



San Mateo County Agricultural ID (Ag ID) Program Eligibility Criteria

For the purposes of the Ag ID Program, The San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures (AWM) defines commercial agriculture as the cultivation of arable land by the raising of agricultural or horticultural crops and livestock and their products as a principal or supplemental source of income and intended for sale off the farm, and distribution to wholesalers or retail outlets. Beginning in April 2024, the county will include commercial equestrian boarding operations in its eligibility criteria for the Ag ID program.

Please refer to the schedule below for minimum numbers of livestock required: In the case of specialty livestock or other situations not addressed by the chart, please contact AWM at (650) 363-4700

Type of Livestock	Minimum number of each type of livestock to qualify as commercial production
Cattle	Eligible- 20 head of cattle minimum
Horses	Horse breeding operations with 20 or more broodmares are eligible. Commercial horse boarding facilities with 20 or more horses are also eligible.
Honeybees	Eligible- 100 hives min. Registration with State’s BeeWhere database required
Goats and Sheep	Eligible- 20 animals minimum
Pigs	Eligible- 20 animals minimum
Poultry, fowl or Rabbits	Eligible- 50 animals of each type minimum

One or more of the following documents will also be required, to establish program eligibility:

1. A valid Operator Identification Number or Restricted Material Permit issued by AWM.
2. A valid Certified Producer Certificate for agricultural produce sales at Farmers’ Markets.
3. A current State Organic Certificate
4. Current registration of a livestock brand (CDFA Bureau of Livestock Identification), or documentation from the USDA Farm Service Agency attesting that the applicant is a commercial agricultural producer
5. Annual Apiary Registration Certificate (for commercial beekeepers only) – Must be the current year’s registration and include an address for each apiary location
6. Registration as an Egg Producer with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
7. For commercial equestrian boarding operations:
 - a. If operating in the county’s unincorporated area, a valid confined animal permit issued by the San Mateo County Department of Building and Planning
 - b. If operating within a city’s limits, a valid horse stable permit or other applicable use permit issued by the city’s Department of Planning and Building