

# **State of Tennessee**

## **Coronavirus Agricultural and Forestry Business Fund**



**Department of Agriculture**

**Supply Chain Enhancement / Increased Meat  
Processing Capacity – Project Deadline Rules**

*Updated, January 26, 2021*

# CAFB Fund – Supply Chain Enhancement / Increased Meat Processing Capacity – Project Requirements

This summary is intended to clarify the new timing requirements for Supply Chain Enhancement and Meat Processing Capacity projects under the Coronavirus Agricultural and Forestry Business Fund (CAFB Fund).

## Background:

New legislation enacted on December 27, 2020 regarding the Coronavirus Relief Fund has rendered the December 30 deadline for receipt of goods/services under the CAFB Fund no longer necessary. The State has chosen to extend the deadline of receipt of goods/services to match the May 31, 2021 deadline for projects to be completed.

## Requirements

The CAFB Fund requirements Supply Chain and Meat Processing projects are as follows:

1. **RFF Deadline** - All requests for funding (RFFs) for Supply Chain Enhancement and Meat Processing Capacity projects will still be due on November 10, 2020. For projects that are not completed by November 10, the RFF is expected to contain a detailed narrative explaining the nature of the project, and the expected delivery and completion timeline. RFFs should include any available supporting documentation, such as purchase orders, contracts and other plans, including detailed certifications and statements regarding timing of delivery and completion.
2. **What Is Reimbursable** - CAFB Funds can only be used for goods received or services rendered on or before May 31, 2021, provided that the project also must be completed and “put in service” by May 31, 2021 – (i.e., the completion deadline noted below).
3. **Completion Deadline** – Projects must be completed and put into service by May 31, 2021. Projects that cannot be completed and put into service by May 31, 2021 will not be eligible to receive funding under the CAFB Fund. However, this deadline contemplates that additional improvements may be made after May 31, so long as the project is sufficiently completed such that all of the reimbursable items and services are able to be put into service on or before May 31, 2021.
4. **Payment Dependent on Completion** - Completion of the project and putting the reimbursable items or improvements into service (by May 31, 2021) is a prerequisite to receiving CAFB Funds for a project. Supporting documentation for the reimbursable portion of project can be submitted any time after that portion of the project is completed and paid for, but not later than June 10, 2021, and CAFB funding will be withheld until the recipient can document that the project is completed and put into service, as described above. Self-

certification that the project is completed, paid for, and put into service will be sufficient documentation for funds to be disbursed. The State may wish to verify certifications of completion at a later date, in its sole discretion.

### **Timeline of CAFB Fund for SCE and MC Projects:**

- **November 10, 2020** – This is the last date to submit an RFF through the CAMS dashboard. The RFF on this date must have at least an invoice/purchase order or detailed project plan and eligible reason why this project is taking place.
- **May 31, 2021** – All goods and services must be received by May 31, 2021. Further, the proposed project must be sufficiently completed to be “operational” and the reimbursable portion must be paid for on or before this date for the recipient to be reimbursed for their substantiated portion of costs documented in their RFF(s). If the project is not sufficiently completed such that the reimbursable items and services are put into service by this date, or the approved RFF amount has not been timely paid, then funds may be de-obligated.
- **June 10, 2021** – Last day to provide documentation evidencing receipt of all goods and services, and attestation that the project was completed and in service by May 31, 2021.

### **Partial Completion:**

In some cases, the full project must be completed to be able to put into service the items or improvements. However, if completing only part of the original proposed project enables the reimbursable items and services to be put into service before completion of the entire project, then a recipient can claim the CAFB Funds as soon as all reimbursable items and services are put into use for their intended COVID-related purpose (so long as that happens prior to May 31, 2021).

## Examples:

- A meat processor originally planned to (1) purchase and install walk in freezers and (2) build another room for further processing. He/She was able to purchase and receive the freezers and have them installed and storing meat prior to May 31, 2021. They were not able to complete the construction portion of the project for additional processing prior to May 31, 2021. The meat processor will be reimbursed for the walk-in freezers and installation, but not the room for further processing.
- A logger originally plans to buy two flat beds to haul logs to the sawmill, because their logging distributor shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If only one flat bed is purchased, received, and put into service by May 31, 2021, then that flat bed trailer is still eligible to be reimbursed, even if the second one was not received before the May 31 deadline.