



BC Climate
Agri-Solutions

Program Guide 2024/25



The BC Climate Agri-Solutions Fund (BCCAF) provides funding to help farmers tackle climate change by adopting beneficial management practices (BMPs) in three specific areas: nitrogen management, cover cropping and rotational grazing.

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Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

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Agroalimentaire Canada

BCCAF is funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Climate Solutions - On-Farm Climate Action Fund.



PROGRAM DETAILS

BCCAF provides cost-shared funding to eligible producers and supports the training of certified crop advisors and agrologists as well as information sharing throughout the agricultural community. The objective of BCCAF is to support farmers in adopting beneficial management practices (BMPs) that store carbon and reduce greenhouse gases, specifically in the areas of nitrogen management, cover cropping, and rotational grazing. These practices also provide other environmental benefits such as improved biodiversity and soil health. Other activities to support the adoption of BMPs, such as outreach, education and training are also supported.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS & ACTIVITIES

Eligible Applicants

All farms in BC that can implement a prescribed BMP and can cover 30% of their project costs are eligible to apply for BCCAF funding.

All applicants must:

- Be appropriately registered, licensed and/ or certified to conduct business in British Columbia
- Have farm status

Maximum Funding Amounts

Eligible farm businesses can apply for maximum cost-shared funding in each category as follows:

Nitrogen Management: \$30,000

Cover Cropping: \$30,000

Rotational Grazing: \$20,000

The **cost-share ratio is 70/30 for all BMP categories**, meaning that 70% of the eligible costs for approved projects can be covered by BCCAF funding, up to the maximum funding amount for that category. The remaining 30% must be provided by the applicant.

The **total program funding maximum is \$75,000**.



Eligible Activities & Expenses

The following project activities and expenses are eligible for their respective BMP category under BCCAF.

Nitrogen Management

- Regular fertilizer and inhibitor price difference
- Plan, assess, and design work, consultancy fees, and other agronomic support/technical training costs.
- Soil testing and soil mapping costs (*to a max of \$25,000*)
- Offsetting the higher cost of synthetic fertilizer substitutes (manure, compost, digestates), where applicable and higher prices of fertilizer in the spring if applicable
- Seed and planting costs to increase legumes in rotation
- Cost of fertilizer application equipment and equipment upgrades to allow for banding, side dressing and injection. If applicable, costs for using equipment and the associated fuel required for the additional fertilizer application
- If transitioning to manure, costs associated with spreading, using hoses or equipment for shallow incorporation (to avoid volatilization)

Cover Cropping

- Costs related to agronomic services
- Seed costs with regionally and commodity-appropriate seed
- Cost of planting

Rotational Grazing

- Costs related to rotational grazing infrastructure (e.g. cross fencing, wildlife-friendly fencing, temporary fencing, and waterers, including remote watering systems when powered by renewable energy)
- Improved pasture composition (seeding costs for alfalfa, sainfoin, etc.)
- Grazing management plans, technical assessments or engineered designs

Each BMP must be reviewed and approved by a Professional Agrologist before application or as part of the project approval process. If you have consulted with a Professional Agrologist on your application before it is submitted, you will be required to indicate that in the application form and provide their name. If you haven't, your application will undergo additional technical review after submission.

IAF has compiled a [list of Agrologists](#) who have indicated they provide consulting services and are registered with the BC Institute of Agrologists. Interested producers should contact Agrologists directly for assistance.

Note: Funding is intended to increase new adoption of BMPs; farmers cannot receive funding for a BMP if it is already in use.





Ineligible Activities & Expenses

The following activities and costs are ineligible under BCCAF.

Nitrogen Management

- Costs related to the management of nutrients other than nitrogen
- In the case of transitioning to better manure management, only activities that improve manure incorporation in the soil are eligible. Injection is preferred; however, if equipment for this is not available, other methods of incorporation as soon as possible after application are also eligible

