



The MCAMP information session was held on March 12th at 7pm in the Montgomery County Annex Building. Below are questions that were asked about the program.

How is the income limit determined for the grant? Is it net income after or before depreciation?

The State and other Counties will use the number on the bottom of the 1040 form. That is from your personal tax return not the business' tax return.

Is the income determined by household income or by business income?

The income you should be using is the household income not business income.

How long do you need to keep the purchased equipment or materials bought through the grant?

There is not a particular requirement on how long you need to keep the purchased equipment or materials brought through the grant, you just need proof of purchase.

Can a business owner purchase equipment and materials prior to be awarded the grant for this growing season?

If you purchase an item prior to executing your agreement with the County, that purchase will not be eligible for reimbursement through the grant. Only purchases made after the agreement is executed can count.

Can a business owner lease/rent equipment and then purchase that equipment outright if awarded funding?

If a business owner wants to lease/rent equipment prior to being awarded they can, but it is not guaranteed that everyone that applies will be awarded or qualify for the program. If an applicant is awarded and they were renting/leasing equipment, they can be reimbursed for purchasing that equipment after the executed agreement date, or can be reimbursed after the agreement date if they want to continue renting equipment and not purchase equipment.

Can two separate businesses both apply for two separate grants and use the combined funding to purchase one item together?

Businesses applying separately to buy a joint purchase would be not eligible. If they wanted to create a joint business and apply using that business then that could be funded and it would be considered a start-up business.

A family owns a dairy farm and a creamery that are separate taxable businesses. Can both businesses, although owned by the same family, apply for two separate grants?

Technically both businesses would be eligible if they are owned separately and have different tax ID's, but it is not recommended to fund them both.

It is difficult to find agriculture start up businesses that fit the State's requirements of being less than 6 months established at the time of the application. How do other counties deal with this?

Even if a farm has been in business for generations, the business can file for a DBA within 6 months of the application and they would be considered a new start-up business.

If the business is creating a value added production off of the existing business, would this new business be considered a start-up?

The new value added business could be considered a start-up business if the new business has its own separate Tax ID # and DUNS #. For example, an existing dairy farm wants to start a creamery, the creamery would have its own Tax ID # and DUNS #.

If I go through the training process but my application is not selected will I have to go through training in another round if more funding is made available?

If an applicant goes through the training process but is not selected for funding this round, they can apply for another round (if funding is made available) and do not have to retake the training classes. They may use their past certificate to apply in other funding rounds.

My season is from May to October, if I hired someone to fulfill the grant requirements would that time period be acceptable for a FTE position?

An applicant could consider hiring someone from May to October if that person does not have another job the rest of the year, then when they worked for you that would be considered full time. If they have another job the rest of the year then they would not be full time, they would be part time, but then you could hire 2 part time people during that time, to equal one full time position.

Being that my business is an LLC, would this separate the farm from household?

We are requesting both personal and business tax forms, but the determination will be made off of the personal income total. The business financials, or Form F, will have no bearing on LMI eligibility.

Could I use the grant funding to pay for the employee?

If you used the money to contract out to someone to do work, then yes, you could request funding to pay that person, but if your income is over the LMI threshold then you would still have to adhere to the hiring requirements. You could not request funding to then pay for the position that you need to hire with the grant.

*****If there are any other questions please email Amanda Bearcroft at abearcroft@co.montgomery.ny.us and they will be added to the list*****