



Near Infrared Reflectance Spectroscopy (NIRS) Equipment Grant

About the Grant:

- In April 2011, the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency (ALMA) provided \$750,000 to establish the NIRS Equipment Grant.
- The purpose of the NIRS Equipment Grant is to support the adoption of NIRS by the Alberta agriculture community, both the livestock and crop sectors.
- The NIRS Equipment Grant is administered by the Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund Ltd. (ACIDF)
- The NIRS Equipment Grant will provide up to 50% of eligible equipment costs up to a maximum of \$20,000 per NIRS equipment package.

Objectives:

- To encourage placement of NIRS equipment with which to support Alberta's grain and feed sectors.
- To support the purchase of NIRS equipment within the Feeding Initiative Program.

Timelines:

- April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2015 or depletion of available funds.
- Applications accepted on an on-going basis.
- Grant applications are available at www.acidf.ca/feeding/applications.html

Eligible applicants:

- Companies with operations in Alberta, farms, feeders, feed processors and related research and analytical organizations actively working with feed ingredients such as grains, vegetable proteins, co-products and forages/roughages.
- Successful applicants will become sole proprietor of the equipment.
- Priority will be given first to existing Feeding Initiative Program projects, second to extensions of those projects, third to new Feeding Initiative Program projects and fourth to other industry applications.
- The NIRS equipment must be located within Alberta.

Eligible costs

- NIRS equipment purchases including associated hardware, software, calibrations, installation, training, insurance, duty and shipping and establishment of a network if applicable are eligible.
- Costs incurred after April 1, 2011 are eligible.
- The NIRS Equipment Grant will provide up to 50% of eligible equipment costs up to a maximum of \$20,000 per NIR equipment package.
- Funding approval is a competitive process decided by the ACIDF Board. All funding decisions are final.

Eligible Equipment

- Equipment to be purchased must be approved by ACIDF.
- The maximum amount eligible is based on 50% of a designated NIR equipment package based on participating manufacturer quotes. The designated package is based on intended NIR needs and

uses of the Alberta feeding industry and also includes computing power, software, training and networks.

- Alternate NIR equipment from that designated is subject to either the maximum of 50% of the package price or \$20,000, whichever is less.
- Copies of the quotations from participating manufacturers can be requested from ACIDF.

Ineligible Costs:

- Existing NIRS equipment purchased prior to April 1, 2011 or more than 60 days before the application is accepted (whichever applies) is not eligible.
- GST on services or purchases is not eligible.
- Applicant labor costs and NIRS facility costs associated with the set-up and use of the NIRS equipment are not eligible.

Application Process:

- ACIDF is willing to provide a resource person to discuss NIRS technology issues prior to applicants applying.
- Completed and signed applications can be submitted by email or by courier or post office. An electronic copy of the application is required for processing; these are to be submitted to rob@acidf.ca.
- Any applicants requiring confidentiality agreements can be accommodated if ACIDF is notified in advance. With all applications, the applicant, amount requested and brand of NIRS machine involved will be considered public information.
- All applications require an invoice and proof of purchase showing purchase date and an appropriate description of equipment.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Feeding Initiative Advisory Committee and approved by the ACIDF Board. Payment will be made to the company or organization named in the application.
- ACIDF reserves the right to group orders for purpose of obtaining the best price.
- ACIDF has the final decision on what is eligible and approved. All ACIDF Board decisions are final.

Pre-Approval

- Applicants can provide a completed application form with quotation of the package description and price and receive approval prior to purchase.
- Funds will be dispersed upon invoice and proof of purchase.

Questions can be directed to: ACIDF - Rob Hand, email: rob@acidf.ca, Tel: 403-872-8262

Click here to download the **NIR Equipment Application** form.