

Emergency Relief Program (ERP) for 2023 and 2024

On December 21st Congress passed a Continuing Resolution which extended the Farm Bill for another year and included funding for disaster assistance through the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) for 2023 and 2024.

ERP Eligibility

- Details on the program have not yet become available, however it is believed to be implemented similar to the ERP Program in 2020/2021 and not include a progressive payment factor, which greatly limited payments over \$10,000 in the 2022 ERP.
- The 2020/2021 ERP program was implemented in multiple phases.

Phase I ERP Eligibility – If implemented similar to 2020/2021 ERP

- Eligible crops would include all crops for which crop insurance or NAP coverage was available, except for crops intended for grazing.
- Qualifying natural disaster events would include wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture, qualifying drought, and related conditions.
- Applications would be automatically generated if there was a crop insurance loss on a qualifying disaster. Producers would then need to self-certify they had a qualifying loss.
- Payments would be a “top-up” payment from crop insurance and would vary depending on the level of coverage the grower selected. See below for a chart:

Crop Insurance Level	ERP Factor (Percent)
Catastrophic coverage	75
More than catastrophic coverage but less than 55 percent	80
At least 55 percent but less than 60 percent	82.5
At least 60 percent but less than 65 percent	85
At least 65 percent but less than 70 percent	87.5
At least 70 percent but less than 75 percent	90
At least 75 percent but less than 80 percent	92.5
At least 80 percent	95

Phase II ERP Eligibility – If implemented similar to 2020/2021 ERP

- Qualifications would be similar to Phase I, however would be for growers that did not have a crop insurance loss and would require an application process.
- The “application” phase of the ERP programs have drawn the most scrutiny in the past due to requiring tax information and crop plans. Again, we will know more once the actual rules are announced.