

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CRSB Certified Producer Incentive



About the Incentive

Do I need to apply for the incentive?

No. There is no application required for the incentive. You will automatically receive the incentive payment if you have successfully completed all the eligibility requirements.

What do I need to do to ensure I receive the incentive?

To receive the incentive payment, a producer must meet the following criteria:

1. Become certified between January 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, and/or keep existing certification up to date as of June 30, 2026, evidenced by a valid certificate from a CRSB-approved Certification Body.
2. Complete all the [CRSB Certified Qualifying Cattle Requirements](#).

What type of operations are eligible?

All active beef production operations (cow-calf, backgrounder, feedlot) certified to the CRSB Sustainable Beef Production Standard are eligible.

How much is the payment?

In the first year (2025-26), the CRSB Certified Producer Incentive will recognize all beef producer operations who have become certified, renewed and/or maintained their existing certification between the period January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, and have completed all qualifying cattle requirements with an incentive payment of **\$400**.

The incentive program will continue annually, with future annual incentive payments based on CRSB Certified beef sold. Any future payments will be calculated based on available funds and distributed evenly among all eligible beef producers.

What is the timeframe for certification to be eligible for the incentive?

To receive the incentive payment, a producer must become certified and/or maintain their existing certification between the period of January 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, evidenced by a valid CRSB Certified certificate from a CRSB-approved Certification Body.

Starting July 1, 2026, the eligibility timeframe will be annual: becoming certified and/or maintaining existing certification between July 1 to June 30 of each year.

Can I still receive the incentive if I am certified in 2026?

Yes. Any operation that is certified since January 1, 2025, renews and/or maintains their certification as of June 30, 2026, and has completed all eligibility requirements, is eligible to receive the incentive.

When can I expect my payment?

The first incentive payments for the period January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, are expected to be distributed by October 2026.

Will Cargill's per head Qualifying Cattle Credits for qualifying cattle continue in addition to this incentive payment?

Yes. Cargill will continue to pay producers for qualifying cattle via their Qualifying Cattle Credit. For details, click here: [Partnership & Collaboration | Cargill](#)

Does the CRSB Certified Producer Incentive replace the Cargill Recognition Credit?

Yes. The Cargill Recognition Credit was established to recognize the upfront investment that many Canadian producers had made to become CRSB Certified, even when they weren't guaranteed a clear, financial payback for their effort at that time. Its aim was to acknowledge producers for the upfront investment, regardless of where their cattle were processed. The Cargill Recognition Credit was provided in collaboration with the CRSB, with the intention that this CRSB Certified Producer Incentive would replace it.

Is this a top-up payment like the Cargill Recognition Credit?

No. Every producer who meets all eligibility criteria will receive the full \$400 for the 2025/2026 CRSB Certified Producer Incentive year.

What if my cattle don't go to Cargill – can I still get the incentive?

Yes. The CRSB Certified Producer Incentive was established to reward all producers who have made the upfront investment to become certified, even if they aren't guaranteed a clear, financial reward for that effort from the sale of CRSB Certified beef. Producers can qualify for the CRSB Certified Producer Incentive regardless of where their cattle are processed.

About CRSB Certification

How do I get CRSB Certified?

Select the CRSB-approved Certification Body of your Choice. Contact them directly to get started.

Learn more about the process on our website [here](#).

How do I know if I have an active certificate?

Upon certification you receive a certificate from your Certification Body. The expiration

date of the certificate is displayed on the certificate. Your certificate must be active as of June 30, 2026, to receive the CRSB Certified Producer Incentive.

**Note: All operations certified by Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) are also certified to the CRSB Certified program at the same time. Your VBP+ certificate is also your CRSB certificate.*

How far in advance do I need to complete my on-farm verification audit to ensure my certification is valid as of June 30, 2026?

A valid certificate is required to be eligible to receive the incentive payment. Check with your Certification Body to determine the appropriate lead time to ensure your certification is valid as of June 30, 2026.

What if my certification is up for renewal in 2026?

A valid certificate as of June 30, 2026, is required to receive the CRSB Certified Producer Incentive payment. Check with your Certification Body to determine the appropriate lead time to ensure your certification is valid as of June 30, 2026.

CRSB Certified Qualifying Cattle and Incentive Requirements

I am already certified. Why are there other requirements?

The CRSB Certified program not only certifies farming and ranching operations to the Sustainable Beef Production Standard; it also certifies primary processing facilities, and its Chain of Custody system tracks cattle and beef through the supply chain. This assurance system enables CRSB Claims and use of the CRSB Certified logo in the consumer marketplace, with the aim of building consumer trust in the production of Canadian beef.

Enabling these claims requires steps to be taken by participants across the supply chain. For cattle to qualify for certified supply chains, producers must meet the [CRSB Certified Qualifying Cattle Requirements](#).

Why do I have to provide consent to share my operation's information with CCIA?

Your operation's contact and certification status information is required for the Chain of Custody system to identify active certified operations and cattle that qualify for CRSB Claims from those operations.

The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) is the sole live cattle tracking system (outside of Quebec) for the CRSB Certified program.

What information is shared with this consent?

The Certification Body shares the following information with the Chain of Custody provider:

- Operation information: Operation Name, Contact Name, Email, Mailing address
- Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) ID
- Certification date, Audit type, certification status change / de-certification date

Why do I have to submit birth dates or age verify my animals?

CRSB Certified claims rely on cattle moving through CRSB Certified operations from birth up to and including the primary processor.

Birth dates provide the starting point for the certified supply chain.

Beef must be from animals with documented records, which must include animal identification (RFID tag) and birth date (age verification) evidence from a CRSB-approved live cattle chain of custody verifier.

Birthdates can be submitted either for individual animals (actual birth date) or as a group (birthing start date).

Why do I have to submit cattle move-ins?

Cattle movements keep the certified supply chain flowing.

Move-ins show that cattle moved through only applicable CRSB Certified Operations.

Can I verify if I have consented to sharing information?

Yes. If you have consented, your contact information will appear under the “CRSB Client Information” section in your Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) account.

If you do not see it there, you have not provided written consent, or the information from the certification body does not match your CLTS information. You can add your consent at any time or verify the accuracy of your information by requesting through your Certification Body.

[Here is a short explainer video](#) to check your status.

If you have any other questions, reach out to us anytime at info@crsbcertified.ca.