



## 2024 New Farmer Recruitment Program

### Overview:

The Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-Off Program is a fund established by the Kentucky General Assembly for the promotion of the sheep and goat industries within the Commonwealth. Producer dollars fund the program and the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Council is the producer committee that determines how the check-off dollars are spent. The 2024 New Farmer Recruitment Program is a competitive loan program offered by the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Council and designed to help grow Kentucky's sheep and goat industries. The loans are short term (1 to 2 year) loans of up to \$2,000 with 0% interest. Up to two loans (one goat and one sheep) of \$2,000 each will be awarded in 2024 to eligible individuals. Eligible individuals are graduates of the Small Ruminant Profit School educational program who are Kentucky residents at least 18 years of age that have been in the sheep or goat production business for less than 5 years. Funds may be used to purchase sheep and/or goats for breeding purposes as well as livestock guardian animals. The loan program is only open to individuals that have completed the Small Ruminant Profit School educational program (*must have proof of completion*). Participation in other small ruminant educational programs (local and regional association meetings, University of Kentucky Ewe Profit Schools, Kentucky State University Third Thursday Goat Days, UK Small Ruminant Grazing Conference, etc.) is also strongly encouraged.

### How to apply:

Complete the following application and submit a business plan with at least the minimum information set forth in the attached business plan outline. Successful applicants must have a business plan that shows the desire and ability to become a profitable small ruminant producer on a commercial scale (non-hobby). Applications and business plans should be submitted by email or mail to the following address with a postmark no later than **June 15, 2024**.

Kelley Yates  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office  
1619 ByPass Road, PMB 159  
Winchester, KY 40391  
[kyates@kysheepandgoat.org](mailto:kyates@kysheepandgoat.org)

For additional information or questions regarding the application process, please contact:

Kelley Yates – (502) 682-7780  
[kyates@kysheepandgoat.org](mailto:kyates@kysheepandgoat.org)

# New Farmer Recruitment Program Loan Application



Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County where sheep and/or goats will be raised: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in the: sheep business \_\_\_\_\_ goat business \_\_\_\_\_ (0 is an acceptable answer)

Payment option preferred: \_\_\_ monthly (up to \$84/month)  
\_\_\_ annually (up to \$1000/year)

Are you an active member of any agriculture organizations? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please list:

In addition to SRPS, list any educational activities in which you have participated in the past year related to sheep and/or goat production:

Amount of funds requested: (\$2,000 maximum) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Business Plan Outline**

- I. Cover Page (include name, contact info, and any other pertinent information)
- II. The Farm
  - a. The land (Describe the land that will be used in the sheep and/or goat operation. The land area must be a minimum of 15 acres. If other livestock is also raised on the farm the land size must be adequate to sustain all animals.)
  - b. Building, fences and other structures
  - c. Farm ownership (Do you own solely, with a partner, is the land leased, are there restrictions, etc.)
- III. Current Products
  - a. Products currently grown or raised
  - b. Volume (how much of each are you producing)
  - c. Experience (how long have you grown or raised each product)
  - d. Marketing (how is each product currently marketed)
- IV. Farm Management and Labor
  - a. Farm Manager (who is the decision maker, how many hours per week do they spend managing the farm, is this a full or part-time job)
  - b. Labor sources
- V. Sheep and/or Goat Enterprise Addition or Expansion Plans
  - a. Product (discuss number of head, types, breeds, purpose, and reasoning)
  - b. Sources of breeding stock
  - c. Facilities and Equipment (describe the facilities and equipment needed for this enterprise and what construction/modifications/purchases are needed)
  - d. Production Plan (describe current breeding and lambing/kidding plans)
  - e. Marketing Plan (discuss trends in the industry and what products will be marketed, when, where, and why you chose this product, time and place)
- VI. Financial Plan
  - a. Current farm income and expenses (use Excel file)
  - b. Estimated 3 year income and expenses for new sheep and/or goat enterprise (use Excel file; example form below)
  - c. Repayment plan – must have plan for repayment in no more than 2 years

**Estimated Income and Expenses for New Sheep and/or Goat Enterprise**

	<b>Income:</b> (describe each source and list amount)	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
1	New Farmer Loan			
2	Sales of Kids/Lambs			
3	Sales of Culls			
4	Sales of Breeding Stock			
5	Other:			
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
	<b>Total Income:</b>			
	<b>Expenses:</b>			
1	Breeding Stock Purchase			
2	Loan Repayment			
3	Feed			
4	Hay			
5	Vet/Medication			
6	Mineral			
7	Other:			
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>			
	<b>Net Profit or loss</b>			