Center for Beef Excellence Grant Programs Offer Funding Support for Pennsylvania Beef Producers

Applications for Beef Excellence Initiatives and Bull Credit programs due Nov. 20

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — October 30, 2026 — Pennsylvania beef producers have two opportunities to access financial support for operation improvements and herd development through grant programs offered by the Center for Beef Excellence.

Applications are currently being accepted for the Beef Excellence Initiatives Grant Program and the Pennsylvania Bull Credit Program, with Round 1 applications for both programs due Nov. 20, 2026, by 5 p.m. Funding is subject to availability.

“These grant programs are designed to help Pennsylvania beef producers make investments that can have a lasting impact on their operations,” said Michelle Kirk, Executive Director of the Center for Beef Excellence. “Whether a producer is improving infrastructure or investing in herd genetics, our goal is to help reduce some of the financial barriers that can come with those decisions and support improvements that strengthen both individual farms and Pennsylvania’s beef industry as a whole.”

Beef Excellence Initiatives Grant Program

The Beef Excellence Initiatives Grant Program provides cost-share reimbursement funding for infrastructure projects that positively impact individual beef operations and, where applicable, Pennsylvania’s beef industry or regional beef community.

Eligible grants may cover up to 50% of the total project cost, with awards of up to $10,000. Projects must meet program requirements, and producers are encouraged to review the full program guidelines before applying. BQA-certified producers receive priority consideration.

Pennsylvania Bull Credit Program

The Pennsylvania Bull Credit Program provides a $1,500 reimbursement toward the purchase of a qualifying bull. The program helps Pennsylvania beef producers invest in genetics that can improve the value of feeder cattle and replacement females while strengthening long-term herd performance and marketing opportunities.

Qualifying bulls may be purchased through the Livestock Evaluation Center Bull Test Sale or by private treaty from another Pennsylvania beef producer. Bulls and applicants must meet program eligibility requirements, including requirements related to Pennsylvania origin, registration, and breeding soundness.

Each eligible operation can receive one $1,500 credit, and BQA-certified producers receive preference.

Supporting Investment in Pennsylvania Beef Operations

Both programs are supported through Ag Excellence funding provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, helping make producer-focused investments and resources available across the Commonwealth. The grant programs also reflect the Pennsylvania Beef Producers Working Group's broader work to connect producers with education, expertise, funding opportunities, and resources that can strengthen their operations.

Round 1 applications for both programs must be received by the Center for Beef Excellence by 5 p.m. on Nov. 20, 2026.

For full program requirements and application information:

Beef Excellence Initiatives Grant Program:
https://www.beefexcellence.com/beef-excellence-initiatives

Pennsylvania Bull Credit Program:
https://www.beefexcellence.com/bull-credit-program

For questions, contact the Center for Beef Excellence at **cbegrants@gmail.com** or 570-687-3150.

Suggested photo attached.

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About the Pennsylvania Beef Producers Working Group

The Pennsylvania Beef Working Group brings together regional beef producers and stakeholders from Pennsylvania's beef-focused agricultural organizations to support producers and strengthen the Commonwealth's beef industry. Through education, industry resources, research, collaborative initiatives, and more, the Working Group serves as a unified network that connects producers with the tools, expertise, and opportunities to enhance productivity, sustainability, and long-term success.

Together, these efforts foster collaboration, address evolving industry needs, and position Pennsylvania's beef industry for continued growth and prosperity. Funding support from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Ag Excellence line item helps make these producer-focused educational programs, resources, and industry initiatives possible.