



MARBIDCO

***“Promoting Sustainability, Profitability and Innovation in
Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Business”***

Application for Maryland Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program

Program Description

MARBIDCO has established the Maryland Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program to help assist with the expansion of livestock processing capacity in Maryland. This program offers grants to eligible applicants to purchase livestock and meat processing equipment and/or upgrade facilities to help increase production in Maryland, with a particular focus on large animal and blue catfish processing. (Smaller scale poultry processing projects may also be eligible.)

For the Maryland Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program, MARBIDCO will contribute up to 50% towards the eligible costs, with a maximum grant award amount of \$50,000 for USDA-inspected slaughter facility projects (including meat and blue catfish processing), and maximum grant award amount of \$20,000 for other USDA-inspected facilities, custom-exempt processing, or mobile processing projects.

Eligible applicants include individuals and businesses who currently operate livestock and meat processing enterprises in Maryland, as well as those that can start such operations by no later than December 1, 2024. These applicants can include sole proprietorships, partnerships, cooperatives, corporations, or LLCs.

Eligible expenses: Grant funds (and matching funds paid by the applicant) must be used to purchase livestock and meat processing equipment and/ or upgrade facilities for USDA-inspected facilities, custom-exempt or mobile processing projects. Eligible expenses incurred prior to July 15, 2024, are not eligible to be reimbursed using these grant funds.

The Maryland Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program application Round 1 deadline is August 15, 2024. The Round 2 deadline is September 15, 2024.

For more information about the Maryland Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program, contact Sierra Criste, MARBIDCO Financial Programs Associate, by email at scriste@marbidco.org or by telephone at (410) 267-6807.

Please See the Next Page for More Information

Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program Conditions:

Minimum Amount of Grant:	\$5,000
Maximum Amount of Grant:	\$50,000 per project for USDA-inspected slaughter facilities \$20,000 per project for other USDA-inspected facilities, custom-exempt, or mobile processing projects
Match Required:	Applicants are required to pay at least 50% of eligible project costs.
Application Deadline:	Round 1: August 15, 2024 Round 2: September 15, 2024 (<i>electronic submissions are encouraged</i>)
Disbursement of Funds:	All applicants should expect to purchase or order equipment by no later than December 31, 2024. Funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis (proof of payment required) or MARBIDCO can directly pay vendors with submission of approved invoices.
Send Complete Applications to:	scriste@marbidco.org (<i>electronic submissions are encouraged</i>)

OR

MARBIDCO – Livestock Proc. Equip. Grant
c/o Sierra Criste
1410 Forest Drive, Suite 21
Annapolis, MD 21403

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Legal Name of Applicant (payee) _____

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Person _____ Title _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

SECTION 2: BUSINESS INFORMATION

Business Structure

Year & State Established/Incorporated _____ EIN # _____

Legal organization of the business:

☐ Proprietorship ☐ Partnership ☐ Agricultural Cooperative ☐ LLC ☐ Corporation

Government Issued Permits (specify type and include ID # below):

Employment Data Related to the Livestock Processing Business

of full-time jobs current _____ # of NEW full-time jobs projected within 36 months _____

of part-time jobs current _____ # of NEW part-time jobs projected within 36 months _____

Management/Ownership

1-Name _____ Title _____

Last four digits Social Security # _____ Date of Birth _____ % Ownership _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

2- Name _____ Title _____

Last four digits Social Security # _____ Date of Birth _____ % Ownership _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

3- Name _____ Title _____

Last four digits Social Security # _____ Date of Birth _____ % Ownership _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

4- Name _____ Title _____

Last four digits Social Security # _____ Date of Birth _____ % Ownership _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

SECTION 3: PROJECT INFORMATION

Type of Livestock Processing Business for Project (check one):

Note: Large-scale integrated poultry processors are not eligible at this time.

☐ USDA-Inspected Slaughter Facility
(max. grant: \$50,000)

☐ Other USDA-Inspected Facility
(max. grant: \$20,000)

☐ Custom-Exempt Processing
(max. grant: \$20,000)

☐ Mobile Processing
(max. grant: \$20,000)

Source of Funds:

Requested Grant Funds: \$ _____ (up to 50% of equipment cost or max. applied)

Matching Funds: \$ _____ (at least 50% of cost is required by Applicants)

Total Project Cost: \$ _____

Use of Funds (equipment only):

List of Equipment:	Amounts:

(Please attach additional sheets if necessary)

Type of Livestock Processed (please check all that apply):

- ☐ Cattle/Beef ☐ Hogs/Pigs ☐ Poultry
☐ Sheep/Goats ☐ Blue Catfish ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Brief Description of Project:

Please provide a brief description of the project, including a description of the Applicant's need for livestock processing equipment and how the new equipment will increase meat processing capacity.

