

Report for the **Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee**



July 11, 2025

Meeting of the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation Board

July 18, 2025

Meeting of the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board



Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation 2025/2026 12-Month Board Meeting Schedule

Note: Locations are subject to change

Month	KAFC Board Meeting	Location	Application Deadline
August	Friday, August 8, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, July 18, 2025
September	Friday, September 12, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, August 22, 2025
October	Friday, October 10, 2025-Joint Meeting	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, September 19, 2025
November	Friday, November 14, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, October 17, 2025
December	Friday, December 12, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, November 21, 2025
January	Friday, January 9, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, December 12, 2025
February	Friday, February 13, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, January 23, 2026
March	Friday, March 13, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, February 20, 2026
April	Friday, April 10, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, March 20, 2026
Мау	Friday, May 8, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, April 17, 2026
June	Friday, June 19, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, May 22, 2026
July	Friday, July 10, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, June 19, 2026
August	Friday, August 14, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office- Frankfort, KY	Friday, July 17, 2026



July Approved Loans

Farm Credit Mid America Bank of Columbia Farm Credit Mid America Farm Credit Mid America Farm Credit Mid America The Citizens Bank Farm Credit Mid America Central Kentucky Ag Credit Central Kentucky Ag Credit Farm Credit Mid America Central Kentucky Ag Credit Independce Bank South Central Bank FNB Bank FNB Bank FNB Bank Gentral Kentucky Ag Credit	
\$2,000,000.00 \$2,000,000.00 \$300,000.00 \$2,276,700.00 \$150,000.00 \$1,300,000.00 \$1,300,000.00 \$515,000.00 \$515,000.00 \$515,000.00 \$515,000.00 \$432,500.00 \$432,500.00 \$1,286,600.00 \$1,286,600.00 \$1,286,600.00 \$1,262,012.00 \$1,500.00	
Amount Approved \$250,000.00 \$150,000.00 \$250,000.00 \$150,000.00 \$250,000.00 \$250,000.00 \$247,500.00 \$247,500.00 \$212,500.00 \$212,500.00 \$250,000.00 \$250,000.00 \$250,000.00 \$250,000.00	
Enterprise Poultry Beef Poultry Grain Poultry Beef Beef Beef Grain Beef Crain Beef Beef Beef Beef Beef Beef Beef Bee	
County Todd Monroe Laurel Gallatin Nelson Monroe MicLean Garrard Lincoln Rockcastle Anderson Logan Hart Marshall Anderson Bourbon	
Ag Infrastructure Ag Infrastructure Ag Infrastructure Ag Infrastructure Ag Processing Beginning Farmer	

\$13,304,562.00

\$3,123,625.00

Total

<u>View as Webpage</u> For Immediate Release



Madison Pergrem MadisonP.Pergrem@ky.gov 502-782-9253

Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corp. approves more than \$3.1 million in loans

Financing bolsters beef, forage, poultry, and grain farmers across the state

FRANKFORT (July 11, 2025) – The Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corp. (KAFC) approved 16 agricultural loans totaling \$3,123,625 for projects across the Commonwealth today at its monthly board meeting.

Agricultural Infrastructure Loan Program (AILP)

Three Agricultural Infrastructure loans totaling up to \$650,000 were approved. Loan recipients were in Laurel (\$250,000), Monroe (\$150,000), and Todd (\$250,000) counties.

KAFC participates with lenders to provide financing to producers making capital expenditures for agricultural projects through the AILP. Eligible projects include permanent farm structures with attached equipment that improves the profitability of farming operations. Producers may be eligible for up to \$250,000 not to exceed 50 percent of the project.

Agricultural Processing Loan Program (APLP)

One Agricultural Processing loan for \$150,000 was approved in Gallatin County.

