Program Eligibility Requirements

- Participants must farm in eligible counties in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, or Wisconsin (see map of eligible counties on next page).

- Depending on the program funder, farmers may be required to sell corn or soybeans to certain eligible facilities in the supply chain.
  - Additional incentives available

- Participants must establish a fall cover crop that will proceed a corn or soybean crop the following spring.
  - Cover crops can be a single-species or a multi-species mix.
  - Species can winterkill or overwinter.
  - Seeding rates are at the discretion of the farmer.
  - Cover crops must be seeded by December 15.

- Acres must be conventionally managed; certified organic acres are not eligible.

- Acres can overlap with any publicly funded cost-share programs on a county, state, or federal level (ex. EQIP, CSP, etc.).

- Acres cannot overlap with any privately funded cost-share program, such as a carbon market (ex. Indigo, SWOF, TruCarbon, etc.).

- Any farmer with any experience level with cover crops is eligible.

- One-year or four-year contracts are available.

- Grazing and mechanical harvest of cover crops is allowed and encouraged.

Curious about program steps and paperwork? Click here!
If you farm in a light blue county (IL or WI), please call the office or email covercrops@practicalfarmers.org to see if you are eligible.