



 **CANADIAN  
AGRICULTURAL  
PARTNERSHIP**  
Innovate. Grow. Prosper.

# FUTURE FARMER PROGRAM

PROGRAM GUIDELINES



Agriculture  
and Land



# FUTURE FARMER PROGRAM

*Program Policy: Supporting the development of the agriculture sector's human capital in order to expand domestic and international markets.*

**CAP Outcome:** Expand domestic and international markets.

**CAP Priority Area:** Markets and Trade.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Future Farmer Program will support the expansion of domestic and international competitiveness by supporting new farmers to improve the probability that they establish or continue profitable and sustainable commercial farm businesses. The program will help new entrants through three streams of entry, identify and prioritize their business goals and will help them identify planning, management and technical skills that are needed to reach their goals.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous Organizations who are new agricultural producers with a business or succession plan; and
- New agricultural producers with a business or succession plan.

Eligible Applicants must:

- Provide a business or succession plan at the time of application with a letter of intent from the client's bank and/or lending institution;
- Indicate in their business or succession plan a projection of at least \$20,000 in annual gross farm sales;
- Indicate in their succession plan that the applicant owns at least 15% of the common voting shares or must be the beneficial owner of a 15% interest in the partnership (for farms with gross sales of \$1M or less) or owns at least 10% of the common voting shares or must be the beneficial owner of a 10% interest in the partnership (for farms with gross sales of more than \$1M);
- Be a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident;
- Be a resident of Prince Edward Island who is therefore eligible to own land in the province; and
- Not have reported farming income on an income tax return with more than \$40,000 (cumulative) in the fifth and previous years to the applicant's acceptance into the Program (i.e., applicants entering the Program in 2018 must not have more than a total of \$40,000 (cumulative) in gross farm income on their 2013 and earlier income tax forms)<sup>1</sup>.

Note<sup>1</sup>: In the case of corporations or partnerships, the farm's gross sales will be attributed to the applicant based on the per cent of common shares or partnership interest owned by the applicant. Therefore, the level of ownership will be used to determine that there was not more than a total of \$40,000 (cumulative) in the fifth and prior years to the applicant's acceptance to the program.

Note: Applicants who do not have a business or succession plan may be eligible for coaching and training support through the Future Farmer Program.

## PROGRAM ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Facilitation and coaching assistance by a program advisor;

- Development and implementation of continuous improvement on-farm projects<sup>1</sup>;
- Skills development and training assistance by a third-party<sup>2</sup>;
- Analytical laboratory testing<sup>3</sup>; and
- Participation in the following Business Risk Management (BRM) Programs: AgriStability and AgriInsurance<sup>3</sup>.

Note<sup>1</sup>: Future Farmer Program Participants must demonstrate clear linkages to one of the four CAP Framework outcomes for all on-farm projects pursued under this eligible activity.

Note<sup>2</sup>: Skill development and training applications must be pre-approved by the Program Manager.

Note<sup>3</sup>: Analytical laboratory testing and participation in AgriStability and AgriInsurance are funded provincially through the Future Farmer Program.

## CAP INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Business Risk Management-type activities (e.g. activities which are covered by AgriStability, AgriInvest, AgriInsurance, AgriRecovery and AgriRisk);
- Normal and on-going operating and maintenance costs incurred by recipients, except as otherwise specified;
- Purchase of common items that can be used for multiple purposes (e.g. digital cameras, GPS, smartphones, etc.), except as otherwise specified;
- Activities which do not provide a direct benefit to the Sector (e.g. costs associated with freight);
- Activities related to aquaponics food production, and to aquaculture, seaweed, fish and seafood production and processing (exception: international marketing and traceability activities for fish and seafood);
- Tax credits or rebates; and
- Development and/or enforcement of regulations.

## PROGRAM INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Purchase of land and/or buildings;
- Certificate-based training (except short certificates, i.e., conflict resolution); and
- Business or succession planning assistance.

## FUNDING

- 50% of assistance up to \$5,000 per farm operation is available for eligible continuous improvement on-farm projects expenses per fiscal year over the life of the CAP Framework Agreement (2018-2023)<sup>1</sup>;
- 75% of assistance up to \$4,000 per farm operation is available for eligible skill development and training expenses over the life of the CAP Framework Agreement (2018-2023)<sup>2</sup>;
- 50% of assistance up to \$1,000 per farm operation is available for eligible analytical laboratory testing expenses; and
- 50% of assistance up to \$2,000 per farm operation is available for eligible Business Risk Management<sup>3</sup> expenses over the life of the CAP Framework Agreement (2018-2023).

Note<sup>1</sup>: Continuous improvement on-farm projects must be pre-approved by a Future Farmer Program Officer and must demonstrably work toward one of the four CAP outcomes (Increase competitiveness, productivity and profitability; Increase environmental sustainability; Expand domestic and international markets; and/or Improve the anticipation, mitigation and response to risks). Final funding per cent and annual amount will be determined by the program's adjudication committee.

Note<sup>2</sup>: Skill development and training expenses will be funded to a maximum of \$2,000 per training event.

Note<sup>3</sup>: Eligible recipients must meet Business Risk Management Program entrance requirements to qualify for this funding.

## **PUBLIC TRUST**

Projects approved for funding under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership which have demonstrable links to increasing public trust may be eligible for additional project funding.

## **EVALUATION AND CONTROL**

A complete evaluation of this program is planned to ensure that the objectives and results are achieved and to assess the relevance of its renewal. Program metrics are collected and reported on an on-going basis.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLE**

CAP programs are available to all Canadians who are eligible to participate in those programs. Wherever possible, the needs of under-represented groups, including Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and persons with disabilities, were considered during program development.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Completed applications may be submitted to the attention of the Agriculture Program Information Officer via regular mail or email.

### **E-Mail Applications:**

Applications may be submitted via email at [futurefarmer@gov.pe.ca](mailto:futurefarmer@gov.pe.ca)  
Please include the program name in the subject line.

### **Regular Mail Applications:**

Applications may be submitted via regular mail at:  
PEI Department of Agriculture and Fisheries  
11 Kent Street  
PO Box 2000  
Charlottetown, PE  
C1A 7N8  
(902) 368-4880 (telephone)  
(902) 368-4857 (facsimile)

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Priority Areas**

The six broad agriculture and agri-food priority areas set out in the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Multilateral Framework Agreement.