APLP is designed to provide loan opportunities to companies and individuals in Kentucky interested in adding value to Kentucky-grown agricultural commodities through further processing. Agricultural processors may qualify for financing for acquisition of equipment, construction of new facilities, renovation/expansion of existing facilities and permanent working capital up to 50 percent of the project cost.

Beginning Farmer Loan Program (BFLP)

Twelve Beginning Farmer loans totaling up to \$2,323,625 were approved. Loan recipients were in Anderson (\$87,500 and \$174,375), Bourbon (\$250,000), Garrard (\$247,500), Hart (\$70,500), Lincoln (\$225,000), Logan (\$250,000), Marshall (\$250,000), McLean (\$250,000), Monroe (\$250,000), Nelson (\$56,250), and Rockcastle (\$212,500) counties.

The BFLP is designed to assist individuals with some farming experience who desire to develop, expand, or buy into a farming operation. Beginning farmers may qualify for financing to purchase livestock, equipment, or agriculture facilities; to secure permanent working capital; for the purchase of farm real estate; or to invest in a partnership or LLC.

For more information on KAFC participation loans, contact your lender or Bill McCloskey at Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 382-6093 or email kafc@ky.gov.

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The Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP), a division within the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, provides staff support to the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC) and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF). The KADF is administered by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board. KOAP ensures Kentucky is being good stewards of dollars from the 1998 Tobacco Settlement Agreement by overseeing the boards' investments into diversifying and supporting Kentucky agriculture.







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Kentucky Agricultural Development Board 2025/2026 12-Month Board Meeting Schedule

Note: Locations are subject to change

Month	KADB Meeting	Location	Application Deadline
August	Friday, August 15, 2025	Courtyard by Mariott-Louisville, KY	Friday, July 25, 2025
September	Friday, September 19, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, August 29, 2025
October	Friday, October 17, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, September 26, 2025
November	Friday, November 21, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, October 24, 2025
December	Friday, December 19, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Monday, December 1, 2025
January	Friday, January 16, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, December 26, 2025
February	Friday, February 20, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, January 30, 2026
March	Friday, March 21, 2025	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, February 28, 2025
April	Friday, April 17, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, March 27, 2026
Мау	Friday, May 15, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, April 24, 2026
June	Friday, June 19, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, May 29, 2026
July	Friday, July 17, 2026	Franklin County Extension Office-Frankfort, KY	Friday, June 26, 2026
August	Friday, August 14, 2026	Kentucky State Fair-Louisville, KY	Friday, July 24, 2026



ALLISON BALL AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Independent Accountant's Report

Johnathan Shell, Commissioner Kentucky Department of Agriculture 105 Corporate Drive Frankfort, KY 40601

Rebecca Goodman, Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

We have reviewed the expenditures of the Rural Development Fund from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) and the Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) are responsible for ensuring expenditures reported within the Rural Development Fund are complete and accurate. Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the expenditures reported within the Rural Development Fund based on our review.

Our review was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the review to obtain limited assurance about whether any material modifications should be made to the expenditures reported within the Rural Development Fund. The procedures performed in a review vary in nature and timing from and are substantially less in extent than, an examination, the objective of which is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the expenditures reported within the Rural Development Fund are complete and accurate, in all material respects, in order to express an opinion. Because of the limited nature of the engagement, the level of assurance obtained in a review is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had an examination been performed. We believe that the review evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements related to the engagement.

The procedures we performed were based on our professional judgment and consisted primarily of analytical procedures and inquiries with agency personnel.

KDA and EEC are responsible for the material portion of expenditures reported within the Rural Development Fund. Immaterial expenditure activity responsible by other entities were not subject to our review procedures and would not impact our conclusion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the expenditures, as recorded in the enhanced Management Administrative Reporting System (eMARS) by KDA or EEC for the year ended June 30, 2024, in order for them to be complete and accurately reported within the Rural Development Fund.

