

# Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

Competitive. Innovative. Resilient.

## Food Safety & Traceability

### Program Guide

**Version 2.0** (for April 2026 intake)

Published: April 23, 2026



# Contents

Section 1 - Program Description ..... 3

Section 2 - Program Eligibility ..... 3

Section 3 - Cost Share Funding ..... 4

Section 4 - Application Worksheet Assessment..... 7

Section 5 - How to Apply for Funding..... 7

Definitions ..... 9

For any questions, you may contact the Program Administrator:

**Sustainable CAP**  
[agriculture@gov.mb.ca](mailto:agriculture@gov.mb.ca)  
1-800-811-4411

***This Program Guide has been updated for the April 2026 intake.***

***Program Guidelines have changed since previous intake.***

## **Section 1 - Program Description**

This program is designed to assist Manitoba's agri-food and agri-product sectors in adopting and improving food safety and traceability practices. Financial assistance will be provided to eligible recipients for the purchase of food safety and traceability equipment, development and implementation of food safety programs, food safety training, validation and verification activities. Food safety and traceability are important for public safety and also a requirement for many regulators, associations and customers.

## **Section 2 - Program Eligibility**

The Food Safety & Traceability program is open to:


- Agri-food processors
- Agri-product processors
- Food Warehouses/Distributors
- Wholesalers
- Indigenous Governments, individuals, businesses, communities, organizations, and other Indigenous groups undertaking agricultural initiatives

Eligible applicants:

- Must have a significant portion of company sales in wholesale trade including retail outlets, food service establishments and wholesale distributors (versus direct to consumers).
- Must have a valid Permit to Operate a Food Handling Establishment from Manitoba Agriculture, or a Health Permit from Manitoba Health or hold a valid Safe Food for Canadians (SFC) licence. These permits and licences may be submitted at the time of application or at the time of project claim.
- Can be from inside or outside of Manitoba, as long as the activities occur in Manitoba or have a positive outcome for the province.
- Must ensure that they meet all eligibility requirements.

A business or organization with multiple divisions, operating names, or units, will count as one business or organization.

Government employees, who are the majority shareholder (50 per cent or higher) in a business or organization, are not eligible to apply for funding. A business or organization, which includes a provincial government employee as a minority shareholder, will be eligible to apply for funding.



Additional factors may be considered in determining the eligibility of the applicant, including:

- The provision of false or misleading information by the applicant under other Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs
- Amounts due and owing by the applicant under other Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership and Manitoba programs

## Section 3 – Cost Share Funding

Activities are cost shared between government and the applicant. The cost share ratio is up to a maximum of 60:40 (government: applicant). There is a maximum funding limit of \$40,000 per applicant for this intake.

### Project Timelines

- All projects shall start on **April 1, 2026** or later.
- All projects must be complete, and claims submitted by **February 1, 2027**

### Eligible Expenses

Expenses must be directly related to the execution of an approved project. The applicant must provide expense details in the Application Worksheet.

- Food safety equipment used for measuring, monitoring, and testing food safety-related parameters, including foreign material detection and removal systems, calibration tools, validation and verification equipment, critical control point devices, and laboratory testing equipment. Examples include:
  - Metal detector
  - X-ray machine
  - Sieve/sifter
  - pH meter
  - Moisture meter
  - aw meter
  - Reference thermometer
  - Certified weights
  - Magnet pull strength test kit
  - Magnet to remove foreign materials
  - Data logger
  - Luminometer/ATP
  - Scale used for food safety (i.e., for measuring nitrate)
- Traceability equipment including hardware and software used to enhance traceability across the value chain. Examples include:
  - Lot code or tag printer
  - Bar code scanner
- Development and implementation of preventive food safety programs, such as



Preventive Control Plans and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), as well as specific programs such as Global Food Safety Initiatives (GFSI) recognized certification schemes, including:

- Third party pre-audit and gap analysis assessments
- first food safety audit by an accredited certification body
- lab testing fees
- computer software for food safety programs
- food process and product validation activities
- facility modifications related to program implementation – to be pre-approved
- Registration fees to attend food safety training events
- Purchase of food safety related educational materials
- Consultant fees
- Training and setup costs associated with new equipment or systems
- Provincial Sales Tax (PST)

The applicant is solely responsible for all project expenses, including all ineligible expenses and any project deficits or over-runs.

Where a project is approved, no eligible expenses will be reimbursed unless a funding agreement is signed.


If work is started on a project before formal written approval of program funding is received, the applicant does so at their own risk.

All expenses must be supported by an invoice and a valid proof of payment (note: hand-written cash receipts are not an acceptable form of proof of payment). All invoices must be dated on or after April 1, 2026.

### **Ineligible Expenses**

The following expenses are **ineligible** for funding:

- Any expenses paid before the start date, or after the completion date, listed in the funding agreement.
- Any expenses not required for the execution of the project.
- Eligible expenses without proof of payment.
- Any expense, including a tax, which is eligible for a rebate, credit or refund such as Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Harmonized Sales Tax (HST).
- Non-food safety related implementation and certification costs.
- Travel expenses, including those directly associated with training events.
- In-kind contributions such as staff labour, use of assets and equipment, materials, technical, consulting and professional services (e.g., in-house program development or testing).
- Expenses related to establishing a commercial operation.
- Normal operating expenses associated with carrying out business operations.
- Extended warranties.
- Financing charges, loan interest payments, bank fees and charges.

