



Q&A: Family Farmer & Rancher Protection Fund Eligibility

Q: What is the Family Farmer and Rancher Protection Fund?

A: CME Group established the \$100 million Family Farmer and Rancher Protection Fund to provide further protection of customer segregated funds for U.S. family farmers and ranchers who use CME Group markets to hedge their crops and livestock that feed the world.

Q: What protection does the program provide to individual family farmers, ranchers and co-ops?

A: Under the terms of the program, in the event of losses resulting from the future insolvency of a clearing member or other market participant, family farmers and ranchers using CME Group products will be eligible for up to \$25,000 per participant. Agricultural cooperatives will be eligible for up to \$100,000 per cooperative. These limits apply across all accounts with all clearing member firms that are registered by the participant.

Q: Who is an eligible “family farmer or rancher” for the purpose of this Fund?

A: Eligible participants are family farmers, ranchers and agricultural cooperatives who meet our registration requirements. To qualify, these participants must register with CME Group and must provide a U.S. federal income tax return with Schedule F showing farming activity, or IRS Form 1120-C for cooperatives. For more information on eligibility requirements visit www.cmegroup.com/familyfarmerfund.

Q: Where can I register to become eligible for the Fund?

A: To find more details about Fund eligibility and to register, please visit www.cmegroup.com/familyfarmerfund.

Q: Are there ongoing eligibility requirements or am I enrolled for life?

A: Participants must satisfy the eligibility requirements on an ongoing basis. As a result, CME Group may request updated eligibility information or documentation from participants after their initial registration.

Q: What if I have non-CME Group agricultural commodities in my account. Am I (is my account) eligible?

A: Only accounts that consist entirely of eligible agricultural products of CME Group exchanges and that are cleared by CME Clearing can participate. It is the responsibility of the account holder to work with its clearing member to ensure accounts being submitted for eligibility only hold CME Group eligible agricultural products or to

create a new account consisting only of eligible products. A list of eligible CME Group agricultural products is available on our website www.cmegroup.com/familyfarmerfund.

Q: Can I submit more than one account for greater payout in the event of a future firm failure?

A: Eligible participants may have one or more accounts established with one or more clearing members firms, but the payout is limited to \$25,000 per family farmer or rancher participant and \$100,000 per agricultural cooperative participant. These limits apply to each participant across all accounts.

Q: What if I have excess collateral in my account. Is that covered?

A: If the account holds cash, securities or other collateral in an amount that exceeds the minimum margin requirement, the excess will also be covered by the Fund, up to the applicable coverage limit of \$25,000 per eligible family farmer or rancher participant and \$100,000 per eligible cooperative.

Q: Will the Fund cover warehouse receipts, shipping certificates and other customer property, or only cash collateral?

A: Yes. CME Group may in its discretion apply the Fund to warehouse receipts, shipping certificates and similar physical assets in commodities underlying eligible products that are held by a bankrupt clearing member firm on behalf of participants.

Q: How quickly can I expect to be paid in the event of a future insolvency?

A: The goal of the program is to provide further protection against the loss of immediate access to funds as well as losses resulting overall. If a participating clearing member firm becomes insolvent and its registered customers are exposed to losses because of a shortfall in segregated funds, CME will work to accelerate distribution of funds under the program on the basis of estimated losses.

Q: Does my broker or clearing member firm need to also participate?

A: Yes. In order to be eligible, participants must have their business cleared by a participating clearing member firm. Participation by CME clearing member firms is voluntary.

Q: What if my clearing member firm does not participate?

A: In order to be eligible, you must have an account with a participating CME clearing member firm.

Q: Who are the participating clearing member firms?

A: Participating clearing firms will be listed on the Fund information section of our website – www.cmegroup.com/familyfarmerfund.