

Technical Information Circular # 10

SIMPLIFIED PARTICIPATION

General Information

To ease the information burden for participants entering or re-entering the program, AgriStability includes the provision to facilitate simplified participation. Simplified participation includes reduced information requirements for both enrolment (issuance of fees) and calculation of the Reference Margin for new and returning participants.

Enrolment

New or returning participants must advise of their intent to enrol by submitting a completed Application for Fee Notice, which includes their projected Program Year production units, by the enrolment deadline of April 30 (of the Program Year for which they are enrolling). Program Year fees will be calculated using industry benchmarks and projected production for the current Program Year, unless there is otherwise information available to calculate a fee.

If a participant does not submit Supplementary Forms for a Program Year for which they are enrolled, future fee notices may not be automatically issued by AFSC. Additional information may need to be provided with an updated Application for Fee Notice. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that enrolment deadlines are met.

Reference Margin Calculation

Participants who have not participated in AgriStability for four years preceding the Program Year have the option to provide either three or five years of tax and accrual information to create their Reference Margin. Participants who elect to use the Optional Reference Margin must provide historical production units in lieu of reference margin accruals. The Reference Margin will be calculated in one of the following two ways:

Olympic Average

- Where a participant has participated in the Program in any of the four years immediately prior to the current Program Year, AFSC will calculate the participant's Reference Margin using an Olympic Average. As an example, a producer who enrolled and provided all required fees and information in any of the years 2022-2025 will have their 2026 Program Year benefits assessed according to their Olympic Average Reference Margin.
- Where a participant has voluntarily supplied Production Margin information for all five years in the reference period, the Olympic Average will be used.
- Producers who have elected and paid fees for two years under the Optional Reference Margin will default to a five-year Olympic Average reference margin.

Average of the Most Recent Three Reference Years

- Where a participant did not participate in the Program in any of the four years immediately prior to the current Program Year, AFSC may calculate the participant's Reference Margin using an average of the three years' tax and supplementary information immediately prior to the current Program Year. If this calculation is applied, AFSC will also use an average of the three years immediately prior to the Program Year to calculate the Reference Margin for the following Program Year unless the participant provides information for all five years of the reference period.

Other Considerations

AFSC considers a producer to have participated in the Program if they have met all the eligibility requirements as listed in the general eligibility requirements of the AgriStability Program Handbook.

- See section 3.1 Enrolment Notice and section 4.5 Reference Margin of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership - AgriStability Program Guidelines.