

Farm Technology Program Terms And Conditions

1.0 PURPOSE

The Farm Technology Program (the “**Program**”) has two streams.

- The Farm Technology Stream supports adoption of innovative technology that minimizes agricultural waste and optimizes farm efficiency.
- The Farm Security Stream supports producers in their efforts to secure business assets. Farm security is a growing concern. This Program will support producers in protecting their business by encouraging the adoption of best management practices in farm security.

An applicant may apply to one or both streams with the same application. Expenses incurred on or after [April 1, 2023] are eligible, regardless of submission application date.

Program participants must pay 50% of their project expenses. To apply, the applicant’s project expenses must exceed \$1,000. The maximum grant amounts (per applicant) are \$48,000 for the Farm Technology Stream and \$2,000 from the Farm Security Stream.

There is limited funding in the Program. Applications will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis, subject to funding constraints.

Successful applicants must enter into a grant agreement to receive Program funding. Terms of the agreement may be viewed at www.alberta.ca/s-cap.aspx.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

2.1 Definitions - In these Program Terms and Conditions:

Applicant: means a person who submits an Application.

Application: means an application for funding under this Program.

EFP (or “Environmental Farm Plan”): means an environmental risk mitigation plan developed under the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (AEFP) program operated by Agricultural Research & Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA).

Eligible Activity: means the part or parts of Project that have been approved under the Program.

Eligible Applicant: means an Applicant that has been approved to participate in the Program.

Eligible Expenses: means expenses that are eligible for funding under the Program.

Federal Crown: means His Majesty in Right of Canada.

Funding List: means the document that includes a list of expenses that are eligible for funding under this Program, as posted on the Program Website.

Grant: means funds payable to an Eligible Applicant under this Program.

Grant Agreement: means an approval letter from the Minister to an Eligible Applicant regarding the Grant.

Minister: means the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation and his authorized representative(s).

Primary Producer: means an individual or a corporation registered in Alberta who is responsible for the day-to-day management and work for a crop, bee, or livestock operation.

Program: means the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership Farm Technology Program.

Program Application Form: means the application form for the Program, as posted on the Program Website.

Program Terms and Conditions: means these terms and conditions.

Program Website: means the Minister's website for this Program at:
www.alberta.ca/s-cap.aspx

Project: means an Applicant's proposed activities under the Program, as described in the Application.

Project Term: means the period between April 1, 2023 and the end date for the Eligible Activity, as stated in the Grant Agreement.

Provincial Crown: means His Majesty in Right of Alberta.

Stream: means either the Farm Technology Stream or the Farm Security Stream, as the case may be.

Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP): means the Federal-Provincial Territorial Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Eligible Applicants

3.1.1 To be an Eligible Applicant, an Applicant must:

- a) be a Primary Producer,
- b) be responsible for input costs for a crop, bee, or livestock operation that produces at least \$25,000 worth of farm commodities annually,
- c) not be a landlord whose only interest in a crop, bee or livestock operation is ownership of the land, and
- d) either:
 - i) have a valid and current EFP certificate or completion letter, or
 - ii) Indicate to the Minister that the Applicant intends to obtain an EFP certificate or completion letter before the end of the Project Term.

3.1.2 The Minister may approve an Indigenous applicant as an Eligible Applicant even though the applicant does not meet the requirements under section 3.1.1(a) or (b). The Program is committed to supporting the success of Indigenous business in the agriculture and food sector. It is understood that Indigenous businesses may have distinct characteristics reflective of regulatory, operational, cultural, and other factor affecting their business history and operation. The Program aims for flexibility in its delivery in order to reduce

barriers and ensure its accessibility. In this provision, “Indigenous” means First Nations, Inuit, or Métis.

3.1.3 The following may not be an Eligible Applicant:

- a) agribusinesses offering custom services, consulting services or general services to agricultural clients (includes commercial applicators),
- b) applied research organizations,
- c) post-secondary institutions,
- d) federal, provincial, and municipal governments, agencies and institutions, and similar organizations funded in whole or in part by the government, and
- e) grazing reserves, and
- f) any other person deemed by the Minister to be ineligible for the Program.

