

# Vermont Value-Added Forest Products Permitting Assistance Grant Program

## I. Program Overview

### Program Purpose

The purpose of the Forest Products Permitting Assistance Grant Program (FPPA Grant) is to assist businesses engaged in adding value to forest products within the State with costs related to permitting. Grants may be used to pay for expenses associated with State and local permit application fees, project consultation costs, engineering and siting costs, and expert witness testimony necessary for permitting.

### Eligibility

This grant is available to Vermont businesses primarily engaged in adding value to forest products in jurisdictions that require permitting (municipal zoning, Act 250, DEC permits, etc), such as saw mills, firewood processors, furniture makers, etc. Businesses that are limited to the activities of logging and forestry are not eligible.

### Eligible Expenses:

- State Permit Fees
- Local Permit Fees
- Project Consultation
- Engineering and Siting
- Expert Witness Testimony

Please direct questions about eligibility to [Emma.Hanson@vermont.gov](mailto:Emma.Hanson@vermont.gov).

### Allowable Costs

Grants can fund expenses associated with State and local permit fees, project consultation costs, engineering and siting costs, and expert witness testimony costs necessary for permitting.

### Ineligible Projects and Applicants

- Applications for completed projects for which the applicant seeks reimbursement.
- Applicants out of compliance with any federal, state or local laws or regulations.
- Applicants who have already received funding from a FPPA Grant.

### Available Funds

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation will award up to \$30,000 total for this program. These funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

#### Maximum Award

Businesses can apply for a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$5,000 in grant funds.

#### Project Length

Grant period will be up to 12 months.

#### Funding Source

Funds for this grant program are State funds allocated by the Vermont Legislature and signed into law by Governor Scott in Act 83 in 2019.

## II. Application Instructions

Complete the attached application form and submit it via email to [Emma.Hanson@vermont.gov](mailto:Emma.Hanson@vermont.gov) with "FPPA Grant" in the email subject line along with any supporting documentation.

FPPA Grant will pay up to 50% of the allowable permitting/project costs, not to exceed \$5,000.

## III. Terms & Conditions

#### Public Information

Except for grantee proprietary and personal identifying data, as provided under 1 V.S.A. § 317(c), grantee names, projects, the amount of grant awards, and all other information regarding FPPA Grant projects are considered public information and may be subject to disclosure.

#### Disbursement of Funds

Funds will be provided when a copy of the submitted permit application (or other appropriate deliverable), final report, and invoice have been submitted.

Final report will demonstrate completion of project and contain documentation of project expenditures, both submitted for reimbursement and matching.

Only expenses incurred during the grant period are eligible for reimbursement. Costs occurring prior to or after the end date of an executed grant are not eligible for reimbursement.

# Vermont Value-Added Forest Products Permitting Assistance Grant Program Application Form

## Applicant Information

Business Name:

Contact Person Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Business Physical Address:

Business Mailing Address (if different):

Business Description:

## Project Information

Please describe the project for which you are applying. Include specifics on the permit(s) you are pursuing, the permitting elements you are seeking financial assistance for, and how you are adding value to Vermont-sourced forest products. *Limit 3000 characters.*

### Timeline

Please describe your timeline for the entire project and, if different, the permitting element for which you are applying.

### Budget Template

Enter each line item of your budget into the appropriate field, along with a brief explanation of anticipated costs in each category. You may use the fields below, or, if you need more space, replicate the template on an additional sheet.

A FPPA Grant will cover 50% of your project costs, not to exceed \$5,000 total. For example, if your total eligible expenses are \$6,000, you will receive a \$3,000 grant. If your total eligible expenses are \$20,000, you will receive a \$5,000 grant.

If applicable, attach copy of written estimate(s) from professional.

Expense Category	Expense Details/Purpose	Total Cost	FPPA Request
Total			

### Certification

I acknowledge and agree that if selected to participate in this program, I will receive a grant agreement from the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. In order to execute the grant I will be required to provide a W-9 Form, Certificate of Insurance meeting the requirements listed in the FPR Grantee Insurance Guidance, Risk Assessment Questionnaire and Act 154 Certificate of Good Standing.

By checking this box and typing my name below, I am electronically signing my application.

Name

Date