# Farmland Protection and Land Access (FPLA) FAQ[1]

*Q: Can FPLA reimburse for costs incurred prior to a successful FPLA grant application or prior to execution of the funding agreement?*
A: No. Costs incurred prior to an executed contract with the SCC are not eligible for reimbursement.

*Q: Can FPLA pay for cultural resources review?*
A: Yes. FPLA does not require a cultural resources assessment. However, FPLA can pay for cultural resources review if an applicant opts to do one.

*Q: Can FPLA pay for indirect costs?*
A: Yes. Indirect costs are capped at 25%. The allowed indirect cost rate will be specified in the terms of the contract.

*Q: Can FPLA pay for conservation entity legal fees?*
A: Yes. FPLA can pay for conservation entity's legal fees related to the conservation easement transaction.

*Q: Can FPLA pay for costs related to the fee-simple acquisition?*
A: If a cost associated with the fee-simple acquisition is not covered through FarmPAI or other funding sources and the cost is necessary to facilitate the FPLA transaction, it may be an eligible cost under FPLA. The conservation entity must show a clear nexus between the cost and the FPLA project.

*Q: Can FPLA pay for a conservation easement on property that was not purchased through a FarmPAI loan?*
A: To be eligible to apply for FPLA, applicant entities must be qualified to hold conservation easements under **RCW 64.04.130** or **RCW 89.08.220** and either have secured a loan through the "Buy-Protect-Sell" category of FarmPAI or be working in partnership with an entity that has secured a loan through FarmPAI on the property proposed for protection. In limited circumstances, FPLA may be able to pay for an agricultural conservation easement on parcels that are part of an overall Buy-Protect-Sell transaction where some but not all parcels were purchased through a FarmPAI loan.

> Example: A farm consists of two parcels: Parcel A and Parcel B. A land trust received a FarmPAI loan to purchase Parcel A and plans to apply to FPLA for an ag easement on Parcel A. The future farm buyer of Parcel A already owns Parcel B but Parcel B does not have an easement. Using FPLA funds to purchase easements on Parcels A and B would ensure the farm remains intact and protected and would allow the farmer to use the proceeds from the easement sale on Parcel B towards the acquisition of Parcel A which would result in the repayment of the FarmPAI loan.

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[1] This FAQ will be updated as additional questions are submitted to SCC staff. Date of last update: August 4, 2023.