

Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant Program?

The program is designed to assist Alberta farmers and ranchers to implement health and safety practices and procedures that align with Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) legislation and make their work sites safe for their workers, their families and themselves.

The program offers financial support to eligible employers (must have waged, non-family workers and a WCB account) for eligible costs to improve health and safety in their operations and help them comply with the changes to the OHS Code that takes effect on December 1, 2018.

Who is eligible to apply for the Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant Program?

Farmers and ranchers with waged, non-family workers and a WCB account may apply.

To be eligible to apply to the program, an applicant must be an individual or a registered entity operating in Alberta responsible for the day-to-day management and work on the farm, including responsibility for input costs for agricultural crops or livestock producing at least \$10,000 worth of farm commodities annually; and have a WCB clearance letter that indicates the applicant is in good standing and which is dated within 90 days of the date stated on the application.

What level of grant funding is available for a prospective applicant?

The program provides grants on a cost-shared basis to cover up to 50 per cent of approved eligible expenses incurred by an applicant up to the following maximums: \$5,000 per applicant in each fiscal year; and \$10,000 per applicant over the program term.

How can I apply for this program?

To be considered for funding under the program in a particular fiscal year, an applicant must submit the following:

- a completed program application form, signed by an authorized representative of the applicant,
- detailed invoices/receipts for all eligible expenses claimed, and which itemize expenses and quantities purchased, and
- a WCB clearance letter verifying the applicant's WCB number and that the applicant is in good standing.

Does it cost money to apply for this program?

No there is no cost to apply.

What are eligible expenses?

Refer to the funding list for the specific expenses that are eligible for funding under the program and which may be included in an application. You must have purchased the product or service and submit invoices to verify the expense. Expenses incurred on or following January 1, 2018 are eligible.

Can I apply several times for this program?

An applicant may submit a maximum of two applications to the program in each fiscal year. The program will not accept an application for which the total grant request is less than \$500.

If I apply am I guaranteed to receive a grant?

There is limited funding available under the program. Applications will be considered for approval on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to program eligibility criteria and funding constraints. Submission of a completed application does not guarantee that an applicant will receive funding under the program.

How long do I need keep the equipment after its purchase?

Generally speaking, three years. Applicants may not sell or trade any items for which the applicant has received a payment under the program for at least three years after the date their application is submitted.

Exceptions include items that are permanently affixed to the applicant's land when the applicant sells their land and equipment with new or retrofitted guarding attached that is sold.

I hired a consultant, and they suggested some examples that are not covered on your funding list. I feel that it would help safety on my farm, what do I do?

Only items on the funding list are eligible under this program. You are welcome to submit your suggestions to FarmSafetyProducerGrant@gov.ab.ca for future consideration.

Does the program cover installation costs?

No, installation costs are not eligible. Exceptions include installation costs for guarding for existing equipment or for seatbelts as identified in the funding list.

My friend has some safety gear they want to sell, will this be covered?

As long as the item(s) are on the funding list, has not been modified from its initial purpose, is in proper working order/condition, and proof payment can be provided they may be eligible for the program. Expenses incurred in transactions between individuals who are related to each other by blood, marriage, adoption, common-law relationships, or close business ties are ineligible.

How will I know if I will receive a payment?

If your application is successful, you will receive a cheque in the mail at the address you provide in your application. You will also be notified by letter if your application has NOT been accepted and given the reason why.

How do I know if I am in compliance with the OHS Code?

For more information on OHS Code requirements for farms and ranches, visit the [occupational health and safety: farm and ranch webpage](#), or contact the OHS contact centre:

Toll-free: [1-877-427-3731](tel:1-877-427-3731)

Edmonton area: [780-427-3731](tel:780-427-3731)

Email: farmandranch@gov.ab.ca

For assistance with farm safety planning, resources and templates contact AgSafe Alberta: www.agsafeab.ca.