
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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BUTCHERY INNOVATION AND REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT — OCTOBER 2021

Summary. On October 15, 2021, Governor Reynolds, the [Iowa Economic Development Authority \(IEDA\)](#), and the [Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship \(IDALS\)](#) announced that applications will be accepted for the new Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Program beginning on October 18, 2021, with an application deadline of November 15, 2021. Grants of up to \$50,000 with a total availability of \$750,000 will be available to eligible businesses.

Background. The Program was created in 2021 Iowa Acts, chapter [175](#), in order to strengthen Iowa's food supply chain and rural development. Eligible projects include:

- Expanding, refurbishing, or establishing small-scale meat processing.
- Expanding, refurbishing, or establishing licensed custom lockers.
- Expanding, refurbishing, or establishing mobile slaughter units.
- Renting or purchasing buildings, refrigeration facilities, freezer facilities, or equipment necessary to expand processing capacity.

Requirements include that a business must:

- Be incorporated or authorized to do business in Iowa.
- Employ fewer than 50 individuals.
- Be an establishment that holds a current license from IDALS or an establishment that documents it is actively working with IDALS to obtain a license.

Matching financial support on a one-to-one basis in the form of cash, which must be from private sources, will be required.

Task Force. The Artisanal Butchery Program Task Force was created within the IDALS to explore the feasibility of establishing an artisanal butchery program at a community college or at an institution governed by the [Iowa Board of Regents](#). On August 24, 2021, IDALS Secretary Mike Naig [announced](#) 19 members of the Task Force from across the State. The Task Force is due to submit a report by December 31, 2021, to the General Assembly that includes findings and recommendations.

More Information. Administrative rules for the Program can be found [here](#). More information on the Butchery Innovation and Revitalization Program can be found [here](#).

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