

Agricultural Climate Solutions Program

On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF)

FAQ

Subject to change

Last updated March 23, 2022

YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. WE HAVE ANSWERS.

RDAR and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) are currently developing the details of this program. Although we can't commit to timelines until we have more information from AAFC, we'd like to answer some of the most common questions we've received so far. Be sure to [subscribe to our OFCAF newsletter](#) to receive program updates.

We've categorized the questions into a few categories:

- [Eligibility](#)
- [Applying for funding](#)
- [Receiving funding](#)
- [General program information](#)

ELIGIBILITY

I ALREADY DO SOME BMP/ROTATIONAL GRAZING ACTIVITIES. HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF I AM ELIGIBLE FOR OFCAF FUNDING?

If you are an active producer, who generates a minimum of \$25,000 in gross farm income you are eligible to apply for the OFCAF program. Specifically, if you are a producer that is submitting under the Rotational Grazing stream, your application to OFCAF must include the following:

- A rotational grazing plan
- Photos of your site before any Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) installation activities take place (e.g., before the rotational grazing paddocks are fenced off).
- Pre-site inspections may be required by a certified crop advisor (CCA) or professional agrologist.

WHERE CAN I FIND A LIST OF THE OFCAF PROGRAM'S ELIGIBLE EXPENSES AND NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENSES?

As RDAR works with Agriculture and Agri-Food to finalize OFCAF program details, producers can expect to receive funding for nitrogen management improvements such as agronomic services to develop farm-specific nutrient

management plans, equipment modifications for fertilizer application in fields, and soil sampling and analysis.

Producers can expect to receive funding for activities that increase the adoption of cover cropping such as payment-per-acre to cover adoption or related costs such as seeds and equipment. Eligible cover crop plants like clover and alfalfa can be planted to cover the soil rather than for the purpose of being harvested.

Producers can expect OFCAF funding to cover eligible activities that expand the adoption of rotational grazing such as: agronomic services to develop grazing management plans, interior cross fencing, water system infrastructure, legume and forage seeds.

Producers are encouraged to [subscribe to the OFCAF newsletter](#) to receive a detailed list of eligible expenses once available.

APPLYING FOR FUNDING

DO I NEED TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO APPLY FOR THE OFCAF PROGRAM? IS A TEMPLATE AVAILABLE?

Yes. Only approved projects will be eligible for funding. Before starting your application, be sure to confirm your eligibility. The Application Form will be available in Spring 2022. If you've [subscribed to receive OFCAF updates](#), you will be notified when you may start applying.

WHERE CAN I FIND AN OFCAF APPLICATION FORM?

The OFCAF Application Form will be available in Spring 2022. If you've [subscribed to receive OFCAF updates](#), you will be notified of the date you can start your application and be provided details on how to complete your application.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY APPLICATION TO OFCAF HAS BEEN REVIEWED/APPROVED?

RDAR is committed to transparency in our process. Once the application process is open, you will receive notifications as your application moves through our review and approval stages.

WHAT STEPS DO I NEED TO FOLLOW TO APPLY FOR EACH OF THE BMP STREAMS OF THE OFCAF PROGRAM?

1. Review eligibility criteria.
2. Evaluate your farms' opportunity and readiness to adopt one or more of the Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs). A requirement of the program will be that a Professional Agrologist or a Certified Crop Advisor will have to sign off on your plan. If you are looking for more information on the BMPs, think about reaching out to your regional applied research and forage association. RDAR will be providing links to further information soon.
3. Obtain quotes for the key expense items as these will be required to submit as requested eligible expenses.
4. Take pictures of any land location where you may be implementing rotational grazing to demonstrate that it did not exist before applying to the program.
5. Once the application process is open, submit an application for the BMP stream that's right for you.

RECEIVING FUNDING

WILL THIS FUNDING BE AVAILABLE TO FARMERS FOR EQUIPMENT CHANGES OR FOR NITROGEN MANAGEMENT PLANS, ETC.?

Yes. Nitrogen Management is one of the Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) streams being funded under OFCAF. While specifics are still being finalized, producers can expect to receive funding for nitrogen management improvements such as equipment modifications for fertilizer application or soil sampling and analysis. [Subscribe to the OFCAF newsletter](#) to receive a detailed list of eligible expenses once available.

IS THERE A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FUNDING THAT IS AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT BMPS ON MY FARM?

Yes. Applicants are eligible for multiple projects to a maximum grant payment of \$75,000 over OFCAF's duration through March 2024. This maximum includes cumulative activity across all BMP streams and activities.

WHAT IS THE COST-SHARE RATIO FOR THE FUNDING FOR THE OFCAF PROGRAM?

Applicants are eligible for a maximum 85% reimbursement of eligible expenditures. This means your outlay is 15% of the cost of adopting a BMP.

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THE TIMEFRAMES AROUND ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROGRAMS AND AVAILABILITY.

RDAR will start accepting applications for the OFCAF program in Spring 2022. If you're eligible to participate, you may apply for the program. OFCAF will operate until March 31, 2024.

WHERE CAN I GO TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE OFCAF PROGRAM?

We have a space dedicated to [information about OFCAF](#) on the RDAR website. Be sure to [subscribe to receive program updates](#).

ARE THERE ANY AGRICULTURE EXPERTS AVAILABLE WHO CAN TELL ME WHAT BMPS COULD BE APPLICABLE FOR MY FARM OPERATION?

Yes. RDAR can connect you to an expert in your region, as we're working with multiple delivery partners. Please email OFCAF.BMP@rdar.ca to discuss further.