

AGRI Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Relief Initiative (DAIRI) Application

The DAIRI program provides financial assistance to Minnesota dairy cow operations that produced less than 16,000,000 lbs of milk in 2022 and that are enrolled for the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program through December 31, 2031. DMC enrollment is between January 12, 2026 and February 26, 2026. We strongly encourage you to apply online at mda.state.mn.us/dairi. If you cannot use the online system, you may apply by mail or email. Submission instructions and due dates are on the next page.

First Name:	Last Name:	
Farm or Company Name:		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Physical Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:	
County:	DMC Operation Number:	
Are there other applications being submitted from this farm?	YES	NO
If yes, under what name(s):		

Attestations

By submitting my application,

I attest that I have the authority to apply on behalf of the farm.

I affirm that the information I am submitting is true, complete, and accurate.

As required under MINN. STAT. 16B.98, Subd. 8, I agree to keep all related records and receipts and make them available to the MDA, State Auditor, or Legislative Auditor for a minimum of six years.

Under MINN. STAT. 270.65, Subd. 3, and other applicable law, I understand that my Social Security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, may be used by federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification number may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws, which could result in action that requires filing of state tax returns and paying delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

I certify that I have read the privacy notice on page 3 and understand its contents.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Checklist

The following items need to be submitted to the MDA in order for your application to be considered complete:

- Completed application form with your signature.
- Statement(s) from your processor(s) that show quantity of milk produced between 1/1/2022 and 12/31/2022. Self-completed worksheets and sales records will not be accepted. Production records must account for the full year.
- Completed copy of your DMC enrollment form (Include all pages of Form CCC-801).
- Signed IRS Form W-9 (available at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf).

To Be Completed by Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Production in 2022:
DMC established production:
% Production by applicant:
Pounds produced by applicant:
DMC established pounds by applicant:

What is the DAIRI program?

The Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Relief Initiative (DAIRI) program provides financial assistance to small- to medium-sized dairy operations that participate in the USDA Farm Service Agency's Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program.

Am I eligible to apply?

You must:

- Be the principal operator of a Minnesota dairy cow operation that produced less than 16,000,000 pounds (160,000 cwt) of milk in 2022, and
- Have signed up for DMC program coverage through December 31, 2021, during the enrollment period of January 12, 2026, to February 26, 2026.

How do I apply?

We strongly encourage you to apply online at mda.state.mn.us/dairi. Online applications are due by **5 p.m. Central Time (CT) on Thursday, March 19, 2026**. It is best practice to submit your application at least 24 hours in advance to prevent unforeseen delays.

If you can't use the online system, you may apply with this form. You can either:

- Email your completed application to dairi.mda@state.mn.us. We must receive your emailed application by **March 19, 2026 at 5 p.m. CT**.
- Mail your application to Minnesota Department of Agriculture, DAIRI, 625 Robert St N, Saint Paul, MN 55155. Mailed applications must be **postmarked by March 19, 2026**, and **received by March 26, 2026**.

All portions of your application must be received before the deadline to be considered. Email and mailed applications must include a signature.

The MDA is not responsible for any technical or logistical problems resulting in the MDA not receiving your application on time. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the submission is received by the MDA before the deadline.

How much will I be paid?

We have \$3 million available for DAIRI. After applications from all eligible producers are reviewed, we will establish a payment rate based on your first 50,000 cwt of production in 2022.

In the first DAIRI program, producers received a \$0.18/cwt. We expect that the payment rate will be lower in this round.

When and how will I get paid?

The MDA will be reviewing applications as they are received and anticipates beginning to issue payments one month after the application period closes. The timeline will depend on how many applications are received during the application period. If USDA extends the DMC enrollment period, the MDA may also extend the DAIRI application period.

Most applicants will receive paper checks from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB). You may sign-up through MMB to receive your payment through direct deposit (Direct Deposit Authorization for Electronic Funds Transfer). Please note that the MDA will not be able to assist with this process.

What if there is a problem with my application?

The MDA will notify you via email or phone about missing information or errors in your application or if your application is denied. You will be given seven business days after you are notified or after the application period closes, whichever is later, to fix the problems. If the corrections are not made, your application will not be considered as received during the application period. Applicants who are denied may appeal the decision within seven days of notice of denial.

Where do I get more information?

More information about the DAIRI program is available on the program's webpage (mda.state.mn.us/dairi) or by contacting your local Farm Service Agency office (<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=mn&agency=fsa>).

What if I did not begin dairy farming until after 2022?

Contact the MDA to discuss options. We encourage you to still apply for DAIRI in case there are changes to the program.

What if I did not sell my milk to a third party (e.g., milk is processed on the farm)?

Contact the MDA to discuss options.

What if there are multiple producers listed on my DMC enrollment form and each person needs a separate check?

Each person listed on the DMC enrollment form must submit their own DAIRI application, including application form, IRS Form W-9, copy of their DMC enrollment, and farm production records.

To determine each producer's share of the farm's total payments, we will use the percentages from the DMC enrollment form.

What if there are multiple producers listed on my DCM enrollment form, and we want our business entity to be paid (not each producer)?

The farm should only submit one DAIRI application. The IRS Form W9 should be in the farm's name and tax ID number.

What if I sold milk to multiple processors in 2022?

You must include statements from all processors who you sold milk to in 2022.

Am I eligible for DAIRI if I am a resident of another state but farm in Minnesota?

No, you are not eligible for DAIRI.

Am I eligible for DAIRI if I farm in Minnesota but am a resident of a bordering state?

No, you are not eligible for DAIRI.

Is my DAIRI payment taxable?

Yes

What if I produced more than 16,000,000 pounds of milk in 2022, but fewer than 16,000,000 pounds in 2021 or 2023?

Contact us to discuss options. We still encourage you to apply in case there are changes to the program.

What if I inherited/took over my farm since 2022, and 2022 production records reflect the previous owner or operator?

You are still eligible for the program, and you may submit 2022 production records from the previous owner or operator, as long as the farm is the same and no one else is applying with the same records—we will only pay once for that farm.

What if I have another situation that isn't addressed here?

Email us at dairi.mda@state.mn.us or call us at 651-201-6500. We strongly prefer that you email us with a clear description of the situation.

Privacy Notice

The information provided as part of the DAIRI application will be used to assess the applicant's eligibility to receive payment under the Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation Program, and to fulfill applicable financial reporting requirements. Completing this application is voluntary; applicants are not legally required to provide MDA with the information requested, but only completed applications will be considered.

While much of the information applicants provide is classified by Minnesota law as public, some of the information (such as a Social Security number) may be classified by law as private or nonpublic at MDA. Data classified as private or nonpublic will be accessible only to MDA employees and contractors that have a work assignment that requires access to the data, and to other entities authorized by law to receive the data. MDA may be obligated to provide the data to law enforcement, Minnesota Management and Budget, the Office of the State Auditor, or the Office of the Legislative Auditor. Finally, private data about you may be released to third parties through your informed consent, or pursuant to a valid court order.

Internal Revenue Code Section 6109 requires applicants to provide their correct taxpayer identification number to payers who must file information returns with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). MDA will use the information provided on the applicant's W-9 form in order to report payments received as part of the DAIRI Program to the IRS. The IRS uses the numbers for identification purposes and to help verify the accuracy of the applicant's tax return. For more information on how the information provided on a W-9 may be used, refer to the Privacy Act Notice on page 6 of the W-9 form.