Cover Cropping

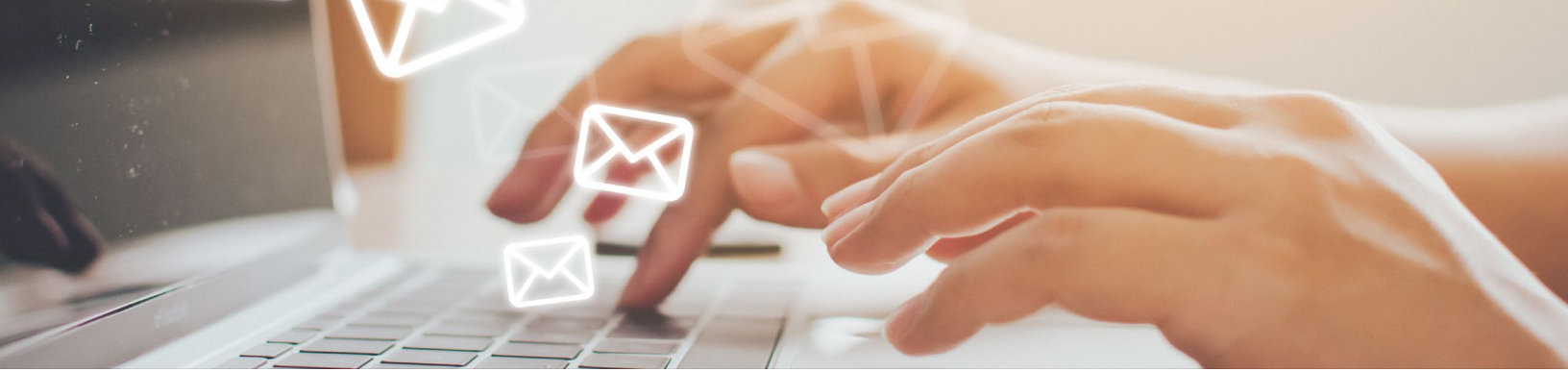
- Costs for cover crops where growing and leaving cover crops undisturbed over-winter is not new and has been a routine practice used by the farmer
- Costs related to mechanical or chemical termination of the cover crop
- Fertilizer and crop protection costs
- Costs related to rejuvenation of existing forages, pastures or hay land
- Full-season cover crops, except cover crops that are under-seeded with the main crop at seeding (i.e. inter-cropping)

Rotational Grazing

- Perimeter fences if construction is not aligned with the grazing plan
- Removing or replacing old or existing fences
- Non-renewable power sources such as generators
- Used fencing materials
- Texas gates
- Portable livestock corral panels
- On-going maintenance

Note: GST is not eligible for reimbursement.





APPLICATIONS

Important Program Dates

Applications will be accepted starting on August 1, 2024, at 9 AM and remain open until funding is fully committed.

All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed and evaluated based on applicant and activity eligibility and feasibility. If an application has not been reviewed by a Professional Agrologist before submission, then the application will undergo an additional technical review. If the funding requested exceeds funding available, applications will be processed in order of receipt. Funding decisions will be communicated as they are made, but no later than one month following the application close date.

- **Applications open:** August 1, 2024, at 9 AM. Applications will remain open until funding is fully committed.
- **Project start date:** Upon approval.
- **Project end date:** No later than January 30, 2025.

IAF will provide notice of application closure via the [BCCAF website](#) and newsletter.

The project may begin upon notification of approval. Applications will be reviewed and processed as they are submitted. You will receive a funding decision within eight weeks of submitting or re-submitting your application. IAF will return incomplete applications to applicants via the IAF Client Portal for resubmission with missing information/clarifications requested.

Successful applicants will have up to **three months** or until January 30, 2025 to complete approved projects.

Application Process

Applications are accepted through the IAF Client Portal. The application process consists of:

Create an Account & Organization Registration

- Visit IAF's Client Portal
- Create a personal profile (name and email)
- Provide your organization's information
- IAF will validate your account, then you will receive an email granting access to the portal.
Please note this can take up to two business days.



Apply for Project Funding

Select the BC Climate Agri-Solutions Fun from Funding Opportunities, and provide:

- Site information (project location, farm status, etc.)
- Selection of activities and project costs per activity
- Copies of relevant documents
- Funding request/ project budget

Applicants will be required to provide supplementary materials (such as quotes) in support of their application. These documents can be uploaded through the IAF Client Portal as attachments to the application.

During the application window, IAF staff are available to answer any questions regarding eligible activities and costs. Applicants can contact bccaf@iafbc.ca with any questions about the program.

Applicants are encouraged to include only activities that they are confident will be completed on time and within budget limits.



NOTIFICATIONS & OBLIGATIONS

Funding Notifications and Contracts

If an application is approved, IAF will inform the applicant of the details of the decision and any associated terms and conditions via email. The applicant will then receive an approval letter which outlines the obligations of each party to receive program funding. If an application is not approved, the applicant will be informed via email. Funding decisions will be communicated as they are made, but no later than one month following the application close date. To see your project's status, visit the [IAF Client Portal](#).

Funding Acknowledgements

This program is funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, as such acknowledgement of funding is required when publicly communicating about a project and/or funding. To ensure appropriate acknowledgement, all communications and marketing materials, including public announcements or social media posts, must be pre-approved by the IAF Communications Team. Materials can be submitted via the [IAF Client Portal](#).

Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants must complete a final report before receiving funds from the program. This report must be filled out and submitted to IAF along with all invoices for the project to be considered for funding reimbursement. The final report must be submitted on time and with all the required information. Expenses will be reimbursed based on the submitted receipts, the approved project budget and the corresponding cost-share ratio. All reporting will be completed via the [IAF Client Portal](#).

Tax Considerations

Funding received by farmers for the adoption of BMPs through BCCAF is considered a “farm support payment” by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). Payments received through this program are considered income for the farm business and are subject to Income Tax. IAF will provide an AGR-1, Statement of Farm-Support Payments slip for all recipients who receive payments over \$100.

Changes to Contracted Projects

If you are not able to complete your project within the allotted timeframe, you may re-apply in the next funding window. We are not able to grant extensions to approved projects in this program.

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