

Climate Smart Grant—CARAT

2023—2024 Pre-Qualifying Application

Send completed application to Center for Dairy Excellence • Attn: Melissa Anderson •
1140 Mountain View Road • Shermans Dale, PA 17090 • Phone: 717-636-0779 • Email: manderson@centerfordairyexcellence.org •
www.centerfordairyexcellence.org

How grant works:

This application is for pre-qualification in the CARAT Project conducted by Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences and partners with funding from the program Partnerships for Climate Commodities, an initiative of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). CARAT will provide funding to identify and implement climate-smart practices that will benefit your farm operations. The participating farms will be selected through a three-step process: pre-qualification, development of climate-smart plans for all pre-qualified farms, and selection of implementation farms (near 70 farms over 5 years). Once your farm goes through the pre-qualification process, a technical service provider will be assigned to help your farm identify climate smart practices and develop an implementation plan fitting to your operation. Your plan will be presented to the CARAT Review Committee to be considered as one of the farms receiving funding toward implementation. Pre-qualification does not guarantee your farm will be approved as one of the final CARAT participants. You will be notified of acceptance into the program upon approval by the committee. Data provided in this form is confidential and will only be shared with authorized personnel within the project.

Producer's Name _____ Farm Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

County _____ Email _____ Phone # _____

Milk market or cooperative _____ Do you own or rent the farm: Own ____ Rent ____

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

Check all that apply: *System*: Conventional _____, Organic _____, Grass-Fed _____ *Milking System*: Parlor _____ Robotics _____

Housing: Tie stall _____, Free-Stall _____, Bedded Pack _____

Cropped Acres Owned _____ Cropped Acres Rented _____ Pastured Acres _____

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

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

Do you use TMR? Yes ____ No ____ Do you have a digester? Yes ____ No ____

Do you have manure storage? Yes ____ No ____ Type: _____ Volume or months of storage: _____

Are you working with a nutritionist? Yes ____ No ____ If so, provide Nutritionist Name, Company, Contact Information: _____

Have you worked with a technical services provider or agricultural engineering firm in the past? Yes ____ No ____

If so, please list the name, company & contact information of the engineer or firm you would prefer to work with. _____

Have you ever worked with: The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay: Yes ____ No ____ Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Yes ____ No ____

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Yes ____ No ____ County Conservation District: Yes ____ No ____

Must Complete — Select all that apply to your farm by writing Yes / No / I do not know:

- _____ Our farm has a current Manure Management Plan or Nutrient Management Plan
- _____ Our farm has a current Conservation Plan or Ag Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- _____ Our farm has a National Historic Registry Plan
- _____ Our farm has a written Business Plan and budget that includes current financial information
- _____ Our farm is compliant with the National Farm Program (FARM) or another welfare program
- _____ Our farm has a comprehensive written biosecurity plan

_____ Our farm is compliant with the Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation

_____ Our farm has a Risk Management Plan or uses risk management tools to protect profit margins

If yes, please list the tools used: _____

What has your farm done in the past to be an environmental steward and/or conserve nutrients on your farm? (For example: incorporated no-till, added manure storage, planted buffer strip, among others.)

Why is your farm interested in adopting Climate Smart Solutions to improve the carbon footprint of your operation?

What are the main goals that you are working toward on your dairy operation? List up to 10 in your order of priorities.

Do you practice any of the following:

Practice List	Yes	No	Other Information
Feed supplements / feed management			
Lagoon cover & methane flaring			
Composting of bedded-pack manure			
Manure storage & runoff controls			
Precision N management			
Use of a yield monitor			
Enhanced efficiency fertilizers			
Manure analysis			
Manure injection			
Reduced till / strip till / no-till			
Perennial pastures			
Legume interseeding			
Cover crops			
Prescribed grazing			
Riparian buffers			
Tree planting / afforestation			

- Farms accepted in the program and therefore authorized to receive funding, will work with the CARAT team on the technical and financial execution of the program.
- Provide meeting notes, invoices and related team expenses to the Center for reimbursement.
- ***A W9 must be provided to the Center before any expenses will be reimbursed.***

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CDE use only:

Approved: _____ EMC lbx/d _____ Grant ID# _____