



## **Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board Project Guidelines**

The following Project Guidelines govern the eligibility, application, and approval process for projects seeking financial assistance under the Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Program (KAEDP) established by Senate Bill 28 (2025 Regular Session).

### **I. Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants for financial assistance include:

- Agricultural producers, processors, cooperatives, agribusinesses, and supply chain entities operating in Kentucky or with a direct impact on Kentucky producers.
- Local governments and economic development organizations sponsoring agricultural infrastructure projects.
- Nonprofit organizations supporting agricultural economic development.

### **II. Eligible Projects**

Eligible projects for consideration for financial assistance include:

- Development or expansion of agricultural supply chain infrastructure.
- Projects that promote value-added agricultural processing.
- Investments in alternative fuel and sustainable aviation fuel production utilizing agricultural inputs.
- Projects that enhance farm income diversification and market opportunities.
- Projects that demonstrate quantifiable positive economic impact on Kentucky agriculture.

### **III. Application Requirements**

In order to be considered for financial assistance, applicants shall provide:

- Completed application form prescribed by the Division of Agricultural Economic Development (DAED) located within the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP).
- Detailed capital investment plan and project budget.
- Economic impact analysis demonstrating anticipated benefits to Kentucky farmers and rural communities.
- Letters of support from relevant stakeholders and partners.
- Acknowledgment of compliance with program policies and execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

#### **IV. Evaluation Criteria**

When evaluating applications, members of the KAEDB shall consider an applicant's and/or project's:

- Demonstrated positive economic impact on Kentucky agriculture.
- Private investment leveraged by public funds.
- Number of farmers and agricultural operations positively affected.
- Sustainability and long-term viability of the project.
- Geographic diversity and regional economic benefit.

#### **V. Award Determination**

The Kentucky Agricultural Economic Development Board (KAEDB) shall review all eligible applications and determine the type and amount of financial assistance to be awarded, which may include grants, forgivable loans, low-interest revolving loans, or hybrid incentive packages.

#### **VI. Project Implementation and Compliance**

Approved applicants shall execute a MOA and adhere to all terms, conditions, and compliance requirements as specified in program policies and standard operating guidelines.

#### **VII. Reporting and Monitoring**

Recipients shall submit periodic progress and financial reports to DAED located within KOAP and shall cooperate with monitoring and oversight activities.

#### **VIII. Review and Amendment**

These Project Guidelines shall be reviewed periodically by the KAEDB and may be amended by a majority vote of the Board.