3.2 Eligible Activities

3.2.1 To be an Eligible Activity, the operation that is the subject of the Application must be located in Alberta, and the Project activities must be either:

- a) the purchase of equipment that is identified in the Funding List as being eligible under the Program, or
- b) any other activity related to farm technology that the Applicant establishes, to the Minister’s satisfaction, to be technologically innovative, and that uses technology that is commercially available and successfully demonstrated to work in Alberta,
- c) any other activity related to farm security that the Applicant establishes, to the Minister’s satisfaction, will improve farm security.

3.2.2 The following may not be part of an Eligible Activity:

- a) activities indicated as ineligible in the Funding List,
- b) Technologies considered by the Minister to be widely adopted within the Applicant’s farm type, and
- c) any other activity deemed by the Minister to be ineligible for the Program.

4.0 CONDUCT OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY

4.1 Except for items permanently affixed to land sold by the Eligible Applicant, equipment for which the Eligible Applicant received payment under the Program must:

- a) during the Project Term and for at least three (3) years afterwards, remained owned by the Eligible Applicant,
- b) be in the Eligible Applicant’s possession (or, if it is a fixture, be installed at the Eligible Applicant’s operation that is the subject of the Application) 6 months after the end of the Project Term, and
- c) be used by the Eligible Applicant in the production of a primary commodity no later than 6 months after the Project Term.

4.2 Applicants who did not submit a valid and current EFP certificate or completion letter as part of the Application must obtain their EFP certificate or completion letter before the end of the Project Term and must include a copy of the certificate or completion letter in the final report.

5.0 PAYMENT AND FUNDING LEVELS

- 5.1 The maximum Grant under the Program is \$50,000 per Eligible Applicant, being \$48,000 for an Eligible Activity under the Farm Technology Stream, and \$2,000 for an Eligible Activity under the Farm Security Stream.
- 5.2 Eligible Activities and Eligible Expenses qualify only once for payment under the Program.
- 5.3 Eligible Expenses shall be cost-shared at 50% grant and 50% Applicant, subject to any maximum amounts stated in the Funding List. Funding received through any other Sustainable CAP programs may not be used toward the cost-share requirements of this Program.
- 5.4 The Grant will be paid on a reimbursement basis and based on the Eligible Expenses claimed by the Eligible Applicant and approved by the Minister.
- 5.5 The amount of the Grant shall be based on the Eligible Expenses claimed by the Eligible Applicant and approved by the Minister.
- 5.6 Funding received through other federal, provincial and municipal governments for an Eligible Activity cannot exceed 100% of the Eligible Expenses paid under the Program. The amount of the Grant shall be adjusted so that the total government funding for Eligible Expenses does not exceed 100% of these expenses.
- 5.7 Payments may be considered farm support payments, and AGR-1 tax slips will be issued in the name of the Applicant, if applicable.

6.0 ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- 6.1 To be approved as an Eligible Expense, an expense must have been incurred by, invoiced to, and paid by the Eligible Applicant, directly for the Eligible Activity, during the Project Term.
- 6.2 The following are eligible to be an Eligible Expense:
 - a) the expenses identified in the Funding List, and
 - b) any other expense that relates to farm technology or farm security as approved by the Minister.
- 6.2.1 The following may not be an Eligible Expense
 - a) GST
 - b) extended warranties on equipment, electronics or technology purchased
 - c) cost of equipment considered by the Minister to be typical for the farm type
 - d) installation costs
 - e) labour costs
 - f) administrative costs of the Applicant, such as costs to prepare documents or process invoices
 - g) leasing costs

- h) in-kind contributions, being non-monetary contributions that defray the total cost of a Project, including the provision of unpaid labor, services, or equipment required in the planning, conducting, or managing of the Project,
- i) cost of on-hand materials or supplies,
- j) expenses incurred for an Eligible Activity that is not completed during the Project Term (unless otherwise approved by the Minister),
- k) expenses identified as ineligible on the Funding List,
- l) expenses incurred in transactions between individuals who are related to each other by blood, marriage, adoption, common-law relationships, or close business ties,
- m) maintenance and repair costs,
- n) costs incurred outside the Project Term, as determined by the Minister,
- o) Consumable expenses, and
- p) Any other expenses deemed ineligible by the Minister.

