

Cover Crop Cost-Share

Program Steps and Details

1. Enroll on PFI's website (practicalfarmers.org/cover-crop-cost-share)

- The enrollment form is linked on the webpage. If you want to learn more about the program before enrolling, fill out the first page of the application and then schedule a time to chat with a team member!

2. Sign an electronic agreement

- This is a non-binding agreement between Practical Farmers of Iowa and the contract holder. If for some reason the contract conditions cannot be satisfied, the contract will be canceled with no cost-share paid on the enrolled acres and with no penalty to the contract holder. Note that contracts can be canceled through December 31, 2024. After that point payments are processed and any contracts previously signed will receive payment.

3. Talk to a PFI agronomist if new to cover crops to discuss cover crop management plan.

4. Attend a learning event (*connect with other farmers!*)

- Examples of learning events: Field days, webinars, shared learning calls or other cover crop related events.
 - **Note:** If attending an event in person isn't feasible, then viewing a recording of an event is satisfactory. See [PFI's YouTube channel](#) for virtual options available.

5. Receive complimentary one-year membership to Practical Farmers of Iowa.

- Learn more about membership benefits on [our website](#). If you'd like any family members to be included on your membership, please ensure their names are listed on your application.

6. Submit cover crop documentation no later than December 16, 2024.

New in 2024! Payment rates are dependent on the documentation provided to PFI. You may choose one of the following:

1. Cover crop receipts - \$10 per acre on unlimited acres.
 - Receipts must either show the amount of seed purchased or total acres seeded.
2. FSA documents **and** cover crop receipts - \$15 per acre on unlimited acres.
 - Receipts must either show the amount of seed purchased or total acres seeded.
 - Producer Subsidiary Print from 2024 showing conservation compliance.
 - FSA tract maps for any fields that will be paid by the cost-share program. Maps must include FarmID, TractID and CLU.
 - If farmer wishes FSA to send documents directly to PFI, then farmer must sign an additional release of information to share with their county office(s). However, farmer is responsible to ensuring their USDA documents are received by PFI no later than the December 16 deadline.

Documentation can be sent at any time via text or email to

covercrops@practicalfarmers.org with your name in the subject line.

7. Submit a wrap-up survey with program feedback no later than December 16, 2024.

- The survey will take about 15-20 minutes to complete. Documentation, as outlined above, can also be submitted by uploading them to this form.

8. Payments will be processed as soon as all relevant paperwork is received and confirmed, as early as December 2024. All payments will be processed by March 31, 2025.

