The Dairy Acceleration Program is administered through the PRO-DAIRY Program at Cornell University with support from Cornell Cooperative Extension.

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Program Funding

**Dairy Acceleration Program** funds may be used to engage the services of a dairy farm professional for the following:

- Up to $5,000 to develop a business plan for long term viability of the dairy.
- Up to $2,500 for previously awarded farms to continue working with their farm business consultant in a subsequent year to refine and/or implement their business plan.
- Up to $1,000 to prepare farm financial records and benchmark current financial status.
- Up to $6,000 for an AEM Certified Planner to develop a new Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) for farms under 300 cows.

Program funding (cont.)

- Up to $4,500 to update an existing CNMP for farms under 300 cows.
- Up to $5,000 for an engineer to design a single best management practice (BMP) or up to $10,000 to design a combination of BMP’s, identified in the farm CNMP, for farms under 700 cows.
- Up to $2,500 to evaluate an existing storage for farms under 700 cows.

*Dairy Acceleration Program funding covers 80% of a project’s cost. The farm is responsible for 20% of the project cost, including any in excess of the value of the award. Awarded funds are disbursed to the service provider through Cornell University.*

Eligibility

- Must be a dairy cattle farm shipping milk or dairy heifer boarding facility located in NY state.
- Must have complete financial records for business planning.
- Must complete and submit an application.

Eligible Projects

**Business Planning**
*(preference for farms under 300 cows)*

- Financial analysis of options for enhancing profitability of the dairy
- Benchmarking current financial status of the dairy
- Farmstead development planning
- Facility planning
- Capital investment planning for increased milk per cow

**Environmental Planning**
*(for farms under 300 cows)*

- Update a CNMP
- Develop a new CNMP

**Design of BMP’s**
*(for farms under 700 cows)*

- Design a single best management practice (BMP) or combination of BMPs identified in farm CNMP.
- Evaluate a manure storage