

Cost Share Program for Food Safety Services

Provided through



50% cost share of PFSS Food Safety Specialists' hourly rate*

PFSS Food Safety Specialists can come onsite to conduct an on-farm/packing facility mock audit, Discuss the “Good,” the “Needs Improvement,” the “Bad,” of the operation and educate “Why” that is, Work to create all or parts of a custom food safety program for the operation(s) including, Paperwork, SOPs, checklists, risk assessments, HACCP plans, trainings, etc., as well as Schedule audits, be there for the audit, and help with corrective actions.

50% or up to \$1,100 cost share reimbursement of food safety audit fee**

The [Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association](#) is excited to announce a grant-funded opportunity through USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant to provide food safety cost share assistance† to fruit and vegetable farms and/or packing facility operations through its [Produce Food Safety Services](#) (PFSS) program. This cost share program will provide the services of PFSS Food Safety Specialists at 50% of the GFVGA membership hourly rate*. These services can include, but are not limited to, the cost of onsite consultation, on-farm mock audits, customized document and paperwork development such as SOPs, checklists, risk assessments, HACCP, etc., employee training materials, audit preparation tailored to individual operations, help and be present during the audit, and corrective actions after the audit. This program can also provide a cost share reimbursement of 50% or up to \$1,100 of a third-party food safety audit fee**.

Participants are asked to complete a food safety needs assessment/pre-project survey and abide by the GFVGA/PFSS Service Agreement terms. All responses will be confidential and the identity of program participants as well as the services performed will not be shared with USDA.

† GFVGA requires a pre-consulting assessment/survey and reserves the right to choose the program participants by any method it deems appropriate. All program participants must abide by GFVGA/PFSS Terms of Agreement.

** GFVGA member rate for PFSS services is \$120/hour. The cost share program will provide PFSS staff time at a 50% discount which is \$60/hour. Staff time cost share can be offered for a maximum of 19 hours per operation.*

*** Audit fee cost share will be reimbursed directly to the farm/operation after the completion of a third-party food safety audit and after the full audit fee has been paid to the auditing firm. The total reimbursement will be 50% of the total audit fee invoice and may not exceed \$1,100.*

Funding provided by the [USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant](#), awarded through the [Georgia Department of Agriculture](#)

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