How did you hear about this MARBIDCO financial program? Please check a box below:

- ☐ Search Engine (Google, Bing, etc.)
☐ Social Media (Facebook, Instagram)
☐ Recommended by a friend
☐ MARBICO Newsletter
☐ News article, where:
☐ Advertisement, where: _____

Referred by:

- ☐ Maryland Dept. of Agriculture
☐ Maryland Dept of Commerce
☐ County Agricultural or Economic Development Office
☐ UMD Extension
☐ Commercial Bank or Farm Credit
☐ Other: _____

SECTION 4: SIGNATURES

DECLARATIONS

If answering "yes" to any of these questions, please provide an explanation on a separate sheet and attach.

Is the business currently involved in bankruptcy? Yes _____ No _____

Does the business or any of the management personnel owe any taxes for prior years? Yes _____ No _____

Have any managers or owners received a felony conviction? Yes _____ No _____

AUTHORITY TO COLLECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

Certain personal information requested by MARBIDCO is necessary in determining your eligibility. Failure to disclose this information may result in the denial of these benefits or services. Availability of this information for public inspection is governed by the Maryland Public Information Act, General Provisions Article, Sections 4-101 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("PIA"). This information will be disclosed to appropriate MARBIDCO staff and committees, public officials, and MARBIDCO's auditors for purposes directly connected with approval of the proposed financing and administration of the program for which its use is intended. Such information can also be shared with State, federal, or local government agencies, and any financial assistance that you receive from MARBIDCO is subject to public disclosure. Proprietary business information is generally not disclosable to the General Public under the Maryland Public Information Act*.

*(*The PIA protects certain confidential information from disclosure. Please note that information is not confidential if the information (1) was already known to MARBIDCO, (2) is or later comes into the public domain through no fault of MARBIDCO, (3) is independently developed by MARBIDCO, or (4) comes to MARBIDCO from a third-party which is not in violation of any obligation of confidentiality to Applicant or MARBIDCO.)*

You authorize MARBIDCO to obtain any additional information, including financial information, concerning the applicant from any source which MARBIDCO reasonably requires in order to determine whether to make the requested grant, including credit histories, credit reports, and credit scores.

CERTIFICATIONS

1. I/we have the right to submit this application.
2. All information in this application and any attachments and addendums is true and complete to the best of my/our knowledge, information, and belief and is submitted so that MARBIDCO and its committee can decide whether to offer financial assistance.
3. I/we agree not to engage in employment practices which deny equal employment rights to persons by reason of (i) political or religious opinion or affiliation, marital status, race, color, creed or national origin; (ii) sex or age, except when sex or age constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification; or (iii) physical or mental disability of a qualified individual with a disability. I/we also agree to comply with the State's policy on maintaining a drug and alcohol-free workplace.
4. I/we hereby authorize all involved in the financing of this project to exchange freely without further authorization and consent, any and all information, including financial information, and reports provided in connection with this application.

Signatures provided by facsimile or other electronic means, for example, and not by way of limitation, in Adobe .PDF sent by electronic mail, shall be deemed to be original signatures.

Signature _____ Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Printed Name _____

Date _____ Date _____

GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please provide the following for a complete application to be reviewed for funding.

- ☐ Submit a completed and signed application form and all required attachments.
- ☐ Written Business Plan which addresses the following:
 - ☐ History of operation
 - ☐ Experience of principal operators
 - ☐ Products and services the entity offers
 - ☐ Marketing strategy and sales plan
 - ☐ Expense and sales/revenues projections (if they are available)
- ☐ Custom-exempt processing or mobile processing projects: submit the most recent USDA Facility Review Report, MDA Poultry/Rabbit Slaughter Certificate, or other relevant permits/certifications to the livestock processing project.
- ☐ Project budget (including list of equipment to be acquired with cost estimates)
- ☐ Business operation tax return for the preceding year for corporations and LLCs, personal tax return for the preceding year for sole proprietors and partnerships.
- ☐ Business operation financials (including balance sheet, 2022 income statement)
- ☐ Evidence of matching funds (e.g., copy of bank statement or bank loan commitment letter)