

# U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: Extends to May 11 the application deadline for Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program funding

Posted on Tuesday, Mar 29, 2022

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**STEVENS POINT, Wisc., March 29, 2022** — United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the Department is extending to May 11, 2022, the application deadline for the [Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program](#) (MPPEP), which provides funding to expand meat and poultry processing capacity.

The decision to extend the deadline comes after Rural Development heard directly from applicants about challenges with System for Award Management (SAM) registration, which must be completed prior to filing an application.

## **Background: MPPEP**

USDA Rural Development is making \$150 million of American Rescue Plan Act funding available through the MPPEP. USDA is offering grants of up to \$25 million each to expand processing capacity through a variety of activities, including but not limited to construction, expansion of existing facilities, and acquisition of equipment.

USDA encourages applications that benefit smaller farms and ranches, new and beginning farmers and ranchers, Tribes and tribal producers, socially disadvantaged producers, military veteran producers and underserved communities.

For additional information, applicants are encouraged to visit the MPPEP

website: [www.rd.usda.gov/mppep](http://www.rd.usda.gov/mppep). Questions may be submitted through the website or sent to [MPPEP@usda.gov](mailto:MPPEP@usda.gov).

All application materials can be found at [www.rd.usda.gov/mppep](http://www.rd.usda.gov/mppep) or at [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 11, 2022, through [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov).

Please see the [announcement from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service](#) for information on additional resources to increase and expand meat and poultry processing capacity.

To learn more about investment resources for rural areas, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov) or contact the nearest [USDA Rural Development office](#).

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit [www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov).

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