



Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Information on Meat Plant Expansion Resources

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- [USDA Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program \(MPPEP\):](#)
 - The MPPEP provides grants to help eligible processors expand their capacity. Applicants may apply for up to \$25 million in funding or 20% of their project cost, whichever is less
 - On March 25, the USDA announced a 30-day extension for the Phase 1 Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program. [The new deadline is May 11th, 2022.](#)
 - Applicants must have a System for Award Management (SAM) number. Note: This may take 2 to 3 weeks to process. Register at: <https://sam.gov/content/home>; for additional support call 1.800.518.4726 or email support@grants.gov
 - An additional round of funding is expected later this summer.
 - Helpful links:
 - [MPPEP FAQs](#)
 - [MPPEP Application Checklist](#)
 - Program Overview Webinar: [Recording](#); [Slides](#)
 - Application Recruitment Webinar: [Recording](#); [Slides](#)

- [USDA AMS Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grant \(MPIRG\):](#)
 - The MPIRG program assists currently operational meat and poultry slaughter and processing facilities with obtaining a Federal Grant of Inspection under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA), or to operate a State-inspected facility that is compliant with FMIA or PPIA under a respective Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) program.
 - USDA AMS is accepting applications now through May 24, 2022 for the second round of Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grants program funding, totaling \$23.6 million.
 - The MPIRG focuses on:
 - Improving meat and poultry slaughter and processing capacity and efficiency;
 - Developing new and expanding existing markets;
 - Increasing capacity and better meeting consumer and producer demand;
 - Maintaining strong inspection and food safety standards;
 - Obtaining a larger commercial presence; and

- Increasing access to slaughter/processing facilities for smaller farms and ranches, new and beginning farmers and ranchers, socially disadvantaged producers, veteran producers, and/or underserved communities.
 - [USDA AMS Meat and Poultry Processing Capacity - Technical Assistance \(MPPTA\)](#)
 - The MPPTA ensures meat and poultry grant applicants have access to full-range technical assistance to help applicants navigate the application process and to assist grant recipients throughout their project in four key areas:
 - Federal Grant Application Management: Navigating federal grants processes and procedures, from pre-award applications processes through post-award grant management compliance;
 - Business Development and Financial Planning: Business and financial planning resources, market intelligence, and project/concept feasibility analyses;
 - Meat and Poultry Processing Technical and Operation Support: Advice and resources to support the operational needs--including workforce development--of processing plant development and utilization; and
 - Supply Chain Development: Support for the development and maintenance of successful supply chain and marketing relationships—between suppliers, processors, distributors, and customers.
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The following is a list of steps and resource experts for those considering whether or not to apply for a USDA grant and/or business loan.

- Considerations when working with a lender for growth financing:
 - A business plan (including a marketing section)
 - A financial plan
 - A loan guarantee
 - Collateral
 - Federal, state, county, or other grants
 - A demonstration of supply and demand; this could include MOUs or contracts from both suppliers (e.g. ranchers) and purchasers (e.g. existing and potential customers).
- Other resources for business planning:
 - Business/marketing/financial plans:
 - Accounting firms

- Local lending institution
- [Small Business Development Centers \(SBDC\)](#)
 - SBDC services are free & confidential across the state
- [UDAF Meat and Poultry Inspection Program information and requirements](#)
- [Sample meat plant building plans](#)
- Environmental plans to address waste water, etc: engineering firms
- Building permits: county/city Planning & Zoning staff

**Note: This resource list is not comprehensive, but is intended only to be a reference for businesses new to loan and grant processes.*