

2023 Guidelines: YOUTH AGRICULTURAL INCENTIVES PROGRAM



The following guidelines are for the implementation of the **Youth Agricultural Incentives Program** to encourage youth to engage in and explore agricultural opportunities.

Direct questions concerning these guidelines to the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 573-0282 or KOAP@ky.gov. Applications to administer this program must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council.

STANDARD GUIDELINES

A. Funding & Limitations

1. Eligible up to \$1,500 maximum per program year on a pro-rated basis
2. Eligible cost-share is on a 50/50 basis
3. Cost-share funds must be paid to the applicant
4. Projects as part of a larger school project or organization are not eligible; all investments are for individual youth.
5. Proof of payment is required for all reimbursements and shall include the following:
 - a. Itemized invoice with buyer and seller detail
 - b. Cancelled check or credit card statement
6. NO CASH PURCHASES are eligible for reimbursement
7. Applicants are limited to participation in one of the following programs in a program year: County Agricultural Investment Program (CAIP), Next Generation Beginning Farmer Program (NextGen), Youth Agricultural Incentives Program.

B. Student Eligibility

1. Applicant shall be enrolled in elementary, middle or high school; this includes home schooled students.
2. Applicant shall be **at least 9 years at the time of application.**
 - Age is based on 4-H program entry age
 - Program is not available for the Clover Bud age group of 4-8 years
 - County resident; or a non-resident actively participating in at least one of the county's youth programs
3. Applicant shall provide their individual Social Security Number (SSN).
4. Applicant shall have parental consent if under the age of 18
See Parental Consent Section of Youth Application
5. Mentorship is required from one of the following types of organizations
 - a. 4-H Leader or Extension Agent
 - b. FFA Leader or School Ag Teacher
 - c. Other Agricultural Organization

Mentors shall be willing to provide consultation or assistance for the length of the program and shall not be from the applicant's immediate family. See *Mentor Section of Youth Application*

6. Applicant shall complete one of the following:
 - a. Make a presentation to mentor and peers related to the approved project

- b. Organize one (1) event in partnership with 4-H, FFA or other agricultural organization relative to the following:
 - i. Community service event
 - ii. Workshop or field day
7. Applicant shall complete at least one educational component – minimum of two (2) hours total - from one of the following:
- a. 4-H club education – *specific to investment area*
 - b. FFA program education – *specific to investment area*
 - c. Leadership or Community Service
 - d. Marketing or Promotion

Education must be approved by the applicant's designated mentor.

C. Eligible Investments

See pages 3 & 4 of this document for eligible cost-share items through this program.

D. Administrating Entity Responsibilities

- 1. The program administrator shall ensure that commingling of KADF funds with other funds does not occur. The KADF program funds shall reside in a unique and separate bank account from any other funds.
- 2. Promotion/advertising for the program is a minimum of three weeks from the execution date of the Legal Agreement.
- 3. The minimum application period for the program is 15 business days.
- 4. The County Agricultural Development Council may choose to approve eligible cost-share expenses for reimbursement on a retroactive basis. However, this retroactive date shall not exceed six (6) months prior to the execution of the Legal Agreement for this program.

INVESTMENT AREAS

EXCLUSIONS

- Consumables are not eligible - (i.e. feed, hay, medicine, etc.)
- Trailers, wagons and carts are not eligible
- Reimbursement for purchases, including labor, from the student's immediate family (e.g. father/mother, brother/sister, grandparents, aunt/uncle, including step family) are not eligible.

A. Agricultural Diversification

- 1. Greenhouse
 - Building components to construct or renovate an existing structure
 - Contracted site preparation/Labor
- 2. Horticulture
 - Seedlings
 - Media for plant production
 - Containers for starting or growing plants
 - Other materials and supplies for plant production
- 3. Hydroponics & Aquaponics
 - Materials and supplies
- 4. Technology - Computer Software
 - QuickBooks or other accounting software
 - Farm or livestock management software
- 5. Value-added & Marketing – Only items that add value on the farm to food and fiber
 - Marketing, packaging and processing supplies
- 6. Wildlife management
 - Materials necessary to establish native grasses, feed plots, etc.

B. Animal Production*

1. Beef, dairy
 - Purchase of breeding stock and/or market animals – no bull purchases
 - Semen for A.I.
 - Handling supplies & equipment
2. Goat, equine, sheep, rabbit, swine, poultry
 - Purchase of breeding stock and/or market animals
 - Semen for A.I.
 - Handling supplies & equipment
3. Bees
 - Purchase of bees from an inspected source
 - Handling supplies & equipment
4. Livestock Barns
 - Building components to construct or renovate an existing structure into appropriate facilities for either livestock, poultry or equine
 - Contracted site preparation/labor

** Participants purchasing any type of livestock must provide a copy of health papers when requesting reimbursement.*

C. Forage & Grain Improvement

- Seeding based on 2023 CAIP Approved Seed List
soil test required within the last 12 months

D. Showmanship (Beef, dairy, equine, goat, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbit)

1. Showmanship equipment & supplies, including a generator
2. Handling supplies & equipment
3. Tack, show attire

E. Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE)

- Materials necessary for a SAE school project
- Materials necessary for environmental project

F. Country Ham Projects

- Ham purchase
- Project supplies
- Cost of participation in a 4-H Country Ham Project