

Send completed application with **\$100 application fee** to Center for Dairy Excellence * Attn: Melissa Anderson *
1140 Mountain View Road * Shermans Dale, PA 17090 * Phone: 717-788-0296* Email: manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org *
www.centerfordairyexcellence.org

Support is made possible through Ag Excellence funding provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and through a grant provided by the PA Dairymen's Association.

Dairy Productivity Grant: First-time investment projects in technologies related to Milking Systems (pipeline, automatic milking systems, robotic milking technology, and direct load milking), Feeding Systems (TMR mixer, feed tracking and inventory technology), and Activity Monitoring Systems (Bolus, Collars or Tags). This is a reimbursable grant with a 25 percent match required to receive up to \$10,000 for the project you described on your application. You must submit documentation of your expenses incurred for project to receive payment. The total payment you receive will be based on the total cost of the project and will be adjusted to 75 percent of that total cost. Farms that have 35 or more lactating cows or dairy heifer raising operations with more than 100 dairy heifers are eligible to apply.

Application period runs: **October 1 - November 1, 2026**. This is a **competitive** grant designed to support increased milk production, specifically to support first-time investments in milking, feeding, and activity monitoring technology. Winning grant award recipients will be notified by **November 20, 2026**, with expenses/invoices due by **June 15, 2027**. Application fees will be refunded to those who are not awarded grants.

Producer's Name _____ Farm Name _____

Address _____ Town/City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

County _____ Email _____ Phone # _____

Name of your milk market or cooperative _____

Total cows lactating & dry _____ No. heifers 12mths or older _____ No. of heifers under 12mths _____

Total pounds of milk shipped prior year _____, Butterfat % _____, Protein % _____
(See December's settlement check, received mid-January.)

Operational info.(check all that apply): Tie stall _____ Parlor _____ Robotics _____ Organic _____ Grazing _____

Milking / day 3x _____, 2x _____, Robotic (Average x / day) _____ DHIA # _____ RAC # _____ (Right hand corner of DHIA Report)

Do you use TMR? Yes _____ No _____ Are you happy with your milk production numbers? Yes _____ No _____

Would you like assistance with your milk production numbers? Yes _____ No _____

Answer the following:

Our farm has a current Manure Management Plan or Nutrient Management Plan. Yes _____ No _____

Our farm has a current Conservation Plan or Ag Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. Yes _____ No _____

Our farm is compliant with National FARM Program or similar program. Yes _____ No _____

Our farm has a Risk Management Plan or uses risk management tools to protect profit margins. Yes _____ No _____

Please list the risk management tools you use. _____

Our farm has a Biosecurity and/or Farm Safety Plan. Yes _____ No _____

Our farm has an Emergency Response Plan. Yes _____ No _____

Our farm has a formal management or advisory team. Yes _____ No _____

List two consultants/advisors with phone number and email address that work with the farm (Nutritionist, Accountant, Veterinarian)

Consultant/Advisor Name	Organization	Phone#	Email Address	Type of Consultant

Complete all questions on back page.

Please Complete the Questions Below:

1. What is your project and how will it benefit your farm?

2. How does this project fit into your 2-5 year goals?

3. Is this the first time you have invested in this type of technology on your farm? YES or NO

If no, how is this project different from the initial investment you made?

4. Provide an estimate of your project cost below. How did you determine the estimation of these costs? Please circle how you determined your estimated project costs: *Estimate, Bid, Cost Appraisal, Internet, Other* _____

<u>Project cost</u>	<u>Dairy Productivity Grant Funding</u>	<u>Personal Investment</u>	<u>Investment by Outside Sources: Grants, Financing, etc.</u>

5. Have you received any other public funding towards this project? YES or NO

If yes, please list source of funding:

6. Include a letter of recommendation confirming how this technology will help your operation improve productivity, if possible from an unrelated person. (banker/lender, nutritionist, veterinarian, PSU Extension etc.)

In exchange for the allocation of funding and support, farms accepted as a Dairy Productivity Grant Team will be expected to do the following:

- Complete a brief survey at the end of the grant.
- Provide a copy of your most recent DHI-202 form.
- A W9 must be provided to the Center before any expenses will be reimbursed—Any funding received through this grant will be considered taxable income by the IRS.

Your signature below certifies that you currently do not have this technology on your farm and that you agree to the expectations listed above.

Signature _____ Date _____

- Send a copy of your W9 with your application.
- Send a copy of your most recent DHI-202 form with your application.
- You will be required to complete a brief survey once the grant has been completed. Your feedback, thoughts, and ideas help us to make the changes needed to keep our programs relevant to the needs of the dairy industry.

Are you interested in receiving an ACH payment for your invoice reimbursement? Yes ____ No ____