

Livestock Management Facilities Grant Program
Frequently Asked Questions
September 2020

1. What is the Livestock Management Facilities Program?

The Livestock Management Facilities Program consists of three financial assistance programs: Swine Depopulation Program, Agriculture Business Interruption Program and Meat and Poultry Capacity Program.

These three programs are intended to support the economic health of livestock owners and producers who experienced market disruptions due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and expand capacity for small meat and poultry processing and/or slaughter facilities.

Applicants are **only** eligible to apply for **one** of the Livestock Management Facility Programs.

2. Who can apply for these programs?

“Livestock Management Facility” is defined as “an operation where livestock (swine, beef cattle, dairy cattle, poultry, sheep and meat goats) is primarily used in the production of food, fiber, or other products and have been, are, or will be fed, confined, maintained or stabled for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period.”

1. Swine Depopulation Program

Applicants must be a livestock owner or producer that experienced financial loss as the result of a Depopulation and Disposal Event that occurred on or after April 15, 2020.

2. Agriculture Business Interruption Program

Applicants must be a livestock owner or producer that experienced monetary losses and incurred expenses due to the disruption of the livestock market caused by the COVID-19 emergency during the period of April 15-May 15, 2020. Eligible expenses are costs associated with holding livestock (swine, beef cattle, dairy cattle, lambs, poultry and meat goats) and livestock-related products for an extended period of time.

3. Meat and Poultry Capacity Program

Applicant must be an USDA licensed, state licensed or custom exempt slaughter and/or processing facility; OR a slaughter and/or processing facility that submitted an application for licensure to the USDA or State prior to the Meat and Poultry Capacity Program application deadline. The applicant must employ no more than 60 total employees, and the facility must be located in the State of Illinois. Eligible expenses for reimbursement must be incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020.

All provisions for application are included in Illinois Administrative Rules at 14 Ill. Adm. Code 690, Subpart D.

3. When will the application period open?

Applications will be available on October 1, 2020.

4. How do I apply for one of the Livestock Management Facilities programs?

<https://apps.agr.illinois.gov/AGR-CARES/>. Applications will only be accepted through online submittal.

5. When does the application period close?

Applications must be submitted no later than October 31, 2020 at 11:59 p.m..

6. Who is ineligible to apply for the program?

Individuals or businesses in the City of Chicago & counties which received direct Coronavirus Relief Fund allotment (Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane and Will) are ineligible for the Livestock Management Facilities Grant Program.

7. Where is the money coming from to fund this program?

The Livestock Management Facilities Grant Program is part of the state's Business Interruption Grants (BIG) program and is made possible with funding through the federal CARES Act. The State of Illinois FY 21 budget includes \$5 million dedicated to this program.

8. Who is running this program?

The funds will flow through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to the Illinois Department of Agriculture. The Illinois Department of Agriculture will administer the program and issue payments to beneficiaries.

9. What can these funds be used for?

Title 14, Part 690 of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's administrative rules includes all provisions for use of funds (14 Ill. Adm. Code 690, Subpart D).

10. What documents are required for application?

1. Swine Depopulation Program

A completed application, IRS Form W-9, certification from the applicant, signed certification from herd veterinarian, and inventory records documenting total site inventories and dates and location of depopulation and disposal.

2. Agriculture Business Interruption Program

A completed application, IRS Form W-9, certification from the applicant, and inventory records documenting total site inventories and sales information.

3. Meat and Poultry Capacity Program

A completed application, IRS Form W-9, Illinois Secretary of State business registration, certification from the applicant verifying eligible expenses and attesting that no part of the project has been reimbursed by another Federal or State program. **A final expenditure report will be required for all applicants who are approved for financial assistance.**

11. If I make a mistake in any part of my application, am I disqualified?

No. If there is additional information/clarification needed for your application to be processed, someone will notify you regarding what supporting documents will need to be (re) submitted in order to complete your application. You will have two weeks from original application admission date to supply those documents to the Illinois Department of Agriculture. However, an incomplete application can delay distribution of funds. It is in your best interest to submit a complete application with all required documentation.

12. What if I live in a disproportionately impacted area?

Applicants who live in disproportionately impacted areas (DIA) will be awarded an additional 10%. A list of DIA zip codes can be found at the following link:
https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Documents/BIGDIAZipCodeList_062520.pdf

13. Is the award considered taxable income at the state and federal levels?

Yes, CARES dollars awarded through the Livestock Management Facilities Program are taxable income.

14. Does the financial assistance need to be repaid?

No.

15. Are there reporting requirements after applicants are approved for financial assistance?

All supporting documents for the Agriculture Business Interruption program and Swine Depopulation Program are required at time of application submittal.

