



*“Promoting Sustainability, Profitability and Innovation in  
Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Business”*

**Application for the Maryland Producer Cold Storage Grant Program**

**Program Description**

The Maryland Producer Cold Storage Grant Program will help farmers and watermen purchase necessary cold storage equipment for their operations. MARBITCO will match up to 50% of the cost of the project purchase, with a maximum grant award amount of \$2,000.

**Eligible Applicants\***: include farmers and watermen with at least \$1,000 in agricultural or seafood product sales in calendar years 2022 or 2023. The eligible applicants can include sole proprietorships, partnerships, cooperatives, and LLCs. Agricultural products include produce, livestock, shellfish, or horticultural products that are grown on the applicant’s farm. Seafood products include finfish and shellfish products that are harvested in Maryland.

**Grant funds and matching funds must be used to purchase and install cold storage equipment, including:**

- Large coolers
- Ice machines
- On-boat or On-dock cold storage
- Reach-in refrigerator/freezer
- Walk-in refrigerator/freezer
- On-truck cold storage (does not include costs related to purchase a truck)
- Third-party costs related to installation of cold storage unit or construction of cold storage facility

**Ineligible Costs Include:**

- Purchases made prior to August 1, 2023.

**Application Requirements:**

- Submit a completed and signed application form and all required attachments.
- Applicants who are Shellfish Aquaculture farmers must be an active leaseholder with the Department of Natural Resources and provide the lease number on the application form.
- Applicants who are Commercial Watermen must have an active Unlimited Tidal Fish License (TFL) or appropriate commercial harvesting license with the Department of Natural Resources and provide the license number on the application form.
- Business operation income tax return for 2022 for corporations and LLCs, personal tax return for 2022 for sole proprietors and partnerships, OR third-party provided evidence of at least \$1,000 of sales of products for businesses started in 2023. Third-party provided evidence must clearly show sales made by the applicant.
- Businesses must be in good standing with [Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation](#).
- Project budget – provide an itemized list of equipment to be acquired with cost estimates.

**Maryland Cold Storage Grant Program Terms and Conditions**

Amount of Grant:	Minimum Grant- \$500; Maximum Grant- \$2,000
Match Required:	Applicants are required to pay for at least 50% of the eligible project cost. (The minimum overall project size is \$1,000.)
Application Deadline:	Application will be accepted on a rolling basis, and the <b><u>deadline is November 17, 2023</u></b> (electronic submissions are encouraged).

Disbursement of Funds:

Applications will be processed as they are received. All applicants should expect to purchase or order equipment by December 15, 2023. Funds will be disbursed as a reimbursement based on proof of payment or directly to vendors based on submitted invoices.

Send Complete Applications to:

Electronically to [brawlings@marbidco.org](mailto:brawlings@marbidco.org) or mail to:  
MARBIDCO  
Cold Storage Grant Program  
c/o Brittany Rawlings  
1410 Forest Drive, Suite 21  
Annapolis, MD 21403

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**1) Legal Name of Entity Applying for Grant (Grantee):** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**2) Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Additional Industry Information (for DNR-issued licenses or permits)**

Shellfish Aquaculture LEASE NUMBER(S): \_\_\_\_\_ Lease Acreage: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Unlimited Tidal Fish License (TFL) or Commercial Harvesting License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Species of fish harvested: \_\_\_\_\_

**4) Business Structure:**

Year Business Established/Incorporated: \_\_\_\_\_ State in which incorporated: \_\_\_\_\_

Sole Proprietorship  Partnership  Agricultural Cooperative  LLC  Corporation

**5) Management/Ownership**

a) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ % Ownership: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4-digit SSN#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

b) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ % Ownership: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4-digit SSN#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

c) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ % Ownership: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4-digit SSN#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**6) Employment Data**