This report is intended solely to fulfill the review requirements established in Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) 248.655 and is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Ball

allisa Ball

Auditor of Public Accounts

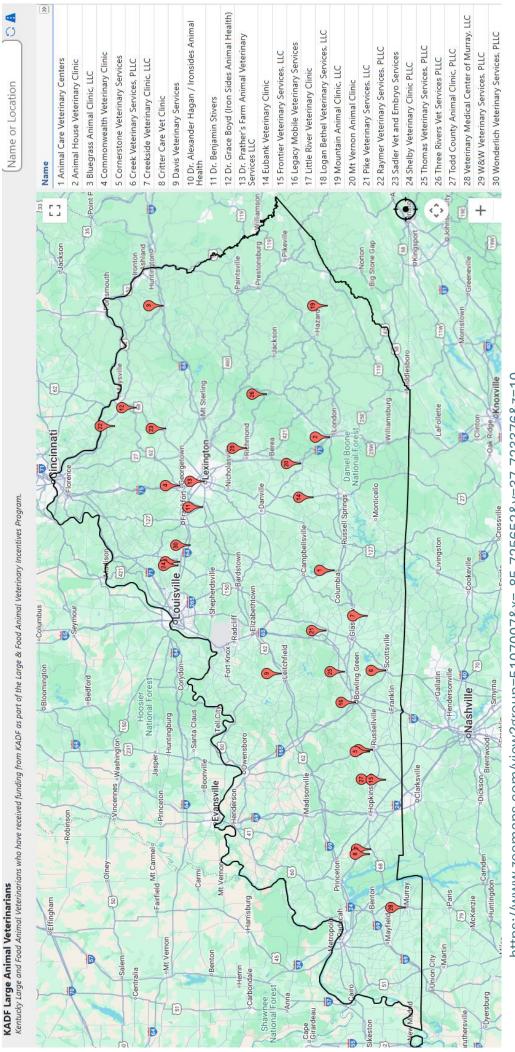
Frankfort, Kentucky

May 28, 2025

Updated July 1, 2025 By Becca Besok

		Large and Food Ani	Large and Food Animal Veterinary Incentives Program	gran	_				
# of Projects	App #	Applicant	Description		County \$	State \$		Total	Status
1	A2025-0154	Animal Care Veterinary Centers	TRUCK AND VET BOX	\$	\$ 038:00	60,191.00	\$ 00:	72,229.00	Pending
7	A2024-0232	Animal House Veterinary Clinic	TRUCK	\$	\$ 00.000,01	50,000.00	\$ 00:	60,000.00 Approved	Approved
3	A2025-0025	Bluegrass Animal Clinic	TRUCK AND VET BOX	\$	\$ 00.888.60	49,188.00	\$ 00:	59,026.00	Approved
4	A2024-0039	Commonwealth Veterinary Clinic	BSE EQUIPMENT	\$	2,977.00 \$		\$ -	2,977.00	Approved
2	A2024-0085	Cornerstone Veterinary Services	TRUCK, VET BOX, HANDLING FACILITIES	\$	16,667.00 \$	83,333.00		100,000.00	Approved
9	A2023-0229	Creek Veterinary Services, PLLC	TRUCK AND VET BOX	\$	\$ 00.160,01	50,454.00	\$ 00:	60,545.00	Approved
7	A2025-0122	Creekside Veterinary Clinic, LLC	LARGE ANIMAL HAUL IN FACILITY	\$	16,667.00 \$	83,333.00	\$ 00:	100,000.00	Pending
8	A2023-0145	Critter Care Vet Clinic, LLC	BLOOD CHEMISTRY ANALYZER	\$	4,512.00 \$	22,560.00	\$ 00.	27,072.00	Approved
6	A2024-0047	Davis Veterinary Services	TRUCK, VET BOX, EQUIPMENT	\$	\$ 00.9671	00.586,69	\$ 00:	87,481.00	Approved
10	A2024-0015	Dr. Alexander Glenn Hagan	TRUCK AND VET BOX	\$	4,587.00 \$	22,934.00	\$ 00.	27,521.00	Approved
11	A2024-0230	Dr. Benjamin Stivers	TRUCK, VET BOX, EQUIPMENT	\$	13,262.00 \$	66,310.00		79,572.00	Approved
12	A2025-0018	Dr. Boyd (Ironside Animal Health)	TRUCK	\$	4,713.00 \$	23,564.00	\$ 00.	28,277.00	Approved
13	A2024-0219	Dr. Prather's Farm Animal Veterinary Services	EQUINE DENTAL EQUIPMENT	\$	375.00 \$	1,875.00	\$ 00.	2,250.00	Approved
14	A2024-0110	Eubank Veterinary Clinic	LARGE ANIMAL HAUL IN FACILITY	\$	\$ 00.995,7	37,829.00	\$ 00.	45,395.00	Approved
15	A2023-0249	Frontier Veterinary Services, LLC	TRUCK, VET BOX, EQUIPMENT	\$	16,667.00 \$	83,333.00	\$ 00.	100,000.00	Approved
