

“Year 1” payments for qualifying operations shall be at the following rates:

(a) Up to \$100 for each eligible ram purchased, up to \$2,500 per sheep and lamb operation;

(b) \$.50 for each qualifying sheep enrolled in a qualifying sheep improvement program, up to \$500 per sheep and lamb operation; plus

(c) 20% of the cost of the qualifying facility improvements up to \$2,500 per sheep and lamb operation.

§ 784.7 Year 2 and Year 3 time and method for application.

(a) To receive “Year 2” and “Year 3” benefits, as described in § 784.1, at rates set out in § 784.9, sheep and lamb operations may obtain an application, Form FSA-383 (Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program Payment Application), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by facsimile from any county FSA office. In addition, applicants may download a copy of the Form FSA-383 at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/>.

(b) Sheep and lamb operations must have the certification section of the application Form FSA-383 completed prior to submission of the form to the county office.

(c) A request for “Year 2” and “Year 3” benefits under this part must be submitted on a completed Form FSA-383. The Form FSA-383 should be submitted to the FSA county office serving the county where the sheep and lamb operation is located but, in any case, must be received by the FSA county office by the close of business on August 15, 2001, if applying for “Year 2” benefits, and by the close of business on August 15, 2002, if applying for “Year 3” benefits. Applications not received by the respective deadlines will be returned as not having been timely filed and the sheep and lamb operation will not be eligible for the benefits which were the subject of the failed application.

(d) The sheep and lamb operation requesting benefits under this part must certify to the accuracy of the information provided in their application for benefits. All information provided is subject to verification and spot checks by FSA. Refusal to allow FSA or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information

provided will result in a determination of ineligibility. Data furnished by the applicant will be used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Furnishing the data is voluntary; however, without it program benefits will not be approved. Providing a false certification to the Government is punishable by imprisonment, fines and other penalties.

§ 784.8 Year 2 and Year 3 eligibility.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, “Year 2” and “Year 3” payments will, as described to in § 784.1, be made for eligible marketings of slaughter lambs for slaughter. (Criteria for feeder lamb payments appear elsewhere in this section). Such payments for slaughter lambs, as opposed to feeder lambs, can be received by an operation, at the rates described in § 784.9, for those eligible lambs slaughtered in the respective time periods comprising “Year 2” and “Year 3” if the lambs were owned, by the operation, in the normal course of raising lambs for slaughter, continuously for 30 days prior to the marketing for slaughter and if the carcasses produced by the slaughter of the lamb meets the criteria set out in paragraph (b) of this section. Other criteria, as set out in this part, may also apply as a condition for, or limitation on, payment.

(b) In order for a marketing of a slaughter lamb to qualify for payment under paragraph (a) of this section, the carcass produced by the slaughter must be evaluated and certified by an AMS agent or their assigned representative that such carcass meets the following criteria:

(1) Meet the requirements of USDA Quality Grade Choice or Prime;

(2) Meet the requirements of USDA Yield Grade 2;

(3) Have a muscling confirmation score of “Average Choice” or better; and

(4) Have a 55-75 pound dressed hot carcass weight;

(c) Subject to the availability of funds, in order to be eligible for the “Year 2” and “Year 3” feeder lamb payments referred to in § 784.1, at the rates specified in § 784.9, sheep operations must have in the preceding year of which payment is sought had a gross