# of Current Full-time Jobs: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Current Part-time Jobs: \_\_\_\_\_

# of New Full-time jobs projected within 36 months: \_\_\_\_\_

# of New Part-time jobs projected within 36 months: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**7) Project Type (Please check primary enterprise)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries/Watermen	<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Processing	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep/Goats
<input type="checkbox"/> Brewing/Hops/Barley	<input type="checkbox"/> Fruit/Orchard	<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry-Free Range	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables/Table Crops
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle/Beef	<input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse/Nursery	<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry-Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Vineyard & Wineries
<input type="checkbox"/> Dairy/Creamery	<input type="checkbox"/> Herbs/Flowers/Apiary	<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry-Turkeys	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Distilling/Farm-Related	<input type="checkbox"/> Hogs/Pigs	<input type="checkbox"/> Seafood Processing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**8) Requested Grant Funds: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**9) Matching Funds (at least 50% match is required): \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**10) List of Equipment to Be Purchased (no more than 2 items, plus installation if needed - please include cost estimates)**

Equipment	Amount

**11) Brief Description of Project, including a description of applicant's need for cold storage equipment and how this equipment will serve to increase the operational success of the business.**

**12) Physical Facilities:**

**If Owned:**

Size(acres) \_\_\_\_\_ Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Type/# of Buildings/structures: \_\_\_\_\_

**If Leased:**

Size(acres) \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Type and # of buildings/structures: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER (PERTAINING TO COMMERCIAL WORKBOATS)**

Description of Boat: \_\_\_\_\_ How Powered: \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Gear Types: \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARATIONS**

If answering "yes" to any of these questions, please provide an explanation on a separate sheet and attach.

Is the business currently involved in bankruptcy?	Yes _____	No _____
Does the business or any of the management personnel owe any taxes for prior years?	Yes _____	No _____
Have any managers or owners received a felony conviction for financial fraud crimes?	Yes _____	No _____

Certain personal information requested by MARBIDCO is necessary in determining your eligibility. Failure to disclose this information may result in the denial of these benefits or services. Availability of this information for public inspection is governed by the Maryland Public Information Act, General Provisions Article, Sections 4-101 et seq. of the Annotated Code of Maryland (“PIA”)<sup>1</sup>. This information will be disclosed to appropriate MARBIDCO staff and committees, public officials, and MARBIDCO’s auditors for purposes directly connected with approval of the proposed financing and administration of the program for which its use is intended. Such information can also be shared with State, federal, or local government agencies, and any financial assistance that you receive from MARBIDCO is subject to public disclosure. Proprietary business information is generally not disclosable to the General Public under the Maryland Public Information Act\*.

You authorize MARBIDCO to obtain any additional information, including financial information, concerning the applicant from any source which MARBIDCO reasonably requires in order to determine whether to make the requested grant, including credit histories, credit reports, and credit scores.

**Certifications:**

1. I/we have the right to submit this application.

2. All information in this application and any attachments and addendums is true and complete to the best of my/our knowledge, information, and belief and is submitted so that MARBIDCO and its committee can decide whether to offer financial assistance.

3. I/we agree not to engage in employment practices which deny equal employment rights to persons by reason of (i) political or religious opinion or affiliation, marital status, race, color, creed or national origin; (ii) sex or age, except when sex or age constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification; or (iii) physical or mental disability of a qualified individual with a disability. I/we also agree to comply with the State’s policy on maintaining a drug and alcohol-free workplace.

4. I/we hereby authorize all involved in the financing of this project to exchange freely without further authorization and consent, any and all information, including financial information, and reports provided in connection with this application.

Signatures provided by facsimile or other electronic means, for example, and not by way of limitation, in Adobe .PDF sent by electronic mail, shall be deemed to be original signatures.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> The PIA protects certain confidential information from disclosure. Please note that information is not confidential if the information (1) was already known to MARBIDCO, (2) is or later comes into the public domain through no fault of MARBIDCO, (3) is independently developed by MARBIDCO, or (4) comes to MARBIDCO from a third-party which is not in violation of any obligation of confidentiality to Applicant or MARBIDCO.