



Iowa Renewable Fuel Retail Recovery Program

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) is seeking applications for grants to assist retail operators of motor fuel dispensing sites or fueling stations that have suffered business interruptions or income losses due to COVID-19. Applicants must show that funds awarded will be used for a renewable fuel project planned or begun between March 1 and December 30, 2020. Funds from the Program will be awarded to retail businesses that are dispensing, or have plans to dispense, ethanol blends of E15 or higher, for biodiesel blends of B11 or higher, and for biodiesel terminal facilities. Projects considered can include, but are not limited to, expenses incurred for the construction, installation, upgrade, and retrofit of equipment associated with the sale of renewable fuels. Replacement equipment must dispense a higher percentage blend of ethanol or biodiesel (for example from E10 to E15) than the existing equipment. Adding new equipment to an existing site is permissible. The program has a targeted assistance goal of making 40 percent of funds available for applicants owning 10 or fewer retail fueling dispensing sites (and owning at least one) and 60 percent of funds available for applicants owning more than 10 fuel sites. In the event any Program funds remain on October 1, 2020, those funds will be available to all retailers outside of the targeted assistance goals, and the Program may be revised as needed to effectively utilize remaining funds.

Who is eligible?

Retail operators of motor fuel dispensing sites and fueling stations that have had business income losses and business interruptions due to COVID-19 are eligible to apply.

Additional Information and Requirements

- Applications for up to \$30,000 for any one project or for equipment purchases with a first review of received applications on Friday September 4th.
- Applicants may submit multiple applications for different projects or for distinct types of equipment.
- Any one site is eligible to receive an award for both an ethanol and biodiesel project for a maximum funding of \$60,000 per site.
- The applicant understands that reimbursement amounts are based upon applicable and reasonable project cost(s) provided by the applicant.
- Please note: Program funds shall not be used, in part or whole, for an identical portion of a project or specific equipment that is also funded under the Iowa Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Program (RFIP). The Program and RFIP may be used in conjunction with qualifying projects; however, funding from the separate programs shall not be used to fund the same items
- Awards for the purchase of equipment require proof of delivery to the retailer by December 30, 2020, with assurances the equipment will be installed as soon as possible.
- Applicants must affirm a 60-month commitment to dispense the higher blends detailed in their application. To provide flexibility, the 60-month commitment may begin anytime within 24 months of project completion; however, applicants must begin dispensing higher blends no later than January 1, 2023.



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How to apply:

Applications can be found at the grants page of the IDALS website: www.iowaagriculture.gov/grants. Completed applications should be delivered by email to paul.ovrom@iowaagriculture.gov. The first round of application reviews will begin Thursday, September 10, 2020.

Upon approval of application:

1. Applicant will receive a Notice of Award from IDALS along with an agreement form to be signed and returned.
2. Applicant should complete planned improvement, purchase equipment, etc., and, once the improvement is complete, applicant may submit for reimbursement. Reimbursement requires:
 - Actual/copies of receipts, expenses or invoices paid
 - Copies of paid checks and/or electronic fund transfers
 - Completed IRS W9 form
 - Proof of delivery of any purchased equipment not yet installed

Questions?

Contact the program manager, Paul Ovrom, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship at paul.ovrom@iowaagriculture.gov or 515-242-6239.