Q & A For New NASDA Telephone Enumerators

What is a NASDA enumerator?

A part time, intermittent employee hired by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) to collect data and perform other duties in the furtherance of the cooperative agreement between NASDA and the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Is a NASDA enumerator a state employee or federal employee?

No. Enumerators are not state or federal employees. NASDA is a nonprofit, nonpolitical organization.

What does a NASDA telephone enumerator do?

A telephone enumerator interactively interviews farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses by telephone to collect crop acreages, crop production, grain in storage, livestock inventories, farm labor, economic data, and other agriculture related information.

When are the busiest times of year with this job?

Some of the busiest times are the first two weeks of March, June, September, and December working on our quarterly acreage and production surveys. December through mid-January is very busy with calling on the December Acreage and Production Survey, December Hog Report, Row Crops County Agricultural Production Survey (CAPS) January Cattle Report, and the January Sheep and Goat Report. Other busy times will vary depending on the surveys and amount of work assigned to the data collection center.

How many hours can I expect to work per week?

Work as an enumerator is part-time employment which is intermittent and does not offer regular hours. The number of hours worked per week can vary greatly depending on the surveys being conducted at the time, amount of work assigned to your data collection center, etc. There will be no work some weeks and a heavy workload other weeks. Enumerators are limited to working a maximum of 375 hours per quarter.
I am not familiar with some aspects of agriculture. How can I learn more about the types of agriculture we will be conducting surveys on?

You will receive training for each survey prior to the beginning of data collection. You can also find general agriculture information and additional survey training materials on the NASDA website at www.nasda.org. You will be provided with an Interviewer’s Manual that contains a wealth of information about NASS surveys. Your supervisor and the staff at the Regional NASS Field Office can also be used as a resource.