

2026 CAIP Incentive Area Guidelines: SMALL ANIMAL



These guidelines represent one of 11 incentive areas within the **County Agricultural Incentives Program (CAIP)** to provide Kentucky agricultural producers cost-share assistance on practices that increase net farm income and opportunities to try new/innovative technologies or systems that improve farm efficiency and productivity.

Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.

Incentive Area Limitations

- **Emergency Early Release Clause:** The local program administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal, due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.
- **Genetic Diversification Clause:** In the event that a producer retains female offspring sired by a cost-shared male for use as breeding stock, then the cost-shared male may be sold and replaced by another male of equal or greater value. The replacement animal **shall not** be eligible for additional CAIP funds.
- Animals in the family *Cervidae*, a.k.a. cervids (e.g. white-tail deer, etc.), are not eligible for cost-share under these guidelines.
- Reimbursements for repairs, routine maintenance, beautification/cosmetics, and/or renewal of annual subscriptions are not eligible for cost-share.
- **Beginning in 2010**, all transport equipment was removed as eligible cost-share items from all incentive areas. This exclusion includes trailers, wagons, and carts with the primary function of transportation.

A. Goat, Sheep Production

Prerequisites:

- **All Goat & Sheep applicants** must become Small Ruminant Quality Assurance (SRQA) certified before funding is received.
- **"1. Genetics"**
 - **All breeding males** must be at least six months of age, in good health, have all required health papers, and be up-to-date on their CDT vaccinations. Breeding males must be registered full bloods or purebreds with permanent identification.
 - **Ownership of breeding males** must be maintained for a minimum of two (2) successive breeding seasons. *See limitations for deviations from this rule.*
 - **Breeding females** need not be registered, but should have permanent identification.
 - **Ownership of breeding females** must be maintained for two (2) years. *See limitations for deviations from this rule.*
 - **All breeding males** purchased through this program are encouraged to have a Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE) – within the last six months; **however it is not a requirement** prior to receiving cost-share funds.
- **"2. Handling"**
Minimum herd/flock size to qualify for handling equipment cost-share: 20

Limits:

- **Buck/Ram Purchases** – limit of two (2) bucks/rams per program year
- **Doe/Ewe Purchases** – limit of ten (10) does/ewes per program year

Eligible Cost-share Items:

1. Genetics

- a. Male Breeding Stock **50%**
- b. Purchase of bucks, rams **50%**
- c. Semen from registered meat or dairy bucks, rams **75%**
- d. Female Breeding Stock – purchase of does, ewes **50%**
- e. Artificial insemination (AI) procedure (*excludes personal labor*) **75%**
- f. Embryo transfer work (includes embryos) **50%**
- g. Herd pregnancy checks **50%**
- h. DNA tests **75%**

2. Handling

- a. Commercial head gate, crowding tub and gate, tilt table, chutes – working, holding, loading, etc. **50%**
- b. Goat tote **50%**
- c. Panels, gates, materials for pens (includes kidding/lambing pens), filter fabric pads for heavy use areas **50%**
- d. Footbath, trimming stand **50%**
- e. Wool/hair clippers/shears **50%**
- f. Drench gun and reservoir **50%**
- g. Small livestock scales (includes sheep sling) **50%**
- h. Feeders: bunk or creep feeders **50%**
- i. Forage/TMR mixers, feeding equipment systems **50%**
- j. Feed ingredient and complete diet sampling analysis **75%**
- k. Animal waste handling and distribution equipment (*excluding motorized vehicles*) or custom services **50%**
- l. Cooling fans/ventilation equipment **50%**
- m. Temporary or permanent shade (*excluding trees*) – material costs necessary for construction of temporary or permanent shade for sheep or goats, including shade cloth **50%**
- n. Maternity monitoring system (including alerts, camera, and contracted installation services) **50%**
- o. FAMACHA certification: to measure anemia **50%**
- p. Whole herd disease diagnostic testing (live animals only) **50%**
- q. Castration tools, including banders **50%**
- r. Microscopes for parasite management **75%**
- s. Ear tagging and tattoo equipment (*excluding tags*) **50%**
- t. Cost of having a Nutrient Management Plan or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan developed **75%**
- u. Cleaning and disinfection equipment for biosecurity **75%**

3. Milk Production

- a. Milking equipment **75%**
- b. Cooling and raw milk storage equipment **75%**
- c. Animal waste handling and distribution equipment (*excluding motorized vehicles*) or custom services **50%**

4. Cost of participation in an advanced agricultural education program (e.g. Small Ruminant Profit School, etc.) **75%**

B. Swine Production

Prerequisites:

- **All Swine applicants** must become Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA) certified before funding is received.

