
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1520 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY SNYDER, CAUSER, PASHINSKI, BERNSTINE, A. DAVIS,
T. DAVIS, DeLISSIO, FEE, FREEMAN, GREINER, HANBIDGE, HERSHEY,
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MILLARD, OWLETT, RYAN, SAPPEY, SAYLOR, STRUZZI, WEBSTER,
ZIMMERMAN AND IRVIN, MAY 29, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
MAY 29, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, providing for grant programs.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Title 3 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes
6 is amended by adding a part to read:

7 PART IX

8 GRANT PROGRAMS

9 Chapter

10 101. Very Small Meat Processor Federal Inspection

11 Reimbursement Grant Program

12 103. (Reserved)

13 CHAPTER 101

14 VERY SMALL MEAT PROCESSOR FEDERAL INSPECTION

15 REIMBURSEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

16 Sec.

1 10101. Short title of chapter.

2 10102. Legislative intent.

3 10103. Definitions.

4 10104. Grant program.

5 10105. Eligible costs.

6 10106. Final reimbursement.

7 § 10101. Short title of chapter.

8 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Very
9 Small Meat Processor Federal Inspection Reimbursement Grant
10 Program.

11 § 10102. Legislative intent.

12 It is the intent of the General Assembly that very small meat
13 processors be offered reimbursement grants to cover the costs
14 associated with meeting Federal inspection and certification
15 guidelines during the planning and start-up periods for these
16 operations.

17 § 10103. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
19 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
20 context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 "Person." An individual, partnership, association, firm,
22 corporation or any other legal entity.

23 "Very small meat processor." A person subject to Federal
24 meat inspection that meets the United States Department of
25 Agriculture's definition of a "very small processor," having
26 fewer than 10 employees or annual sales of less than \$2,500,000.

27 § 10104. Grant program.

28 (a) Availability.--Grants under this chapter shall only be
29 offered in a fiscal year in which and to the extent that funding
30 is made available to the department. The following shall apply:

1 (1) In the event funding is exhausted or otherwise
2 unavailable, the department shall be under no obligation to
3 provide grants under this chapter.

4 (2) Grant money may be prorated or offered as a
5 percentage of actual costs, as determined by the department
6 and set forth in an order by the secretary, to spread
7 available money to a larger number of eligible applicants.
8 The secretary shall transmit notice of an order issued under
9 this chapter to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
10 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

11 (b) Reimbursement grants.--A grant under this chapter shall
12 be a reimbursement grant. The following shall apply:

13 (1) The amount of reimbursement shall be based on actual
14 eligible costs submitted by an approved applicant during a
15 fiscal year in which grants are offered.

16 (2) Grant reimbursement money shall only be available
17 for the eligible costs of obtaining a Federal certification
18 to allow the sale of meat by a very small meat processor.

19 (c) Eligibility.--A very small meat processor may apply to
20 receive reimbursement for the cost of meeting Federal inspection
21 guidelines during the planning and start-up periods for the
22 operations. The applicant must be in compliance with all
23 applicable Federal licensure, recordkeeping and slaughter
24 requirements.

25 (d) Application procedure.--An applicant who desires to
26 receive a very small meat processor Federal inspection
27 reimbursement grant shall submit a grant application on a form
28 provided by the department. The application shall contain the
29 following information demonstrating and attesting to:

30 (1) The applicant's name, the organization name, a

1 business address and a telephone number.

2 (2) A list of corporate officers.

3 (3) The applicant's eligibility, setting forth
4 information evidencing and attesting that the applicant meets
5 the definition of a "very small meat processor."

6 (4) A plan outlining the process being undertaken to
7 apply for and obtain Federal certification as a meat
8 processor.

9 (5) The estimated costs for which reimbursement is
10 sought.

11 (6) An attestation signed by the applicant stating the
12 applicant is in good standing with all Federal licensure,
13 recordkeeping and slaughter requirements, including the
14 Federal Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
15 standards.

16 § 10105. Eligible costs.

17 The following costs shall be eligible for reimbursement:

18 (1) Invoiced costs directly incurred for the initial
19 compliance inspection.

20 (2) A one-time reimbursement for the cost, not including
21 man hours, directly incurred in producing the required
22 Federal Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan. If
23 a professional consultant is utilized to develop the Federal
24 Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan, reasonable
25 costs may be reimbursed, as determined by the department.

26 (3) Up to 50% of the actual costs of a first-time
27 purchase of equipment necessary for compliance with the
28 Federal Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan.

29 § 10106. Final reimbursement.

30 (a) Required submission.--Reimbursement shall be based on

1 the approved applicant's submission of the final costs of
2 obtaining the required Federal certification for which grant
3 money was sought. The submission shall include:

4 (1) The date of the inspection.

5 (2) The name of the Federal inspector or veterinarian in
6 charge of the inspection.

7 (3) A document signed by the Federal inspector or
8 veterinarian in charge evidencing that the approved
9 applicant's establishment passed the inspection.

10 (4) Documentation of actual costs for which
11 reimbursement is sought and payment of the costs.

12 (b) Distribution of final reimbursement.--Distribution of
13 grant money to the approved applicant will occur upon the
14 following:

15 (1) Submission and receipt of the information required
16 under subsection (a).

17 (2) Final review and approval for completeness of the
18 required submission and the eligible costs.

19 (3) A completed grant agreement between the department
20 and an approved applicant.

21 (c) Assignment of grant money.--Grant money may only be
22 distributed to the owner of the eligible establishment. The
23 department may not assign grant money to a lessee, operator or
24 person other than the owner of the eligible very small meat
25 processing establishment.

26 CHAPTER 103

27 (Reserved)

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.