



Application Guide 2023





Growcer Finance

Starting a vertical farm project can be capital-intensive, which often becomes a roadblock for many interested growers looking to start or scale their operation.

Growcer Finance is designed to match aspiring and existing growers with financing options to help them start or scale their vertical farms.

Our mission is simple: make year-round farming more accessible and profitable for everyone involved.

With Growcer Finance, a lack of initial funds will no longer be a barrier to start growing food locally and sustainably, year-round in your community.

Timeline: Applicants are matched with financing options in cohorts.

The current intake period will end on **December 1st, 2023 at 5 pm EDT.**

Submit your preliminary application before this date to be considered for access to financing for your vertical farming project with Growcer.

STEP ONE: UNDERSTAND THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- 1 Submit the preliminary application form within the specified preliminary intake period.
- 2 Await approval. Applications are evaluated within 10 - 12 business days.
- 3 Upon approval, complete the full application provided within 90 days.
- 4 Receive assistance from our team to address questions, review documents, and access essential tools and resources.
- 5 Reference check conducted, and any follow-up questions posed.
- 6 Await approval. Full Application assessed within 10 - 12 business days.



STEP TWO: EVALUATE YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

You run or are part of an existing organization (incorporated entity, sole proprietorship, corporation, co-op, or non-profit) **OR** You are an experienced entrepreneur looking to start a modular farming operation.

You own or lease land with access to water and electricity **OR** you are willing to run a Growcer farm at a separate location.

Distribution avenues for your produce are already set up **OR** Local grocers, restaurants, institutions, and community members have expressed interest in buying your produce, with an understanding of their volume needs and price points.

You have secured the required funds to finance your site preparation to host your farm.

You have a business plan for your project including a financial plan that demonstrates an ability to pay lease fees.

You understand the characteristics of Growcer modular farms (what can be grown, yields, labor requirement).

Note: Even if you do not fulfill all the criteria listed above, you may still qualify for Growcer Finance. We recommend submitting a preliminary application regardless, as we review each application on its own merit.

STEP THREE: PROCURE THE REQUISITE STANDARD MATERIALS

Once your preliminary application is approved, you will be asked to provide the following documents:

✓ Business Plan

✓ Tax Returns (past 2 years)

✓ Financial statements (past 2 years) if part of an existing organization

✓ Resume/CV

✓ Proof of registered business (if applicable)

✓ Statement showing all property taxes are paid (if applicable) **OR** lease agreement contract

✓ Credit Check Application Form

✓ Completed background check

✓ Evidence of distribution partnerships secured for your produce

✓ Evidence of access to funds on hand or on demand, demonstrating the ability to pay for all upfront costs and fund initial operations

✓ Water quality testing report (from intended water source)

✓ Layout plans on where your farm(s) will be located and pictures of storage facility

✓ Permits and planning requirements for your municipality and utilities provider

STEP FOUR: APPLY



Intake Period:

Submit your application at

www.thegrowcer.ca/finance/preliminary-application-2023

Once your preliminary application has been submitted, you will have 90 days to submit your full application package, supported by our team.

Questions?



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