



BUTCHERY INNOVATION AND REVITALIZATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is the Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Program?

The [Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Program](#) was passed by the 2021 Iowa Legislature and signed into law by Governor Kim Reynolds on June 9, 2021. The intent of the law and funding for the program is to help Iowa businesses in the expansion, renovation and establishment of butchery facilities in the state of Iowa.

Who is eligible to apply for the program?

Businesses applying for the grant program must meet all requirements outlined in [House File 857](#) and in the [administrative rules](#). Requirements include that a business must be:

- Incorporated or authorized to do business in Iowa
- Employ less than fifty (50) individuals
- An establishment that holds a current license from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) OR an establishment that documents it is actively working with IDALS to obtain a license (per IDALS/Meat and Poultry Inspection Service, Iowa Code section 189A)

What types of projects are eligible for grant funding?

Eligible projects for funding consideration include:

- Expanding, refurbishing or establishing one of the following types of business:
 - State or federally inspected small-scale meat processing
 - Licensed custom locker
 - Mobile slaughter unit
- Renting or purchasing buildings, refrigeration facilities, freezer facilities or equipment necessary to expand processing capacity.

How much total funding is available for the grant program?

A total of \$750,000 has been appropriated by the State of Iowa to the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to administer the program.

What is the maximum award available to a qualified business?

Grants will be funded up to \$50,000 for each business.

Are there matching funds required?

YES. Businesses will need to demonstrate the ability to provide matching financial support for the project from private sources on a one-to-one basis.

Is there a required format for my application?

YES. Use the online Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Program Application Form available on the [IEDA website](#). The 'live' application will be available on October 18, 2021. **Note: No paper or handwritten applications will be accepted.** Ensure you have an email address with the ability to access it long-term. You will need an email address for use on the application and that you have access to in order to receive updates about your application. If you do not have an email address or access to a computer, you may ask a friend or family member for help. You may also consider utilizing the services of a public library.

Can I save the application and return and complete it at a later time?

NO. All online applications must be completed in a single session. The online form cannot be saved and restarted. Please plan ahead and use the *Draft Application form* and the *Application Checklist sheet* to have the proper information and supporting documents available for completion of the application. These documents will be available when the program application is announced in October 2021.

What is the application deadline?

Online applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm CST on November 15, 2021.

Is there an advantage to applying early/as soon as possible?

NO. The online application form will be available on October 18, 2021. The deadline for submission is November 15, 2021. All applications submitted within the application period will be considered for an award, and the program IS NOT on a first come, first served basis.

What resources are available to help with my application process?

Refer to the *Draft Application Form* and the *Application Checklist Sheet* for guidance on properly filling out the application form. These documents will be available when the program application is announced in October 2021.

How are applications reviewed and evaluated for funding?

The scoring committee comprised of representatives from IEDA and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), will evaluate the applications and give each application a score between 0 and 100, based on established criteria in the program rules. Each application, with a recommended funding amount, will be referred to the IEDA board who will make the final funding decisions.

How and when will the business be notified if they have been awarded a grant?

The IEDA board meets monthly and will review applications as available following from the scoring committee, up to two months following the close of the program. Successful applicants will be notified in writing of an award of financial assistance, including any conditions and terms of the award.