16	A2024-0192	Legacy Mobile Veterinary Services	X-RAY & ULTRASOUND EQUIPMENT	\$	7,205.00 \$	36,025.00	\$ 00.	43,230.00	Approved
17	A2023-0062	Little River Veterinary Clinic, LLC	LARGE ANIMAL HANDLING FACILITY	\$	\$ 00.887,6	48,936.00	\$ 00.	58,724.00 Approved	Approved
18	A2024-0070	Logan Bethel Veterinary Services, LLC	LARGE ANIMAL EQUIPMENT	\$	16,070.00 \$	80,353.00	\$ 00.	96,423.00 Approved	Approved
19	A2024-0240	Mountain Animal Clinic, LLC	ULTRASOUND & HANDLING EQUIPMENT	\$	2,934.00 \$	14,730.00	\$ 00.	17,664.00 Approved	Approved
20	A2025-0089	Mt Vernon Animal Clinic	TRUCK, VET BOX, EQUIPMENT	\$	13,237.00 \$	66,115.00	\$ 00.	79,352.00 Approved	Approved
21	A2023-0125	Pike Veterinary Services, LLC	PURCHASE OF PRACTICE	\$	16,667.00 \$	83,333.00	\$ 00.	100,000.00 Approved	Approved
22	A2023-0230	Raymer Veterinary Services, PLLC	TRUCK, VET BOX & BUILDING	\$	16,267.00 \$		\$ 00.	97,600.00 Approved	Approved
23	A2024-0018	Sadler Vet and Embryo Service	TRUCK AND VET BOX	\$	12,379.00 \$	56,733.00	\$ 00.	69,112.00 Approved	Approved
24	A2024-0202	Shelby Veterinary Services, PLLC	ULTRASOUND EQUIPMENT	\$	3,807.00 \$	19,033.00	\$ 00.	22,840.00	Approved
25	A2023-0247	Thomas Veterinary Services, P.L.C.	Truck, vet box & handling facilities	\$	16,500.00 \$	82,500.00	\$ 00.	00.000,66	Approved
76	A2024-0247	Three Rivers Vet Services, PLLC	TRUCK	\$	\$ 00.375.00	46,875.00	\$ 00.	56,250.00	Approved
27	A2023-0157	Todd County Animal Clinic, PLLC	LARGE ANIMAL EQUIPMENT	\$	16,668.00 \$	83,332.00	\$ 00.		Approved
28	A2024-0002	Veterinary Medical Center of Murray, LLC	TRUCK, VET BOX, EQUIPMENT	\$	12,642.00 \$	63,208.00	\$ 00.	75,850.00	Approved
29	A2025-0032	W&W Veterinary Services, PLLC	LARGE ANIMAL HANDLING FACILITY	\$	11,041.00 \$	55,200.00	\$ 00.	66,241.00	Approved
30	A2024-0198	Wonderlich Veterinary Services, PLLC	ULTRASOUND EQUIPMENT	\$	2,557.00 \$	12,790.00	\$ 00.		Approved
31	A2023-0146	Madelyn Orem	INTEREST IN TODD COUNTY CLINIC	\$	16,668.00 \$	83,332.00	\$ 00.	100,000.00	Approved
	A2024-0040	Ironsides Animal Health	EQUIPMENT FOR MOBILE PRACTICE	\$	5,506.00 \$	27,529.00	\$ 00.	33,035.00	Approved
33	A2025-0059	Ironsides Animal Health	EQUIPMENT FOR MOBILE PRACTICE	⊹	1,920.00 \$	9,599.00	\$ 00.	11,519.00	Approved

