

Vermont Equipment Access Program

Is your business eligible for an EAP Lease?

The Vermont Equipment Access Program has been designed by Vermont's two food business incubators to accelerate the incubation, scaling and graduation of small and emerging value added food processors by providing equipment at a monthly price that is affordable and appropriate to the business and its current stage of growth. The Equipment Access Program is run with an Advisory Board who reviews and recommends a course of action on applications, and is administered by the Vermont Community Loan Fund which manages the leasing agreements and payment schedules.

You are eligible to apply for the lease if you meet the following criteria:

- Applicant is a Value Added Food Processor with a business registered and located in Vermont
- Applicant has been a customer of the Vermont Food Venture Center (VFVC) and/or Mad River Food Hub (MRFH) for a period of not less than 3 months and has shown commitment to seeking technical assistance, attending workshops, and establishing positive business relationships
- Applicant directly or indirectly sources ingredients for their value added food processing from local Farms/Producers (Vermont plus 30 miles)
- Applicant annual revenue is greater than \$20,000
- Applicant intends to use the leased equipment in Vermont
- Applicant's required equipment lease amount is in excess of \$5,000