

Capital Equipment Assistance Program

Financial assistance is available for new or innovative equipment that will aid in the reduction of surface runoff of agricultural wastes to State waters, improve water quality of State waters, reduce odors from manure application, separate phosphorus from manure, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce costs to farmers when they apply manure or implement a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP).

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants include farms, custom applicators, nonprofit organizations, and phosphorus separation equipment providers. Applicants are limited to one application per individual farm operation, organization, or entity.



Eligible equipment types and maximum funding amounts:

Equipment Type	Examples of Eligible Equipment	Funding Rates
Precision Agricultural Equipment	-GPS/Flow Meter -Hydraulic Downforce -Autosteer	90% cost-share up to \$25,000 per applicant
Conservation Tillage Equipment	-No-Till Corn Planter -Ridge-Till	90% cost-share up to \$10,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$20,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment system)
Cover Crop and Field Improvement Equipment	-No-Till Grain Drill -Roller Crimper	90% cost-share up to \$40,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$50,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment system)
Manure and Silage Management Equipment	-Injectors -Irrigation Equipment -Dragline system -Silage Balers/Wrappers	90% cost-share up to \$50,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$60,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment system)
Phosphorus Reduction, Separation, or Treatment Technology	-Dissolved Air Flotation -Centrifuge -Digester Add-ons	90% cost-share up to \$300,000 per applicant

Please note the following information about this grant program:

- Equipment cannot be purchased prior to a fully executed grant agreement.
- Applicants approved for funding must submit detailed annual reports, which must include detailed maps, stating and documenting use of the equipment each year for three (3) years in order to account for the nutrient reductions occurring as a result of state financial assistance for this equipment.
- Acreage figures included on a CEAP application will be performance measures in the grant award if selected for funding. This means you may be required to repay funds if you don't meet the acreage goals you provide in the application. These figures cannot be altered after application submission.
- All applicants awarded a CEAP grant must pay 10% of the total eligible equipment cost, (shipping/freight fees are not eligible for reimbursement cost).
- CEAP is a reimbursement style grant program, which means applicants, once selected for funding, will have to purchase 100% of the equipment and will be reimbursed by the State up to 90% of the actual cost, or up to the corresponding funding cap by category.
- Applicants are limited to one application per individual farm operation, organization, or entity.
- Manure management equipment only eligible for funding if record keeping system included in application, or operational unit exists on farm to be used in conjunction with proposed equipment.
- Disablement of a flow meter, display, modules or GPS technology are grounds for cancellation of a CEAP grant.
- Silage Management Equipment (e.g. Balers/Wrappers) are only eligible as an alternative to leachate management improvement as a least cost alternative, and will require VAAFM Engineer approval to ensure eligibility

Applications can be found online at agriculture.vermont.gov/ceap or by contacting the Water Quality Division at (802) 828-2431.