

Dairy Decision Consultant FAQs

1. *Why should our farm consider a Dairy Decision Consultant (DDC)?*

You may be wondering where to start in addressing multiple concerns and at this time you may not have a comfort level in working in a “team” setting. If this is your situation then the DDC program may be a good fit for your farm. A DDC will typically work with you to do a “whole farm” review of your dairy operation and provide recommendations for moving forward. It has been the Center’s experience that many farms begin with a DDC and then move into working with several trusted advisors in a more formal “team” setting.

2. *Who serves as DDC and where do I find the application?*

Easy access on the CDE website for both:

Consultants: <http://centerfordairyexcellence.org/designated-dairy-decisions-consultants/>

Application: <http://centerfordairyexcellence.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/18-19-Dairy-Decisions-Consultant-Producer-Application.pdf>

3. *Must I use a DDC from the list on CDE’s website or may I use another person?*

No, if you have a trusted advisor that would serve your farm well as a DDC please contact the Center. We will vet the advisor for approval for pre-approval and then submit a DDC application with the appropriate information.

4. *How is the consultant paid?*

The consultant will send the bill to the Center and will be paid directly by us. If the consultant’s bill is over the allotted DDC funds, the farmer will be responsible to pay the remaining balance. **Funding amounts: 0-24 cows up to \$1,500, 25-49 cows up to \$2,250, 50 or more cows up to \$3,500 for Financial Consult and \$2,000 for Employee Management/Non-Financial Consult. Funds should be used by May 30, 2020.**

5. *Is there an application fee?*

There is a **\$100 application fee** for this grant.

6. *Am I eligible to have a DDC and an On-Farm Resource Team in the same fiscal year?*

Yes, based on the recommendation of the consultant you can apply for an On-Farm Resource Team, after the DDC has been completed.