Limits:

- **Boar Purchases** – limit of two (2) boars per program year
- **Gilt Purchases** – limit of ten (10) gilts per program year

Eligible Cost-share Items:

1. Genetics

- a. Purchase of up to 10 high quality replacement gilts to improve the genetic base of herd **50%**
- b. Purchase of up to 2 boars to improve the genetic base of the swine herd **50%**
- c. Purchase of boar semen to improve the genetic base of the swine herd and/or equipment needed for on-farm collection, processing, storage, and utilization of semen in an artificial insemination program **75%**
- d. DNA tests **75%**
- e. Whole herd disease diagnostic testing (live animals only) **50%**
- f. Equipment for on-farm pregnancy detection **50%**

2. Handling

- a. Panels, gates, materials for pens and stalls, feeders, chutes – working, sorting, loading, etc. **50%**
- b. Feed ingredient and complete diet sampling analysis **75%**
- c. Forage/TMR mixers, feeding equipment systems (including retrofitted scale kits) **50%**
- d. Animal waste handling and distribution equipment (*excluding motorized vehicles*) or custom services **50%**
- e. Misting/sprinkling system **50%**
- f. Maternity monitoring system (including alerts, camera, and contracted installation services) **50%**
- g. Temporary or permanent shade (*excluding trees*) – material costs necessary for construction of temporary or permanent shade for swine, including shade cloth **50%**
- h. Scales **50%**
- i. Ear tagging and tattoo equipment (*excludes tags*) **50%**

3. Cost of having a Nutrient Management Plan or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan developed **75%**
4. Cost of participation in an advanced agricultural education program **75%**
5. Cleaning and disinfection equipment for biosecurity **75%**

C. Bees

Eligible Cost-share Items:

1. New or used hives, other wooden ware, foundation, specialty supers **50%**
2. New or used extractor, honey processing, bottling and storage equipment **50%**
3. Purchase of bees from an inspected source **50%**
4. Purchase of swarms **50%**
5. Protective suits, veils, gloves, smoker, hive tools **50%**
6. Mite checker equipment **75%**

7. Non-motorized equipment essential for the transportation of beehives **50%**
8. Polination plantings (land should be prepared prior to planting) **50%**
9. Fencing for animal/predator exclusion **50%**
10. Incubator to hatch queen bee eggs **50%**
11. Maternity monitoring system (including alerts, camera, and contracted installation services) **50%**
12. Temporary or permanent shade (*excluding trees*) – material costs necessary for construction of temporary or permanent shade, including shade cloth **50%**
13. Training and equipment for insemination **75%**
14. Cost of participation in an advanced agricultural education program (e.g. Master Beekeeper, etc.) **75%**

D. Rabbits

Eligible Cost-share Items:

1. Commercial bred New Zealand White, Californian, or Angora breeding stock **50%**
2. Cages or wire to make cages. Minimum size allowed 30" X 30" X 18". Wire must be 14-gauge or better. **50%**
3. Feeders, nest boxes **50%**
4. Materials to construct manure handling system **50%**
5. Ventilation equipment such as fans, curtains, heaters, air conditioners **50%**
6. Maternity monitoring system (including alerts, camera, and contracted installation services) **50%**
7. Temporary or permanent shade (*excluding trees*) – material costs necessary for construction of temporary or permanent shade, including shade cloth **50%**
8. Transport cages **50%**
9. Whole herd disease diagnostic testing (live animals only) **50%**
10. 3-point hitch pelletizer for producing feed **50%**
11. Ear tagging and tattoo equipment (*excludes tags*) **50%**
12. Cost of having a Nutrient Management Plan or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan developed **75%**
13. Cleaning and disinfection equipment for biosecurity **75%**

Exceptions/Exclusions:

- Rabbits purchased for show are **not** eligible for cost-share.