



Growing Forward

Revised December, 2011

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture and Forestry Agriculture Policy and Regulatory Division

Canada-P.E.I. Food Safety, Biosecurity and Traceability Program

Purpose:

As part of Growing Forward, the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework Agreement, the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture and Forestry delivers the Food Safety, Biosecurity and Traceability Program. This cost-shared program makes assistance available to producers, boards, associations and agri-businesses to facilitate the implementation of food safety, traceability and biosecurity measures. The program is divided into five sub-programs.

1) On-Farm Food Safety Sub-Program

Purpose:

This initiative will facilitate the adoption of national on-farm food safety systems and associated good production practices through financial incentives.

Assistance Provided:

Assistance will be made available for activities that lead to on-farm food safety implementation such as outreach (including on-farm food safety promotion and awareness), training, educational materials, and technical assistance to producers. The level of assistance will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Eligibility:

P.E.I. commodity boards or representative organizations may apply to deliver this initiative to producers on a project basis. In the absence of a board or organization to facilitate the implementation of projects in a sector, the funding may be utilized by private individuals or by the provincial government to address those sector's needs.

2) Post-Farm Food Safety Sub-Program

Purpose:

This initiative will facilitate the implementation of good manufacturing practices (GMP's) and/or HACCP or ISO 22000 plan development by non-federally registered food-processing enterprises. Assistance will be made available for training, food safety related equipment and/or infrastructure.

Assistance Provided:

Funding will be made available, but not limited to, activities such as awareness, workshops, technical assistance/consultation and pilot projects relating to good manufacturing practices and or HACCP. Assistance will also be made available for food safety related equipment or infrastructure on a cost shared basis (90% government/10% applicant) up to \$10,000 per applicant.

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, provincially inspected (or those in the process of becoming provincially inspected) livestock and poultry slaughter facilities and dairy processing plants. In order to be eligible for the funding related to food safety related equipment and infrastructure, applicants must participate in required food safety training.

3) Implementation Assistance Sub-Program

Purpose:

This initiative will provide funding to assist in the purchase of equipment and other implementation costs related to on-farm food safety and traceability.

Assistance Provided:

For on-farm food safety implementation, assistance will be made available for the purchase of equipment required for the implementation of a food safety system. Also, applicants are eligible for assistance on the First Certification Audit when implementing a food safety program. Applicants are eligible to receive up to a total of \$2,500 per farm unit/agri-business unit for food safety equipment and/or audit on a cost shared basis (75% government/25% applicant). For the implementation of a traceability system, funding will be made available for the purchase of approved specialized equipment up to \$2,500 on a cost shared basis (75% government/25% applicant) per farm unit/agri-business unit.

Eligibility:

Applicants must be implementing an on-farm food safety program and/or Good Agricultural Practices or initiating traceability activities consistent with national agriculture and food traceability systems. Assistance provided will be up to a maximum of \$2,500 each for food safety and traceability activities per farm unit/agri-business unit over the four year term of the program.

4) Traceability Projects Sub-Program

Purpose:

This initiative will provide assistance to commodity boards/associations to enable their industry to participate in a full traceability system consistent with national commodity implementation plans. Projects should demonstrate or evaluate the benefits of technology in moving their industry towards a more complete traceability system for that commodity.

Assistance Provided:

Assistance will be allocated based on submissions within a given year.

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, provincial commodity boards/associations. Other individuals and/or businesses/institutions may apply with the support of a representative commodity board or association.

5) Animal and Plant Biosecurity Sub-Program

Purpose:

This initiative will support the early adoption of industry and government approved biosecurity systems for priority sectors. In the absence of government approved systems, assistance will be made available to other sectors to enhance the level of biosecurity.

Assistance Provided:

Assistance will be made available to all sectors but preference will be given to those sectors that have developed a nationally approved biosecurity program. The Department will consider projects that include activities such as biosecurity awareness and training, development of biosecurity kits and/or facility upgrading.

Eligibility:

Applicants include, but are not limited to, commodity boards/associations that have a national government approved biosecurity system in place or wish to conduct biosecurity measures beneficial to their industry.

Terms and Conditions for all sub-programs:

Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria and submit a completed application form to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry. Applications must be received by the Department before the commencement of any project activities in order to receive assistance. If the project is not approved, all incurred costs are the responsibility of the applicant. Assistance for each sub-program will be available during each fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st) or until funds are totally allocated within that year, whichever comes first. Program guidelines and application forms may

be revised at any time throughout the life of the Canada-P.E.I. Food Safety, Biosecurity and Traceability Program, at the discretion of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Administration:

The Canada-P.E.I. Food Safety, Biosecurity and Traceability Program will be administered by the Agriculture Policy and Regulatory Division, P.E.I. Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Additional information may be obtained from:

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Termination:

This program will terminate on March 31, 2013.