

## Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP) Funding Opportunity Questions

1. What will reporting requirements related to the grant include?

For 3 years after receiving a grant award, recipients will be required to report on the use of the equipment. This will include providing a map for which fields were managed with the equipment as well as date of use, field location, crop that the equipment was used for, acres applied, and application rate per acre for each use. Annual reports will be due by January 15<sup>th</sup> for three years after the award. For grants where a Manure Record Keeping System [GPS, Display Unit & Flow Meter] was supported with State financial assistance, electronic outputs (e.g. shapefiles) are required for reporting.

2. Should I submit more than one application if I would like to apply for more than one type of equipment?

Each farm operation, organization, or entity is only eligible to submit a single application. Within each category, applicants are allowed to include more than one piece of equipment ONLY if the second piece of equipment is a component of a single discrete system, such as (manure injection toolbar and Flow Meter, GPS system & display).

3. Do FSA Tract and Field numbers need to be included on the maps that are submitted as part of annual reporting?

FSA Tract and Field, TSP numbering conventions, or other field numbers can be used for the annual usage report as long as the maps included indicate which fields the equipment/technology was used on are correlated and consistent between the reporting table and the maps.

4. Can the 10% matching funds required for CEAP be in-kind?

Due to the nature of CEAP, 90% of total eligible costs are available for reimbursement, thus the remaining 10% of the equipment cost must be provided by the applicant to purchase and install equipment or technology, and therefore cannot be an-kind contribution. If awarded, you will have to purchase the equipment and submit documentation for reimbursement, meaning recipients will have to purchase 100% of the equipment, receive up to 90% cost share reimbursement, and pay for 10% or more of the equipment cost. Please note that shipping or freight costs are not eligible costs for cost share reimbursement.

5. Are there any restrictions for matching funds used with a CEAP grant?

The only restriction regarding matching funds is that it must be from a non-State of Vermont funding source.

6. Can CEAP grants provide funding for the purchase of a manure spreader?

CEAP is intended to support the purchase of innovative equipment that will reduce runoff of

agricultural waste to waters of the State. Examples of eligible manure spreading equipment include: manure dragline systems or manure injection toolbars or systems. These pieces of equipment tend to be new, innovative systems which alter the method of application in a way that leads to a significant reduction of runoff to surface water compared to traditional manure application systems.

7. Would pasture irrigation systems be eligible under the Cover Crop and Field Improvement Equipment section. Would this be an eligible piece of equipment?

Yes, irrigation equipment to improve perennial forage would be an eligible equipment type under the Cover Crop and Field Improvement Category to request funds for.

8. Would this grant cover a percentage of the cost of an agricultural drone?

A drone used for precision placement of agricultural nutrients according to a farm's nutrient management plan and based on soil test recommendations would be eligible under the Precision Agricultural Equipment category.

Email [AGR.WaterQuality@Vermont.gov](mailto:AGR.WaterQuality@Vermont.gov) if you have any additional questions.