

Food Safety Program, for Farms

Benefits for Grain, Pulse and Special Crops Farmers

The federal, provincial and territorial governments are investing \$1.3 billion over five years into Growing Forward programs, on a cost-share basis. Growing Forward supports a profitable agriculture sector through increased competitiveness, innovation and risk management.

The grain, pulse and special crops industry has developed an On Farm Food Safety program: ExcelGrains, a HACCP-based manual designed for grains, pulses and special crops producers. This program is nationally recognized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and administered and maintained by the Canadian Grains Council.

Grains, pulses and special crops producers can apply for up to \$2,000 to help implement ExcelGrains on their farm, as well as offset the first audit cost and any equipment that supports ExcelGrains. This funding is provided by the Growing Forward, **Food Safety Program, for Farms**.

Applicants to the Food Safety Program, for Farms are eligible for up to 90 per cent of the total cost accrued. (retroactive costs and capital expenses are not covered).

For example:

- Up to \$2,000 is available to implement the ExcelGrains program, including first audit costs and/or to buy new equipment that supports their program (on a 90:10 cost-share basis, with the producer paying 10 per cent). See the Approved Food Safety Equipment List on manitoba.ca/agriculture/growingforward
- under the Food Safety Program, for Farms link. Currently, the program is available for such equipment as rodent control devices, pressure washers and calibration equipment for sprayers.

Food Safety Program, for Farms

How to apply for Food Safety Program, for Farms

1. Complete an application. Application forms for this program are available at your local Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) Growing Opportunities (GO) Office or online at manitoba.ca/agriculture/growingforward.
2. Submit your application to your local GO Office or mail it to the address on the back of the application form. A Food Safety Program, for Farms approval package, will be sent to you. It includes a checklist of tasks that must be completed before you can make a claim for funds.
4. Purchase the items you need or have the work performed on your farm.
5. Once you have the receipts, you can submit them for payment at your local GO Office, or send them to:

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
CVO/Food Safety Knowledge Centre
Food Safety Program, for Farms
545 University Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6

Program Timing

Grain, pulse and special crops farmers' interest/use of the current program will determine the length of time it is available (up to 2013). From the time the producer receives his approval letter, the producer will have **15 months** to complete their project. The Food Safety Program, for Farms' goal is for all Manitoba farmers and producers to have approved, up-to-date food safety systems.

For more information, see the application form which has the terms and conditions for the program.

For more information about:

- program eligibility or how to apply, contact your local Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives GO Office
- the location of your nearest GO Office, call Manitoba Government Inquiry, toll free, at 1-866-626-4862
- program details, go to manitoba.ca/agriculture/growingforward