

**Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund  
Blue Catfish Processing, Flash Freezing, and Infrastructure Grant Program  
(AFID Blue Catfish Program)  
Grant Application**

**I. Overview**

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Project Title:                     |   |
| Applicant Jurisdiction:            | Other localities (for multijurisdictional applications only): |
| Project Start Date:                | Anticipated End Date:   |
| Total Cost of Project:             | AFID Requested Amount:  |
| <i>Primary Contact Information</i> |   |
| Name:                              |   |
| Title:                             |   |
| Organization:                      |   |
| Telephone:                         |   |
| Email Address:                     |   |
| Mailing Address:                   |   |
| City, State, Zip:                  |   |

## **II. Project Types**

Projects receiving funding through the Blue Catfish Processing, Flash Freezing, and Infrastructure Grant Program must be infrastructure development projects that directly support local food production, enhance environmental sustainability, and demonstrate a broad community benefit. Grant funds should be used primarily for capital expenditures.

Consideration will be given to the following project types:

- Projects that create processing, flash freezing, and infrastructure capacity in proximity to small-scale blue catfish watermen
- Processing facilities that are primarily locally owned, including packaging, freezing, and labeling facilities that are used for processing blue catfish
- Projects that involve or incorporate existing seafood processors and businesses
- Projects located in the localities of the Rural Coastal Virginia Community Enhancement Authority (§ 15.2-7600) or in Planning District 23
- Projects providing a local match, if any

Additional consideration will be given to projects that benefit watermen.

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## **III. Project Evaluation and Award Criteria**

Awards will be made on a competitive basis based on the strength of a candidate's application. Applicants must follow the AFID Infrastructure Program Application format. Stronger applications will clearly explain:

- the project purpose;
- the specific issue(s) that the project will address;
- the local or regional benefits of the project;
- the specific goals or objectives of the project;
- the particular deliverables of the project;
- Projects located in the localities of the Rural Coastal Virginia Community Enhancement Authority (§ 15.2-7600) or in Planning District 23
- how grant funds and local match will be used, if applicable

In addition to the quality and completeness of an application, the following criteria will also be used when making award decisions:

- Expected positive economic impact of the project on affected localities
  - Demonstration of the likelihood of success in achieving the promised deliverables
  - Demonstration of support from the watermen and seafood communities
  - Demonstration of environmentally sustainable practices
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## **IV. Eligibility**

Applications must be made by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, typically counties or cities but also towns, industrial and economic development authorities, or planning district

commissions.

Applications may be made on behalf of more than one locality, provided that a single political subdivision serves as the lead applicant and grant administrator.

Applicants are only eligible for one grant award per grant round. Applicants must be in good standing regarding any other awards from the Fund.

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## **V. Match Requirement**

Please indicate if your project is receiving a local match

Yes:  No:

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### **Email the completed application to:**

Rachel Meyers  
Office of Agriculture and Forestry Development  
rachel.meyers@vdacs.virginia.gov

Or submit by mail to:

Rachel Meyers  
Office of Agriculture and Forestry Development  
Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
102 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219