7.0 GRANT AGREEMENT

7.1 The Minister shall pay a Grant subject to the terms and conditions in a Grant Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things:

- a) the maximum amount of the Grant,
- b) matters involving Eligible Expenses, including the criteria for an Eligible Expense, the submission of claims for Eligible Expenses, and the processes by which the Minister may verify that claimed expenses are Eligible Expenses and that the Eligible Applicant incurred and paid the Eligible Expenses, and the Minister's ability to determine the amount of an Eligible Expense,
- c) reporting by the Eligible Applicant on matters including the status of the Eligible Activity and expenditure of the Grant,
- d) the ability for the Minister to audit, evaluate or inspect the conduct of the Eligible Activity or compliance with the Grant Agreement, and
- e) default by the Eligible Applicant and repayment of the Grant.

7.2 If there is a conflict or inconsistency between a provision of these Program Terms and Conditions and the Grant Agreement, the latter shall take precedence.

8.0 APPLICATIONS

8.1 There is limited funding in the Program. Applications will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis, not "first come, first served". Applications will be evaluated and recommended for approval according to the eligibility criteria and funding constraints.

8.2 The Program has the following two streams, each with its own funding list:
 Farm Technology Stream – Farm Technology Activities in the Funding List, and
 Farm Security Stream – Farm Security Activities in the Funding List.

An Applicant may apply for one or both Streams with a single Program Application Form. The portion of the Application pertaining to the Farm Technology Stream will be evaluated according to the eligibility criteria for that Stream and will be subject to that Stream's funding constraints. The portion of the Application pertaining to Farm Security Stream will be evaluated according to the eligibility criteria for that stream and will be subject to that Stream's funding constraints.

8.3 Applications must include:

- a) a completed Program Application Form with all documents required to be submitted pursuant to that form, including a signed Applicant Declaration,
- b) a copy of a valid and current EFP certificate or completion letter, and
- c) all supplementary documentation requested by the Minister.

8.4 Applications must be signed by or on behalf of a properly authorized representative. The Minister may require evidence of authorization. Designates are not permitted to sign Applications unless they have Power of Attorney (submitted with the Application). Personal representatives may sign on behalf of estates.

8.5 Applications must be delivered to: the Minister at S-CAP.FTP@gov.ab.ca or to:

Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation
Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership – Farm Technology Program
303, 7000-113 Street NW
Edmonton, AB, T6H 5T6

8.6 Applications must be received by the Minister or postmarked on or before the date specified on the Program Website <https://cap.alberta.ca/CAP/Programs>.

8.7 The Minister may reject any Application that the Minister deems to be inaccurate, incomplete, or ineligible in the sole discretion of the Minister, including applications for which the Project expenses are under \$1,000.

8.8 Submission of an Application does not entitle an Applicant to a grant under the Program.

9.0 FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

9.1 An Applicant who provides false or misleading information under this Program forgoes all rights to benefits from this Program

10.0 MINISTERIAL GRANTS REGULATION

10.1 Payments under this Program are grants subject to the Ministerial Grants Regulation (AR 215/2022), as may be amended or replaced from time to time. In addition to complying with the Grant Agreement, an Eligible Applicant must comply with the Regulation.

11.0 CHANGE TO THE PROGRAM

11.1 The Minister may change or terminate the Program at any time without notice. Any revisions to the Program, the Program Application Form, the revised Program Terms and Conditions and/or Funding Lists will be posted on the Program Website.

11.2 Applications are subject to the Program Terms and Conditions and Funding Lists as posted on the Program Website as of the date that the Application was received by the Minister.

12.0 MINISTERIAL DISCRETION

12.1 The Minister has the absolute discretion to determine the eligibility of any Applicant or Project under this Program. Notwithstanding anything in these Program Terms and Conditions, the Minister has the absolute discretion to not approve any Application. The decision of the Minister is final.