

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic CEI offices are closed to the public. CEI staff will be working remotely and want to hear from you! Please reach out to your CEI contact regarding scheduled meetings and/or any questions/concerns. [Click here for a list of COVID-19 Business Resources.](#)



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Tastemakers 2021 Application

Applications are due by 5pm on **Monday, December 21, 2020.**

This application cannot be saved and must be completed in one sitting. [A PDF of this application is available](#) for assistance in gathering information, but all applications must be submitted via this webform.

Companies selected to receive Tastemakers awards will be notified by January 22, 2021. Projects must be implemented and completed by August 2021.

Participating companies will be selected through a competitive application process. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All proposals will remain confidential.

For more details on scoring criteria and eligibility, visit the [program page](#).

Questions? Contact Gray Harris at gray.harris@ceimaine.org before December 21, 2021.

Tastemakers 2021 Application

Company Information

Company Name *

Company Address *

Street Address

Address Line 2

City

State / Province / Region

ZIP / Postal Code

Website *

Company Phone *

Primary Contact for Proposal *

First

Last

Primary Contact Email *

Primary Contact Phone *

How many years have you been in business? *

Please enter a number from 0 to 100.

Have you received Tastemakers funding in the past? *

Recipients of Tastemakers funds in 2020 are not eligible to apply for 2021 funding (must take one year off).

Yes

No

How has the COVID19 pandemic affected your business? *

Check all that apply.

Reduced sales (or revenue)

Increased sales (or revenue)

Reduced staff

Lost accounts

Limited capital growth

No investments in capital infrastructure

Could not achieve fundraising goals

Threat of going out of business

Other (Please describe)

Project Description & Budget

Please describe the project you would like to implement with Tastemakers support and how it helps you achieve your company's growth goals. *

If your project is addressing the impact of the pandemic on your business, please describe the challenge and how you plan to approach. Please keep your response to 500 words or fewer.

0 of 3000 max characters

What is the total budget for your project? *

We understand that the total budget may exceed available funds.

How will funding be used? *

- Facility space design &/or engineering
- Workforce training and development
- Production process improvements
- Management capacity
- Supply chain development
- E-commerce infrastructure; developing/optimizing e-commerce platforms
- Third-party food safety audit, licensing, certifications, environmental review, site assessment, permits.
- Other (describe)

Funding Use Estimates *

Click the + to the right to add additional rows (up to 12)

Category (from above)	\$ Estimate of Cost	% of Total Budget
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> ⊕

Business Assistance Consultants

Have you identified any Business Assistance Consultants to work on your Project?

- Not yet
- Yes, one
- Yes, two
- Yes, three
- Yes, four

Products & Supply Chain

Please list your product(s) in order of importance. *

Click the + to the right to add additional rows (up to 5)

⊕

Please list the Maine suppliers that you will partner with on YOUR PROPOSED PROJECT *

Preference will be given to proposals submitted by Maine companies that source inputs from Maine agricultural and aquaculture producers. Click the + to the right to add additional rows (up to 6)

Supply Chain Company Name

How many Maine agricultural, aquaculture or fisheries producers do you work with (in general)? *

Do you envision this number increasing over time? *

- Yes
- No

What role do Maine agriculture and aquaculture producers play in your supply chain? *

Please keep your response brief.

0 of 3000 max characters

Employment & Job Quality

How many employees do you currently have? *

Full Time

Part Time

Seasonal

How many FULL-TIME JOBS does your company expect to create in EACH of the following years as a result of implementing this project? *

These should be discrete job numbers, not cumulative.

2021

2022

Which of the following employee benefits do you CURRENTLY offer? *

Check all that apply.

- Health Insurance
- Paid Time Off
- Retirement Savings Plan
- Advanced Scheduling
- Professional Development/Training Opportunities
- Performance Reviews

Which of the following employee benefits do you INTEND TO OFFER in the next 2-4 years? *

Check all that apply.

- Health Insurance
- Paid Time Off
- Retirement Savings Plan

- Advanced Scheduling
- Professional Development/Training Opportunities
- Performance Reviews

How would you describe your current wages? *

- Competitive
- Higher than competitive
- Less competitive

Revenue and Projections

2019 Annual Gross Revenue (Actual) *

2020 Annual Gross Revenue (Projected) *

2020 Annual Gross Revenue (Actual YTD) *

If you had an increase/decrease in Gross revenue between 2019 and 2020 what % was attributable to Covid19? Why? *

(300 words or fewer)

0 of 2500 max characters

What is your projected Gross Revenue for the following years? *

2021

2022

What percent of your revenues come from the following markets? *

**Maine in-state
customers**

**Customers outside
Maine**

Wholesale

Direct-to-Consumer

How important is building markets outside of Maine for your company strategy and success? *

- Extremely
- Moderately
- Not at all important

Do you have a current business plan with growth projections for the next three years? *

- Yes
- No

Have you worked with business consultants to help develop your business, such as the Maine Center for Entrepreneurs' Cultivator, MarketShare or Top Gun program, the Small Business Development Center, SCORE, the Women's Business Center or similar programs? *

Yes

No

If yes, which consultants and what did you achieve?

0 of 3000 max characters

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INC.
30 Federal Street, Suite 100
Brunswick, ME 04011
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