



Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board Guiding Principles for Board Action

The Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board (KAEDB, hereinafter “Board”), established by Senate Bill 28 (2025 Regular Session), is committed to advancing the economic sustainability and growth of Kentucky's agricultural economy. The following guiding principles shall govern KAEDB’s policies, procedures, and implementation strategies.

I. Purpose

The purpose of KAEDB is to provide financial incentives, technical assistance, and policy support to agricultural businesses and supply chain entities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This program will encourage private investment in agricultural infrastructure, promote economic development, and strengthen the viability of Kentucky's agricultural sector.

II. Guiding Principles

The Board’s actions shall adhere to the following:

- Promote and support agricultural infrastructure projects that enhance farm income, value-added processing, and market expansion.
- Encourage private investment alongside public funds to maximize economic impact.
- Prioritize projects that demonstrate measurable, positive economic impact on Kentucky farmers, agribusinesses, and rural communities.
- Ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness in the administration of program funds.
- Promote the development of alternative fuel and sustainable aviation fuel production from agricultural sources.
- Maintain compliance with all applicable state laws, regulations, and financial policies governing public funds.
- Facilitate collaboration among state agencies, agricultural organizations, and local economic development entities.
- Ensure geographic diversity in the distribution of program funds, considering the unique needs of each region.

III. Board Discretion

The Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board (KAEDB) shall reserve the right to exercise its discretion in the evaluation and approval of applications. The Board may give deference to individual projects on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the unique circumstances, economic impact, and strategic importance of each project.

IV. Program Administration

The Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board (KAEDB) will administer the program in accordance with these guiding principles. The Division of Agricultural Economic Development (DAED) located within the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP) will provide administrative and technical support to the KAEDB.

V. Review and Amendment

These Guiding Principles will be reviewed periodically by the KAEDB to ensure alignment with legislative intent, state agricultural priorities, and stakeholder feedback. Amendments to these principles shall be made by a majority vote of the Board.