



*“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 during the fall of 2022. MARBIDCO will match up to 50% of the cost of the project purchase, with a maximum grant award amount of \$1,000. The total program budget in FY 2023 is \$115,000.

Eligible Applicants*: include farmers and watermen with at least \$1,000 in agricultural or seafood product sales in calendar years 2021 or 2022. 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 September 10, 2022.

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 Tidal Fisheries License (TFL) with the Department of Natural Resources and provide the TFL number on the application form.
- Business operation income tax return for 2021 for corporations and LLC’s, personal tax return for 2021 for sole proprietors and partnerships, OR third-party provided evidence of at least \$1,000 of sales of products in 2022.
- 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- \$200; Maximum Grant- \$1,000
Match Required:	Applicants are required to pay for at least 50% of the eligible project cost.
Application Deadline:	Application will be accepted on a rolling basis, and the <u>deadline is October 31, 2022</u> (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 no later than November 15, 2022. 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 scriste@marbidco.org or mail to:
MARBIDCO
Cold Storage Grant Program
c/o Sierra Criste
1410 Forest Drive, Suite 21
Annapolis, MD 21403

* Note: Shellfish aquaculture producers (oyster farmers) who received \$1,000 cold storage grants in the spring/summer of 2022 are ineligible to apply again for this program in the fall of 2022.

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: _____

Tidal Fisheries (TFL) LICENCE NUMBER: _____ Species of fish harvested: _____

4) Business Structure:

Year Business Established/Incorporated: _____ State in which incorporated: _____

Proprietorship Partnership Agricultural Cooperative LLC Corporation

5) Management/Ownership

Name: _____ Title: _____ % Ownership: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Last 4-digit SSN#: _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

Email Address _____

Name: _____ Title: _____ % Ownership: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Last 4-digit SSN#: _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

Email Address _____

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”)¹. 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 _____

¹ 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.

Note: MARBIDCO agrees to hold Recipient's Application and Financial Reports in confidence to the extent reasonably permitted by Title 4 of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Notwithstanding the foregoing, MARBIDCO shall not be obligated to maintain in confidence any information: 1) which was already known to MARBIDCO; or, 2) which is or comes into the public domain through no fault of MARBIDCO; or, 3) which is independently developed by MARBIDCO; or, 4) which comes to MARBIDCO from a third party which is not in violation of any obligation of confidentiality to Applicant or MARBIDCO.