

MPIC Grant Procedures

The Michigan Potato Industry Commission (MPIC) is actively engaged in a variety of activities to advance the potato industry, including awarding grants to enhance production, storage, processing and marketing practices.

The following guidelines are in place to ensure that the expectations of the MPIC are met by grant recipients:

1. At the summer meeting of the MPIC Research Committee, a series of research priorities will be identified and will be used in awarding grants for the following growing season.
2. By October 15, the Call for Proposals will be made through MSU AgBioResearch with details for submittal. Proposals should identify specifically how the proposed research will address one or more of the identified priorities.
3. To protect commercial production of potatoes in Michigan, all proposals submitted must identify any potential risks and provide a mitigation plan to control that risk. Examples of risk such as the use of uncertified seed or trials inoculated with insects, nematodes, bacteria, or virus.
4. The MPIC Research Committee will review all proposals as a part of their winter meeting. Researchers are expected to attend the winter meeting and review their proposal with the committee.
5. The MPIC Research Committee will recommend grant funding following the winter meeting based on a predetermined maximum funding level by the MPIC to be awarded in the upcoming crop season. Final approval of all awards will be at the discretion of the Commission at their June meeting.
6. Grant funding will be distributed over twelve monthly payments as “an unrestricted gift” designated to the respective fund at Michigan State University beginning July of the year awarded through June of the following year.
7. Grant recipients will be expected to provide an update to the MPIC Research Committee as a part of the summer meeting the year funding is awarded and a final report of findings during the winter meeting. Additional request for presenting the findings to growers may be requested.
8. Final research reports are due February 1, following the research year to ensure results are available for implementation by growers in the following crop season and for the distribution at Winter Potato Conference.