An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine



ACRES Circular No. 4/2024

31 January 2024

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

Application to become an approved ACRES Advisor

Dear Advisor

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine ('the Department') is now inviting potential new ACRES Advisors, newly approved FAS Advisors and existing FAS Advisors to apply for training to become an approved ACRES Advisor. Farm Advisory System (FAS) will run FAS approved training on Monday 26th February 2024 and ACRES will run ACRES approved training on Tuesday 27th February 2024, at The Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

One of the core requirements of ACRES is that an approved agricultural advisor must prepare the ACRES application including the FSP on behalf of the applicant to ensure that the most suitable and appropriate actions for the farm are selected and submitted. While both Tranche 1 and 2 of ACRES are now closed for applications, approved advisors will also support participants throughout the contract term regarding the completion of actions in line with specifications and, in the ACRES Co-operation approach, liaise with the CP teams to support farmers selecting environmental investments within the CP areas. You will find extensive information about this scheme on the DAFM website and on the ACRES homepage at the following link:

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

If you wish to attend the ACRES training for the purpose of becoming an approved ACRES Advisor, please complete and return the attached Application Form **by Friday 9**th **February 2024** by email to acres@agriculture.gov.ie

Or



By post to: **ACRES Section** Agri-Environment Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford Y5 PN52 before 5.30 pm on Friday 9th February 2024.

IMPORTANT: The link below 'Guidelines to obtaining Access to Online Systems including ACRES - Information for Agriculture Agents' is a user-friendly step-by-step guide and can be found on the DAFM website on the ACRES homepage at No. 3 ACRES-Information for Advisors.

Guidelines to obtaining Access to Online Systems including ACRES - Information for **Agriculture Agents**

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine **Johnstown Castle Estate** Co. Wexford Y35 PN52 Phone: 053 91 63425

Email acres@agriculture.gov.ie



Application Form for Advisors who wish to be approved as an Advisor for Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

I hereby apply to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to be approved as an Advisor for the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) – ('ACRES Advisor')

In signing this form, I undertake to comply fully with the terms and conditions set out hereunder:

- 1. I understand that I cannot be an ACRES advisor without FAS approval.
- 2. I accept that should my approval as a FAS Advisor be revoked, my approval as an ACRES Advisor will automatically be revoked.
- 3. I understand that this approval does not oblige the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, hereinafter referred to as "the Minister", to accept any liability or responsibility whatsoever in relation to such advice I may give as an ACRES Advisor.
- 4. I agree to attend such ACRES training courses as may be organised by the Minister. I accept that the notification of any such training courses will issue by email to the email address I have provided to DAFM.
- 5. I accept that attendance at ACRES training does not infer approval as an ACRES Advisor.
- **6.** I consent to having my contact details published on the DAFM website, in the event of this application for approval being successful.
- 7. I accept that failure to attend the required ACRES training will result in my application to be an approved ACRES Advisor being rejected, or my approval revoked, as appropriate and that attendance at such training does not infer approval as an ACRES Advisor.
- 8. I accept that failure to give advice, prepare and submit plans and documentation for ACRES, in accordance with the Scheme Terms and Conditions and Specifications, will result in my approval as an ACRES Advisor being revoked as appropriate.
- 9. I accept that the Minister may change the terms and conditions of approval as an ACRES Advisor at any time.

- 10. I accept that a conviction for any criminal offence for a wrongdoing found to be done in relation to and/or for the purposes of:
 - An application or a payment provided for under an Act of an institution of the European Union,
 - Including, but not limited to, an offence under Regulation 3 of S.I. No. 169/2016
 European Communities (Direct Support Schemes) Offences and Control Regulations 2016, as may be amended, shall result in the revocation of my accreditation/approval as an ACRES Advisor.
- 11. I agree that a breach of any of the above conditions shall result in refusal, or revocation of my accreditation/approval as an ACRES Advisor.
- 12. I accept that the Minister reserves the right to refuse, or revoke approval as an ACRES Advisor.



CONTACT DETAILS

(Please write clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Name:	
Agency Name:	
Address:	
AGT Number	
AGY Number	
AGA/AGR Number	
Contact Phone Number	
Email Address	
I agree to the contact details g	iven above being published on the DAFM website in the event
of this application for approv	ral being successful. I agree to notify DAFM immediately of
changes to any of my contact d	letails.
(Please ensure your current de	tails or any changes are consistent with those recorded on the
DAFM Corporate Customer Ma	nagement (CCM) System and the DAFM FAS register).
Signed:	Date:

If you have not been assigned an **AGR, AGT or AGY number** when completing this form, you must forward these numbers as soon as you receive them to avoid any delays in gaining full access to ACRES systems.

NB: This Application for Approval relates solely to ACRES. There is a separate Application for

Approval as a FAS Advisor.