- 
- Compensation to any government employee for providing services.
  - Purchase of land, buildings and facilities, associated taxes and fees (e.g., land transfer tax).
  - Any additions or upgrades to new or existing buildings and facilities, associated taxes and fees.
  - Normal, current or ongoing maintenance expenses.
  - Multi-use items (e.g., computers, tablets, phones, cameras, batteries, clothing and footwear, tools, fuel, etc.) which are either not essential or not exclusively for the project.
  - Purchase of labels and packaging.
  - Consumable supplies.
  - Any expense funded under other Sustainable CAP programs such as Capital Infrastructure and Investments, Market Development, or Sustainable Agri-Processing.
  - Expenses incurred for other projects.
  - Invoices not issued in the applicant's name and/or payment not made by the approved applicant.
  - Any items purchased before April 1, 2026.
  - Any other expense deemed ineligible by the program administrator.

### **Funding from Government**

The Applicant must adhere to the stacking limit. The stacking limit refers to the maximum level of total Canadian government funding (federal, provincial/territorial, and municipal) a successful Applicant can receive towards total approved eligible expenses of a project.

The maximum level of total government funding must not exceed:

- 100 percent of total approved eligible expenses; or
- If the Applicant is a for-profit business or organization, 75 per cent for capital items that are approved eligible expenses

### **Other Sources of Funding**

The Applicant must provide information on the source of other funding, amount and description of non-Sustainable CAP funds that will be used to pay for the project, including funds provided by the Applicant. If non-Sustainable CAP funds are being used for a specific item, it should be clearly specified.



## Section 4 - Application Assessment

Applications will be assessed on a first-come, first-served basis until **July 16, 2026** or **until available funding has been allocated**.

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Applicant eligibility
- Completeness of form
- Enhancement of in-plant food safety and traceability initiatives

## Section 5 - How to Apply for Funding

The Applicant Information Form and Application Worksheet are available on the Manitoba Agriculture website. Go to <https://www.gov.mb.ca/scap/resiliency/food-safety.html>.

Manitoba Agriculture will publish deadline dates through their newsletter, website, and social media channels.

The Applicant Information Form and Application Worksheet must be submitted to the program administrator at [agriculture@gov.mb.ca](mailto:agriculture@gov.mb.ca) by **11:59 PM on July 16, 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

The Applicant must complete all applicable questions within the application forms. Incomplete application forms may result in the delay or rejection of an application.

Funding amounts received from all sources must be declared on the Application Worksheet. Failure to disclose all financial sources for a project may nullify the funding request.

The Applicant must acknowledge and agree to all terms and conditions contained in the Application Worksheet, Program Guide, and Program Terms and Conditions.

Applicants must comply with all Manitoba and federal government laws and regulations applicable to their projects and to their business or organization's operations.

Only the applicant may sign the Applicant Information Form, Application Worksheet, or other program documents.

In the case of corporations, partnerships, and other business organizations, a designated person with legal authorization must sign the Applicant Information Form, Application Worksheet, and other program documents. The program administrator may require proof of authorization.

Project activities must be completed, and all reports submitted on or before the date stated in the funding agreement.

Funding for projects will be subject to the appropriation of funds by the Government of Canada and the Manitoba government.

# Definitions

**Agri-business:** a person involved in for-profit commercial activity in the agricultural sector.

**Agri-food Processor:** person that significantly transforms agricultural commodities or ingredients into value-added goods that are food products or ingredients; may be a good for further value-added processing or a finished good.

**Agri-product Processor:** person that significantly transforms agricultural commodities into value-added goods that are not food or ingredients; includes products created from primary commodities, waste, by or co-products from production or processing.

**Agri-processor:** a person that is actively engaged in agri-product and agri-food processing.

**Applicant:** a person who satisfies all the eligibility requirements set out in the terms and conditions and who submits an Applicant Information Form and Application Worksheet under this program.

**Funding Agreement:** an agreement issued to applicants indicating an application decision and the next steps required for project implementation.

**Government Funding:** any financial assistance in the form of provincial or federal grants, loans or other assistance.


**Incremental Expenses:** expenditures that can be directly attributed to the project outlined in the Application Worksheet and are over and above normal business operational expenses.

**Indigenous:** individuals who self-report an Indigenous identity, either First Nations, Metis, and/or Inuit, or a combination of those.

**In-kind Contributions:** non-monetary goods and/or services that are not reimbursable by the program.

**Manitoba Government Employee:** any full-time, regular, part-time or term individual employed by the Manitoba government, including any special operating agency or Crown corporation.

**Manitoba Government Senior Public Servant:** the Clerk of the Executive Council; a deputy minister or equivalent or an assistant deputy minister; a chairperson, president, vice-president, chief executive officer or deputy chief executive officer of a Crown agency; a person who is designated or who occupies a position that is designated under section 31.1 of The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Conflict of Interest Act; and includes a person who, on a temporary basis, occupies a position described here.



**Minister:** refers to the Minister of Agriculture for the Government of Manitoba, and includes any person authorized to act on the minister's behalf.

**Non-profit Business:** legal organization organized and operated for a collective, public, or social benefit that commits all profits to support the business operations and objectives earn profits.

**Person:** includes an individual, partnership, corporation or cooperative.

**Program:** refers to the Sustainable CAP program.

**Program Activity:** a specific action under Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program where applicants can apply for funding; may have one or several funding streams.

**Program Administrator:** Manitoba Agriculture, or where applicable, any person engaged by the Government of Manitoba, to carry out administrative activities in connection with the program

**Stacking Limit:** the maximum level of total Canadian government funding (federal, provincial/ territorial and municipal) that a successful applicant can receive

**Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP):** is a five-year agricultural policy framework by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments to encourage market development, innovation and research, environmental sustainability, value- added processing, improved public trust and risk management across Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-product sectors.

**Terms and Conditions:** Sustainable CAP program rules that Applicants accept and agree to follow as conditions for receiving funding; may be occasionally revised, altered or amended.