In Accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaintfiling_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Assistant Secretary
 for Civil Rights 1400 Independence
 Avenue, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: <u>program.intake@usda.gov</u>.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Also, recipients are required to notify applicants with disabilities and limited English proficiency of their right to accommodations and free language assistance upon request.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Departmental Regulation (DR) 4300-003 Equal Opportunity Public Notification Policy establishes policy for ensuring positive, continuing notification of USDA's equal opportunity policy to USDA employees and the public. The Department Regulation DR 4300-003 can be viewed at (http://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/departmental-regulation-4300-003).