercial growers
- New eligible items:
 - Composter
 - Incinerator
 - Water sanitation/treatment system – commercial whole farm poultry system

Swine Producer

- Minimum requirement reduced from 1,000 head of swine to 100 head of swine and commercial producer requirement removed
- New eligible items:
 - Composter
 - Incinerator