

# BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GRANT

## OVERVIEW

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) is seeking applications for grants to provide meat processing plants increased capability to meet demand brought on as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to supply chain disruptions, this grant will act as a recovery response for the need to expand capacity more broadly across the state to meet protein demand by food insecure Iowans.

The grant will reimburse processors a portion of expenses up to a maximum of \$50,000 dependent on the total amount of eligible applications received and approved through the program. Applications are due September 7, 2020.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Official and custom exempt slaughter and processing plants licensed and inspected by IDALS, federally inspected plants with 25 or less full-time employees, or an Iowa accredited educational program involving meat sciences.

## WHO IS INELIGIBLE?

- Grocery stores
- Restaurants
- Federally inspected plants with greater than 25 full-time employees

## ELIGIBILITY DETAILS

The applicant understands that reimbursement amounts are based upon applicable and reasonable project cost(s) provided by the applicant.

Reimbursements will require actual/copies of receipts, expenses, or invoices. The costs must be incurred between March 1, 2020 through December 1, 2020 to be eligible for reimbursement assistance.

The applicant must complete the project, provide proof of work completed, proof of actual expenditure(s), and submit all applicable documents to IDALS before December 30, 2020.

**IMPROVEMENT ITEMS MAY INCLUDE,  
BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, NEW OR  
USED EQUIPMENT:**

- Coolers/Freezers
- Dehydrator
- Hoist
- Hanger
- Incinerator
- Mixer/Grinder
- Saws/blades
- Scalding tank
- Smoker/cook house and cart/sticks
- Stuffer
- Vacuum sealer
- Livestock restrainer

**INELIGIBLE ITEMS INCLUDE:**

- Construction/remodel
- Installation (some may be eligible)
- Parts
- Repairs
- Salaries

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Applications are due September 7, 2020, and should include:

1. List of equipment purchase(s).
2. List of equipment planned to be purchased with estimated costs(s).
3. Description of upgrade(s).
4. Answers to the questions 1-2 of the project information component of the form are required.

**UPON APPROVAL OF APPLICATION:**

1. Applicant should complete planned improvement, purchase equipment, etc.
2. Once improvement is complete, applicant may submit for reimbursement.

Reimbursement requires:

- Actual/copies of receipts, expenses or invoices paid
- Completed IRS W9 form

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Contact Maison Bleam at [maison.bleam@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:maison.bleam@iowaagriculture.gov) or call 515-281-7808 with any questions regarding the grant application.

# BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GRANT FORM

Administered by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Owner Legal Name*		
<i>First Name</i>	<i>Middle Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>
Business/Company Name		
Establishment Number		
Establishment Type (check one)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Custom Exempt	<input type="checkbox"/> State Inspected	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative Interstate Shipment
CONTACT INFORMATION		
Mailing Address*		
City*	State*	Zip Code*
Owner Primary Phone Number*	Secondary Phone Number	
Email		
PROJECT INFORMATION		
1. Please describe your current processing capacity and expected processing capacity after improvements.*		
2. List the equipment you are purchasing and describe how this will improve the efficiency of your slaughter and/or processing activities and/or increase volume. Attach an additional sheet if needed.*		
NOTE: Fields with an asterisk (*) must be completed for application to be considered eligible.		

**PROJECT INFORMATION (continued)**

3. If you are currently a custom exempt establishment seeking to move to official status, please indicate how this grant will assist your business in that transition. Priority will be given to those establishments.

4. If you are currently an official establishment seeking to move to the cooperative interstate shipment program, please indicate how this grant will assist in that transition. Priority will be given to these establishments.

Signature

Date Signed

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) prohibits discrimination in its employment and practices on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity, consistent with the applicable state and federal policies and regulations. IDALS is an equal employment opportunity and affirmative action employer.