χį	ll County \$	Total State \$		Total \$
	338,687.00	\$ 1,655,845.00	\$ 0	1,994,532.00



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Requested Program Amendments

App # A2025-0028

Applicant Name Garrard County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Original Amount Approved \$350,000 Execution Date 04/04/2025

Requested Change The applicant requests an additional \$42,000 in Garrard County funds

for the CAIP Program. The request received a high priority from the

County Council.

This is the first request for an amendment to this application number. The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution

date of the original agreement.

Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$392,000.

Recommend Approval

App # A2025-0078

Applicant Name Rockcastle County Conservation District

Original Amount Approved \$148,590 Execution Date 05/05/2025

Requested Change The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$120,416 in Rockcastle County

funds for the CAIP Program. The request received a high priority from

the County Council.

This is the first request for an amendment to this application number.

The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution

date of the original agreement.

Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$269,006.

Recommend Approval

App # A2025-0108

Applicant Name Henry County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

Original Amount Approved \$20,000 Execution Date 05/30/2025

Requested Change The applicant requests an <u>additional</u> \$264,000 in Henry County funds

for the CAIP Program. The request received a high priority from the

County Council.

This is the first request for an amendment to this application number.

The term of the program shall remain 12-months from the execution

date of the original agreement.

Approval of this request would bring the program total to \$284,000.

Recommend Approval

Programs Recommended for Approval

CAIP				
<u>Application</u>	Program Administrator	County	<u>State</u>	Funds Requested
A2025-0162	Pendleton County Agricultural Diversification Association, Inc.	Pendleton		\$175,981.00
A2025-0163	Christian County Conservation District	Christian		\$150,000.00
A2025-0165	Hickman County Conservation District	Hickman	State	\$45,500.00
A2025-0167	Graves County Conservation District	Graves		\$37,526.00
A2025-0168	Metcalfe County Conservation District	Metcalfe		\$191,565.00
A2025-0170	Warren County Conservation District	Warren		\$135,658.00
A2025-0171	Bullitt County Conservation District	Bullitt		\$82,500.00
A2025-0172	McCracken County Soil Conservation District	McCracken		\$124,831.00
A2025-0176	Pike County Conservation District	Pike	State	\$40,000.00
A2025-0177	County Agriculture Investment Program Council Inc.	Russell		\$208,224.00
A2025-0178	Laurel County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.	Laurel		\$157,500.00
A2025-0180	Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.	Taylor		\$125,000.00
A2025-0181	LaRue County Beef Cattle Association, Inc.	LaRue		\$125,000.00
A2025-0187	Hart County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.	Hart		\$250,000.00
A2025-0188	Twin Lakes Cattle Association, Corporation	Clinton		\$110,222.00
A2025-0191	Elliott County Conservation District	Elliott		\$141,916.00
	Total Recommended for Funding: 16	-	_	\$2,101,423.00

Deceased	Farm Animal Removal (DAR)			
Application	Program Administrator	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	Funds Requested
A2025-0174	Taylor County Conservation District	Taylor		\$14,625.00
A2025-0175	Hart County Soil Conservation District	Hart		\$15,000.00
A2025-0190	Bourbon County Fiscal Court	Bourbon		\$10,000.00
	Total Recommended for Funding: 3		-	\$39,625.00

