

Disability Employment at Rural Development

A tool for hiring applicants using the Schedule A hiring authority

Join the team that's investing in a strong future for the people of rural America. A strong community is rooted in its people. At USDA Rural Development (RD), we're focused on improving the quality of life in our nation's small towns, ensuring they're a place everyone can be proud to call home. Together with local leaders and partners, we promote and fund vital infrastructure such as access to high-speed internet, safe, clean drinking water, and reliable power. We also champion rural business growth and entrepreneurship, affordable housing, and improved access to health care.

RD offers its employees good pay, benefits and leave, training and development opportunities, coaching and mentoring programs, flexible schedules for work-life balance, and employee award recognition acknowledging the difference they make in local communities.

When you're a part of RD, you're helping make tomorrow's Rural America a better, more resilient place to live, work and play.

Diverse Workforce

We are committed to being a model employer of a diverse workforce that values and promotes equity for all Americans, and we are proud to offer employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

The Schedule A Hiring Authority

Schedule A is a special hiring authority federal agencies use to hire or promote people with disabilities through the noncompetitive hiring process.



Learn more about Schedule A Hiring

This means that if you meet the eligibility requirements and the minimum qualifications for the job, you can be hired into a position without competing with the general public.

Additional information regarding applicant eligibility and documentation requirements is available from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management at these links:

- Schedule A hiring authority: tinyurl.com/yck3zww8
- Disability Employment: tinyurl.com/2yw8pjsf

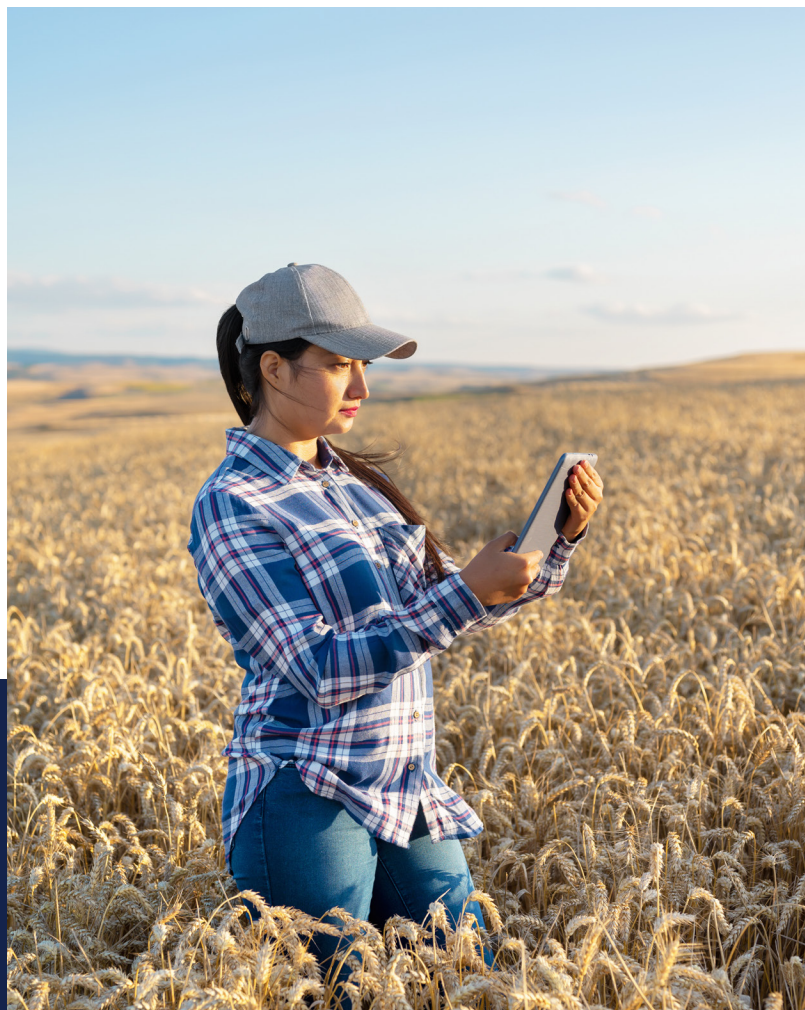
To learn more about applying for a federal job using the Schedule A hiring authority, you can watch USAJobs' video – "Special Federal Hiring Authority for Individuals with Disabilities" – at this link: tinyurl.com/mwbd9z2z.

Helpful Links for Job Seekers

- Careers at Rural Development: tinyurl.com/4p39vhsu
- Policy Development and Technical Assistance Resources: You can learn about resources sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy at this link: dol.gov/agencies/odep.
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973: You will find information about the Rehabilitation Act and the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008 at these links:
- The Americans with Disabilities Act: ada.gov/
- Sections 501 and 505 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission): tinyurl.com/mrpy694c

- Sample Schedule A Letter: tinyurl.com/mryzjzvp - PDF
- USDA Reasonable Accommodation and Personal Assistance Services: tinyurl.com/bp7j4773
- USDA Rural Development Disability Employment Program FAQs: tinyurl.com/mvc9jxjj
- Veteran Readiness and Employment Services: You can learn about Department of Veterans Affairs services that assist veterans with service-connected disabilities and help service members transition from military to civilian employment at this link: tinyurl.com/mvzvzzvz.
- Workforce Recruitment Program: You can learn more about this program that connects federal and private-sector employers with motivated college students and recent graduates with disabilities at this link: wrp.gov.

Schedule A can be used to hire people in all professions, from administrative staff to senior executives.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.