

USDA Clarification of Cattle Categories in CFAP Program

There have been a lot of questions about where specific groups of cattle fit into the categories outlined in the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. USDA released some clarification as to where cattle fit in each category.

Check out this helpful chart from USDA:

Common Name	Description	CFAP Category
Newborn Calf	Calves from birth to days old	Feeder Cattle:
Calf	Calves still nursing the cow, animals that generally weigh less than 500 pounds	Feeder Cattle:
Bucket Calf	Orphan or newborn calf normally purchased when they are 1 to 10 days old	Feeder Cattle:
Heiferette	A female bovine animal that has not calved and weighs more than 500 pounds; OR a heifer placed on feed following the loss of a calf or an open heifer placed on feed following the breeding season	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Steer	A castrated male bovine animal that generally weighs more than 500 pounds	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Weaner or Weaned Calf	Animal between 105 and 355 days coming from cow-calf	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Backgrounded Cattle	Steers and heifers that are fed a warm up or conditioning ration are normally fed to approximately 700 pounds, and then sold as feeders or shipped to another feedlot to be finished for the slaughter market	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Stockers/Feeders/Feeder Calves	Young weaned steers or heifers, weighing approximately 400-800 pounds usually grazing on pasture and/or feed ration to prepare for shipment to feeders intended for slaughter or selected for replacement stock	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Yearlings	Calves between 1 and 2 years of age	Feeder Cattle > 600 lbs

Open Heifer	Non-pregnant female bovine	Feeder Cattle: 600 lbs, as applicable
Replacement Heifers	A heifer that has been selected to be bred and placed in the beef herd	All Other Cattle
Bred Heifers	A female bovine that is pregnant with her first calf	All Other Cattle
First Calf Heifers	A young female that has had only one calf	All Other Cattle
Bred Cows	A female bovine animal that has borne at least one calf	All Other Cattle
Open Cows - Retained in Herd	(Non-pregnant) cows at the end of the breeding season	All Other Cattle
Open Cows - Slaughter	(Non-pregnant) cows at the end of the breeding season	Slaughter Cattle: Mature
Cows-Culled (Beef and Dairy)	A cow that is removed from the main breeding herd or dairy production for one or more reasons (i.e., age, poor production, physical ailment, poor disposition, genetic selection, etc.) and is generally sold for slaughter and not destined to be a replacement	Slaughter Cattle: Mature
Herd Bulls-Culled (Beef and Dairy)	A mature (approximately 24 months of age or older) uncastrated, male bovine removed from the main breeding herd sold for slaughter and not destined to be replacement	Slaughter Cattle: Mature
Herd Bulls (Breeding-Beef only)	A mature (approximately 24 months of age or older) uncastrated, male bovine used for breeding purposes	All Other Cattle
Finished Cattle (1200 lbs or more)	Cattle that have reached the optimal weight and conditions ready for slaughter	Slaughter Cattle: Fed
Fat Steer/Heifer (1200 lbs or more)	Cattle that have reached the optimal weight and conditions ready for slaughter	Slaughter Cattle: Fed

Source: <https://www.dairyherd.com/article/usda-clarifies-cattle-categories-cfap-program>