Programs Recommended for Approval

Shared-Use	e Equipment Program			
Application	Program Administrator	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	Funds Requested
A2025-0169	Metcalfe County Conservation District	Metcalfe		\$26,063.00
	Total Recommended for Funding: 1		•	\$26,063.00

Youth Ag I	ncentives Program (YAIP)			
Application	Program Administrator	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	Funds Requested
A2025-0173	McCracken County Soil Conservation District	McCracken		\$10,600.00
A2025-0179	Taylor County Cattlemen's Association, Inc.	Taylor		\$15,350.00
A2025-0182	Warren County 4-H Foundation Inc.	Warren		\$35,000.00
A2025-0183	Fayette County 4-H Council, Inc.	Fayette		\$6,800.00
	Total Recommended for Funding: 4	_	-	\$67,750.00

Total County Funds Recommended for Approval: \$2,234,861.00

Dino's Farm LLC A2025-0065

Application County: Gallatin Date Submitted: 3/19/2025

Total Funds Awarded: \$260,000

FUNDING REQUEST

Dino's Farm LLC is requesting \$400,000 in state and Gallatin County funds to purchase a meat processing facility and its equipment in Warsaw, KY.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Dino's Farm LLC is proud to be the first and only Islamic slaughterhouse in Kentucky, dedicated to providing the highest quality halal meat to the growing Muslim community as well as those who appreciate fresh, ethically sourced, and non-modified meat.

The applicant has been selling halal meat, produce, and other goods at Dino's Bakery in Louisville for 13 years. They purchase sheep, goats, and beef from Thompson Family Farms in Salvisa and Washington, Bluegrass, and Richmond Stockyards. They transport the animals to Warsaw, pay the current owner a fee to use the facility, then haul the meat to Louisville, where it's sold.

The applicant now has the opportunity to purchase the fully equipped meat processing facility they currently use in Warsaw and the 88 acres of land that are attached. They will offer whole and custom-cut meats catering to restaurants, grocery stores, and individual consumers across Kentucky and its bordering states.

KADB funds will be used to purchase the meat processing facility and its equipment in Warsaw, KY.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$800,000, with the following funding sources:

\$250,000 KADB State Funds - Forgivable Loan

\$10,000 KADB Gallatin County Funds (Committed)

\$140,000 KAFC Ag Processing Loan (Pending)

\$15,000 Earnest Deposit (Secured)

\$535,000 Farm Credit Mid America (Pending)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that 10+ farm families benefit, but anticipates that this project will increase this number exponentially.

Board Decision:

07.18.2025: Dino's Farm LLC was approved up to \$250,000 in state funds as a forgivable loan and\$10,000 in Gallatin County funds as a cost reimbursement grant to purchase a meat processing facility and its equipment in Warsaw, KY.

Creekside Veterinary Clinic, LLC

A2025-0122

Application County: Metcalfe Date Submitted: 4/25/2025

Total Funds Awarded: \$94,389

FUNDING REQUEST

Creekside Veterinary Clinic, LLC is requesting \$83,333 in state funds and \$16,667 in multi-county funds to purchase new medical equipment and livestock handling facilities.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Creekside Veterinary Clinic, LLC currently rents a facility in Monroe County for their mixed animal practice. However, the applicant purchased land in Metcalfe County and plans to build a veterinary clinic with a haul-in facility on the land. This will allow the applicant to offer additional services to producers such as the ability to haul livestock to the clinic. This funding will primarily be used to purchase equipment and livestock handling facilities. However, the applicant plans to apply for a loan through KAFC and South Central Bank to cover the other building expenses. The applicant estimates the total cost for the new clinic to be around \$500,000.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$150,106.47 with funding from the following sources: \$83,333 state funds

\$16,667 multi-county funds

\$50,106.47 Loan (South Central Bank or KAFC Loan)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that there are approximately 5300 farms in the area that could benefit from this project. The applicant currently provides services to livestock in Monroe, Metcalf, Barren, Allen, and Cumberland counties.