Beneficiaries of the Meat and Poultry Capacity Program will be required to submit a final expenditure report after expenses are accrued. IDOA award letters to beneficiaries will include a final expenditure report for submittal by December 31, 2020. All receipts will need to be provided to IDOA for reimbursement.

16. Are there prohibitions on combining a transaction supported with fund payments with other CARES Act funding or COVID-19 relief Federal funding?

Recipients should consider the applicable restrictions and limitations of such other sources of funding.

17. Can I apply for the Swine Depopulation program if I received USDA NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) financial assistance?

No. Applicants can not apply for financial assistance for disposal of animals if they have already received financial assistance from USDA NRCS EQIP for those animals.

18. Can I apply for Livestock Management Facilities programs if I received CFAP I funding?

Yes, the criteria for the Livestock Management Facilities programs differs from CFAP I.

19. Can I apply for Livestock Management Facilities programs if I have applied for CFAP II funding?

Yes, as long as the same expenses and/or costs have not already been reimbursed under CFAP II. The criteria for the Livestock Management Facilities programs differs from CFAP II. CFAP II is designed to cover costs associated with the price decline of livestock. The ABIP program was developed to cover the business interruption of increased input costs and expenses associated with holding animals and animal-related products for an extended period of time.

20. Specific to the meat and poultry capacity program, can I buy equipment or pay for renovations to improve my space for cleanliness or social distancing?

Yes. Examples include engineering controls/barriers to reduce disease spread such as plexiglass barriers/partitions, expansion of work and breakrooms/cafeterias and ventilation improvements to improve airflow.

21. Specific to the meat and poultry capacity program, what does it mean to be in good standing with the Illinois Secretary of State?

The Illinois Certificate of Good Standing, sometimes called the Certificate of Existence, shows whether a business has a good standing status with the Secretary of State. This document is used to verify the existence of most business entities in the state to include registered partnerships, corporations and Limited Liability Companies (LLC) in Illinois that are authorized to transact business in the state. This certificate is only required for meat and poultry capacity program applicants.

22. How do I apply for a premise ID number for the swine depopulation program application?

Applicants can apply for a premise ID through the Illinois Department of Agriculture. A Premise ID can be obtained online at <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Animals/AnimalHealth/Pages/Premises-Registration.aspx> or by calling (217) 782-4944.

23. How do I apply for more than one depopulation and disposal (DDE) in the swine depopulation program?

The application provides for up to five depopulation and disposal events (DDE). The unique identifier for each DDE is the premise ID number.

24. What are examples of inventory records?

Examples of supporting documentation include evidence provided by the producer that is used to substantiate the amount of production or inventory reported, including copies of receipts, ledgers of income, income statements of deposit slips, veterinarian records, register tapes, records to verify costs, contemporaneous measurements or contemporaneous diaries.

25. What county should I select if my application covers multiple counties?

The county should match with the associated county on the Tax ID.

26. How will funds be allocated?

The program will be considered an open application from October 1, 2020-October 31, 2020. At the close of the application period all applications will be verified for accuracy and completeness and all zip codes in disproportionately impacted areas will receive an additional 10%. If applications exceed the \$5 million allocated to the grant program a pro-rated formula will be applied to the total.

27. How will I verify my application was received by the Illinois Department of Agriculture?

Each applicant will receive a confirmation email upon submitting final application. Please check spam folder if email is not received. Also, the application provides a receipt upon submittal. Please print and save for records.

28. Are the Livestock Management Facilities Grant Programs subject to prevailing wage?

Yes, if the financial assistance is being used to finance the construction or demolition of a fixed work project. All applicants are required to certify that they will comply with the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/0.01 et seq.), if applicable. Compliance with the Prevailing Wage Act includes, but is not limited to, inserting into all contracts for construction a stipulation to the effect that not less than the prevailing rate of wages shall be paid to all laborers, workers, and mechanics performing work under the Award and

requiring all bonds of contractors to include a provision as will guarantee the faithful performance of such prevailing wage clause as provided by the contract.

- 29.** How do dairy applicants enter their expenses into the Agricultural Business Interruption Grant Program application? For dairy submittals, enter the number of pounds. The application has a built-in formula that calculates the amount of financial assistance based on number of pounds. For date range, dairy producers can enter the number of pounds per week by entering the first day of each week. For example, April 17, April 24, May 1 and May 8.
- 30.** Can I receive Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Livestock Management Facilities Grants? Yes. Applicants can receive both PPP and Livestock Management Facilities funds if they are not claiming the same costs.
- 31.** Can I receive Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) and Livestock Management Facilities Grants? Yes. Applicants can receive both PPP and Livestock Management Facilities funds if they are not claiming the same costs.