



MARBIDCO Local Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Project Cost Share Grant Program

To support rural business development and assist county and municipal economic development officials, MARBIDCO offers a grant program that matches eligible rural business development investments made by local governments and regional development councils.

To qualify for MARBIDCO participation in a cost-share project, the following criteria must be met:

- The project must align with MARBIDCO's statutory mission and support Maryland's agricultural, forestry, seafood, or agritourism industries.
- Eligible activities may include production, processing, packaging, marketing, or value-added enhancement of products grown in soil or water.
- Projects that improve water or air quality and contribute to business sustainability may also be eligible.

If a project directly benefits an individual farmer or rural business owner, that individual must provide a financial contribution toward the project. The required contribution will be determined based on the circumstances of the project. Projects that do not directly benefit an individual business owner, such as industry feasibility studies, generally do not require a private equity contribution.

Grant Terms and Conditions

Term	Details
Maximum Grant Amount	\$10,000 for most projects Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) matching grants- \$5,000 Deer fences and farm operation solar systems or generators that provide commercial business energy- \$3,000
Grant Limits	Limit of \$25,000 in total grants can be awarded to a single government jurisdiction in a fiscal year Grant Designees have a lifetime grant cap of \$15,000 Participation in MARBIDCO Core grant programs is capped at \$50,000
Application Submission Process	All applications must be submitted by a local or regional economic development office, and funds being used by the government entity must be own-source, not pass through funds
Send Completed Applications to	dmerkle@marbidco.org or MARBIDCO Programs c/o Daniela Merkle 1410 Forest Drive, Suite 21 Annapolis, MD 21403

MARBIDCO Local Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Project Cost Share Grant Program

Local/ Regional Economic Development Office Information

Agency Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Grant Request Information

Include all sources and uses of funds. The MARBIDCO grant amount cannot exceed the local government's investment.

Total Amount of Project Cost: _____

Local Economic Development Investment: _____

Total Amount Requested from MARBIDCO: _____

Farmer/ Grant Recipient's Contribution: _____

Other: _____

Uses of Grant Funds. Provide a supplement budget if more space is required.

Project Costs/ Budget	Amount
Total Project Budget	

Grant Recipient/Project Information

Grant Recipient Information (if different from requesting local government)

Name: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Project Type

- ☐ Value-Added Food Processing
- ☐ Young/Beginner Farmer Support
- ☐ Table Crops
- ☐ Agri-Tourism/ Rural Recreation
- ☐ Timber growing or harvesting
- ☐ Primary/ Secondary Wood Processing

- ☐ Environmental/ Water Quality
- ☐ Biomass/ Energy Production
- ☐ Niche Market Production
- ☐ Aquaculture/ Fishing/ Seafood
- ☐ Other: _____

Employment Data

Category	Number
Current Full-Time	
New Full-Time within 36 months	
Current Part-Time	
New Part-Time within 36 months	

Attachments Checklist

All applicable items must be submitted with the application for MARBIDCO to consider the application complete and ready to begin reviewing.

- ☐ Brief Description of the project
- ☐ Description of the Grant Recipient and their role in the project
- ☐ A detailed explanatory letter signed by the Economic Development Director that provides the following:
 1. Detailed overview of the project
 2. Roles to be played by various public and/ or private sector partners in implementing the project
 3. Expected outcomes from implementing the project (be specific)
 4. Overall economic and community development benefits of the project

Note: MARBIDCO agrees to hold the Recipient's Application and Financial Reports in confidence to the extent reasonably permitted by Title 10, Subtitle 6 of the State Government 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.

How did you hear about this MARBIDCO financial program?

- ☐ Search Engine (Google, Bing, etc.)
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Recommended by a friend
- ☐ Event table or exhibit
- ☐ MARBIDCO newsletter
- ☐ Advertisement
- ☐ Other (specify): _____
- ☐ Referred by (Enter name/ organization/ state agency): _____