Board Decision:

07.18.2025: Creekside Veterinary Clinic was approved up to \$55,280 in state funds and \$11,056 in multi-county funds to purchase new medical equipment and livestock facilities.

Hancock County Cattleman's Association LTD.

A2025-0153

Application County: Hancock Date Submitted: 5/22/2025

Total Funds Awarded: \$5,000

FUNDING REQUEST

Hancock County Cattlemen's Association is requesting \$5,000 in Hancock County funds for the Hancock County Youth Agriculture Production Cost-Share Program.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The applicant plans to implement a cost-share program on a reimbursement basis for agricultural projects for Hancock County youth. Youth will submit their applications along with a farm business plan and marketing plan describing how purchased items and supplies will be utilized in their projects. This will be a 50 percent cost-share reimbursement, with the maximum being \$1500.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$10,000 with funding from the following sources: \$5,000 Hancock County Funds (Secured)

\$5,000 Hancock County Cattlemen's Association (Secured)

PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant stated that most of the youth don't receive the maximum disbursement due to the cost of the project. Therefore, the applicant estimates 16 Hancock County youth will directly benefit from this project.

Board Decision:

07.18.2025: Hancock County Cattleman's Association LTD was approved up to \$5,000 in Hancock County funds for the Hancock County Youth Agriculture Production Cost-Share Program.

Berea College, Grow Appalachia

A2025-0155

Application County: Madison Date Submitted: 5/30/2025

Total Funds Awarded: \$440,953

FUNDING REQUEST

Grow Appalachia is requesting \$440,953 in state funds to run the Eastern Kentucky Direct Integrated Grower Support Program (EKY-DIGS) to help Eastern Kentucky farmers adopt efficient production practices, which will lead to growth in the agriculture sector and more profitable farms in the region.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Funding will be used to help run the Eastern Kentucky Direct Integrated Grower Support Program (EKY-DIGS). The program helps Eastern Kentucky farmers by providing on-farm technical assistance, production planning farmer education/networking, and connecting farmers to helpful agencies/funding opportunities. Their goal is to help farmers adopt efficient production practices, which will lead to growth in the agriculture sector and more profitable farms in the region. The 2-year program is expected to impact 500 farm families.

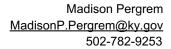
The total cost of the project is estimated at \$903,503 with funding from the following sources: \$440,953 KADB state funds (Unsecured) \$23,610 USDA-NIFA 1890 Capacity Building Grant (Pending) \$30,000 Outreach and Communication (Secured) \$305,500 EKY Food Producer Grants (Secured) \$103,440 Berea College Indirect (Secured)

PROJECTED PRODUCER IMPACT

The applicant states that 500 farm families in 54 Appalachian counties will be directly impacted over the 2-year program, with 250 being in the first year. The program will provide individualized on-farm technical assistance, workshops, field days, classes, and specially developed educational materials. To broaden its reach, all classes will be recorded and made available online, and educational resources will be distributed to producers across the Commonwealth, thereby increasing the impact of the program.

Board Decision:

07.18.2025: Berea College, Grow Appalachia was approved up to \$440,953 in state funds to run the Eastern Kentucky Direct integrated Grower Support Program (EKY-DIGS) to help Eastern Kentucky farmers adopt efficient production practices, which will lead to growth in the agriculture sector and more profitable farms in the region.





Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approves more than \$3.4 million for projects across the Commonwealth

Funded projects focus on agricultural diversification, rural development

FRANKFORT (July 18, 2025) – The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved \$3,433,566 for agricultural diversification and rural development projects across the Commonwealth today at its monthly board meeting.

