APPLICATION FOR AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM (AIIP)

PROJECT BUDGET & NARRATIVE

Agricultural Infrastructure Investment Program (AIIP)
Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
(ARPA Initiative: Bureau of Agriculture 0393, Farm & Food Sustainability)

AIIP BUDGET TERMS:

AIIP (Agricultural Infrastructure Investment Program) Grant Funds: amount of AIIP grant funds requested for the expense

Applicant Contribution (If applicable): total cash the applicant will invest towards the expense

Loan Funds (If applicable): amount of borrowed funds for the expense

Other (If applicable): other fund sources being used for the expense

Total: the total amount of all funds towards the expense item – the form will automatically calculate this number

AIIP BUDGET NARRATIVE:

Please describe the use of funds for each line item of your budget in the space provided next to the expense in the budget form

a. Please provide a brief detailed explanation of each eligible expense, and its relation to your proposed grant project (200 words max)

b. For equipment, materials and infrastructure expenses: please describe each item on a separate line.

c. For consulting, contractual or technical assistance (TA) expenses: list each contractor separately, including name (if known), area of expertise, rate, and overall cost and contribution to the project.

ELIGIBLE USES OF AIIP GRANT FUNDS

The following ARE eligible uses of AIIP grant funds. This list is not exhaustive and there is option to include other expenses related to infrastructure.

- Capital improvements to expand capacity (including expansion and modifications to existing buildings and/or construction of new buildings at existing or newly acquired sites), for the purpose of processing, aggregating, storing and value-adding Maine agricultural products.

- Upgrades to utilities (including water, electric, heat, refrigeration, freezing, and waste facilities).

- Livestock intake and storage equipment.

- Growing, processing, and manufacturing and storage equipment and construction.
• Packaging and handling equipment (including sealing, bagging, boxing, labeling, conveying, and product moving equipment).

• Additional warehouse equipment (including storage and drying/curing racks).

• Purchase of waste treatment/management equipment (including tanks, blowers, separators, dryers, digesters, and equipment that uses waste to produce energy, fuel, or industrial products).

• Facility reconfiguration (including contract labor and materials for changes necessary to meet social distancing guidelines).

• Technology that allows increased capacity (to meet unanticipated demand) or business resilience (including software and hardware related to business functions, logistics, inventory management, plant production controls, temperature monitoring controls)

• Consulting and Technical Assistance (TA), including market research and feasibility studies, engineering and construction planning, land use planning, facility design and configuration planning, and other services that directly support future implementation of infrastructure-related capacity building projects.

• Leasehold improvements to rented buildings or facilities.

• Other

INELIGIBLE USES OF AIIP GRANT FUNDS
The following are NOT eligible uses of AIIP grant funds.

• Funds cannot be used for entities engaged in illegal activity under federal or state law or regulation.

• Funds cannot be used to reimburse expenses or infrastructure investments made prior to the date of AIIP award notification.

• Ineligible expenses may include those expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal, state, or local government funding.

• Expenses that have been or will be reimbursed by insurance.

• Expenses related to retail, tasting rooms, or restaurant operations are not eligible.

• Inventory, including livestock and dairy cows, soil amendments, and other inputs, is not eligible.

• Working capital expenses (i.e., cash for daily business operations).
• Land or Real Estate acquisition and lease.
• Hazard pay (for employees in facilities with COVID-19 positive cases).
• Wages (non-hazard labor, non-reconfiguration labor, benefits, other wage-related pay).

ELIGIBLE USES OF AIIP GRANT FUNDS BY BUDGET CATEGORY
The following are examples of eligible uses of AIIP grant funds per the budget categories. This list is not exhaustive and there is the option to include other expenses related to infrastructure.

Capital Expenses & Improvements
Expansion of existing buildings
Modifications to existing buildings
Materials for facility reconfiguration for COVID-related safety considerations
Contract labor for facility reconfiguration for COVID-related safety considerations
Leasehold improvements to rented facilities
Other

Utilities--upgrades and install
Water utility implementation and upgrades
Electric utility implementation and upgrades
Heating utility implementation and upgrades
HVAC implementation and upgrades
Refrigeration implementation and upgrades
Freezing implementation and upgrades
Waste facility implementation and upgrades, including composting as a part of processing facility
Other

Equipment
Growing, processing, and manufacturing and storage equipment and construction.
Packaging and handling equipment (including sealing, bagging, boxing, labeling, conveying, and product moving equipment).
Warehouse equipment (including storage and drying/curing racks).
Storage equipment
Livestock intake equipment
Waste treatment & management equipment as a part of the processing facility
Other

Construction
Construction of new buildings on existing/newly acquired sites
Construction of processing equipment
Construction of storage equipment
Construction of farm infrastructure that increased production capacity
Other
Technology

Software
Hardware
Logistics platforms
Inventory management
Plant production controls
Temperature monitoring controls
Other

Consulting & Technical Assistance (TA)

Market research
Feasibility studies
Engineering planning
Construction planning
Land use planning
Facility design
Facility configuration planning
Other services that directly support the implementation of infrastructure-related capacity building projects

Other

Construction Bids for project
Other expenses that are hard to break down into individual categories