"Kentucky's agricultural sector is growing and that is due, in part, to the work of the Agricultural Development Board," Commissioner of Agriculture and Board Chair Jonathan Shell said. "The Board invests in projects that grow our agricultural community and help farm families strengthen rural communities across the Commonwealth."

County and State Funded Projects

- Berea College, Grow Appalachia was approved up to \$440,953 in state funds to run the
 Eastern Kentucky Direct integrated Grower Support Program (EKY-DIGS) to help
 Eastern Kentucky farmers adopt efficient production practices, which will lead to growth
 in the agriculture sector and more profitable farms in the region. For more information,
 contact Chris M. McKenzie at mckenziec@berea.edu.
- Creekside Veterinary Clinic was approved up to \$55,280 in state funds and \$11,056 in multi-county funds to purchase new medical equipment and livestock facilities. For more information, contact Ashlee M. Page at docashlee@creekside-vet.com.
- Dino's Farm LLC was approved up to \$250,000 in state funds as a forgivable loan and \$10,000 in Gallatin County funds as a cost reimbursement grant to purchase a meat processing facility and its equipment in Warsaw, KY. For more information, contact Nadia Ghazawi at nadia@nadiaisk.com.
- Hancock County Cattleman's Association LTD was approved up to \$5,000 in Hancock County funds for the Hancock County Youth Agriculture Production Cost-Share Program. For more information, contact Evan Tate at evan.tate@uky.edu.

County Programs

County Agricultural Incentives Program (CAIP)

CAIP provides Kentucky agricultural producers with cost-share assistance on practices to allow them to improve and diversify their current farm operations. CAIP covers a wide variety of agricultural enterprises in its 11 incentive areas, including, but not limited to, beef and dairy cattle; farm infrastructure, fencing, and water enhancement; equine; forage; goats and sheep; horticulture; poultry; swine; bees and honey; timber and technology, as well as energy efficiency and production; marketing; and value-added production.

Nineteen CAIPs were approved by the board in the following counties, totaling \$2,527,839:

• Bullitt (\$82,500)

- Christian (\$150,000)
- Clinton (\$110,222)
- Elliott (\$141,916)
- Garrard (\$42,000)*
- Graves (\$37,526)
- Hart (\$250,000)
- Henry (264,000)*
- Hickman (\$45,500)
- LaRue (\$125,000)
- Laurel (\$157,500)
- McCracken (\$124,831)
- Metcalfe (\$191,565)
- Pendleton (\$175,981)
- Pike (\$40,000)
- Rockcastle (\$120,416)*
- Russell (\$208,224)
- Taylor (\$125,000)
- Warren (\$135,658)

Deceased Farm Animal Removal (DAR)

The Deceased Farm Animal Removal Program serves as a measure to facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost-effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky producers.

Three DARs were approved by the board in the following counties, totaling \$39,625:

- Bourbon (\$10,000)
- Hart (\$15,000)
- Taylor (\$14,625)

Shared-Use Equipment Program

The Shared-Use Equipment Program assists broad-based community organizations with the purchase of farm equipment. The equipment purchased is made available for producer use in a specific county on a leased basis.

One Shared-Use Equipment Program totaling \$26,063 was approved by the board in Metcalfe County.

Youth Agricultural Incentives Program (YAIP)

YAIP encourages youth to engage in and explore agricultural opportunities.

Four YAIPs were approved by the board in the following counties, totaling \$67,750:

- Fayette (\$6,800)
- McCracken (\$10,600)
- Taylor (\$15,350)
- Warren (35,000)

All application periods and deadlines for CAIP and YAIP will be advertised locally.

* Existing programs receiving additional funding

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The Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP), a division within the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, provides staff support to the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC) and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF). The KADF is administered by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board. KOAP ensures Kentucky is being good stewards of dollars from the 1998 Tobacco Settlement Agreement by overseeing the boards' investments into diversifying and supporting Kentucky agriculture.



