



Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program

A program of the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation

Application Guidelines

Background

The Century Farm & Ranch Program is a nonprofit, volunteer-led program to honor farm and ranch families with century-long connections to the land and recognize Oregon's rich agricultural heritage. The program is administered through the Oregon Farm Bureau Foundation for Education and is partially funded through a partnership with the Oregon Farm Bureau, the State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon State University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center, and community members throughout Oregon.

All applications are added to the OSU Libraries' Special Collections & Archives Research Center. They provide valuable information about settlement patterns, livestock and crop choices, building design and family history. Successful applicants receive a distinctive certificate, with acknowledgement by the governor of Oregon and the director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and metal roadside sign identifying the historical Century Farm or Century Ranch at a special awards ceremony at the Oregon State Fair.

Qualifications

1. Only the legal owner(s) of the property may apply for the Century Farm or Century Ranch status.
2. The farm or ranch must have been operated continuously in the same family for 100 years or more. A farm or ranch settled any time 100 years ago or earlier will be eligible if it meets other requirements.
3. The farm or ranch must have a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding the application.
4. If living off the farm or ranch, or if the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, the owning family must actively manage and direct the farming or ranching activity on the land. Contact 503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org if you have any questions about eligibility.
5. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, siblings, or nephews and nieces. Adopted children will be recognized equally with other descendants.
6. Applications must be submitted on forms provided by the Century Farm and Ranch Program with all questions completed. Applicants must submit a narrative of family history, two to three pages in length that adds to the information included in the application. Copies of historical and current photographs of the farm or ranch and family are encouraged. All information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries' – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please do not send in original photos and/or documents, as all items sent with your application are **NOT** returned. Please send in quality copies of documents that support your application. Applications should include 4-5 digital photos from your application and sent to cfr@oregonfb.org by **May 1**.
7. All applications must include verification of continuous ownership for 100 years. Acceptable forms of proof include a document (high quality photocopy) showing date of earliest ownership. This may be provided through a Donation Land Claim, Deed of Sale, or Homestead Certificate. Other records, subject to review, include a family Bible, diary entry, or correspondence.
8. Applications must be signed and certified by a Notary Public.

9. Deadline for returning applications is **May 1** of the current year and must be postmarked by midnight.

Researching Farm and Ranch History

The Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program website has tips on gathering information about farm and ranch history. The website is located at www.centuryfarm.oregonfb.org

Completing the Application

This application is a Word document. You can fill information in as you answer the questions. You may notice the page adjusting as you enter text. That is OK. You can also submit a completed photocopy of this form.

Fees

A \$400 fee is required with each application. This fee covers administrative costs and includes one certificate and one roadside sign. Additional certificates may be ordered at the time of application at \$20 each and roadside signs at \$315 each. Make checks payable to: **OAEF with OCF&R Program in Memo Line**

Where to Send Completed Application Packets

Send the completed application (including the family history narrative, map and digital photos), Statement of Affirmation, your documentation, and sign and certificate order form, with fee payment, to:

**Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation
1320 Capitol St. NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301**

Do **not** send original documents, as they will not be returned. We recommend that you make a copy of your completed application before mailing. It makes a wonderful single source of farm information for years to come.

Review Process and Notification

All applications are checked for completeness by the program coordinator and reviewed by the Program Board. All applicants will be notified about their status by July 1.

Honoring Ceremony

Successful applicants, their families and neighbors are invited to a special ceremony at the Oregon State Fair to receive the certificate. The certificate has the name of the farm or ranch and is suitable for framing.

Still Have Questions About the Program?

Contact: **Andréa Kuenzi, Program Coordinator, at 503-400-7884 or cfr@oregonfb.org**

Thank you for helping us preserve Oregon's rich agriculture heritage and the important role it plays in keeping the state a healthy and vital place for Oregon residents and visitors. For more information about the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program visit <https://centuryfarm.oregonfb.org>



A program of the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation

Date: _____

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Type of designation (please check one) Century Farm Century Ranch

Press Contact (please check one) YES, both applicant & contact person (if different)

YES, Applicant only NO

(This give us permission to give members of the press who request it your contact information for possible articles about your farm or ranch)

Legal owner / Applicant name _____

Farm or Ranch Name (this is the name used in all publicity & marketing)

Phonetic Spelling/Pronunciation of Family Name _____

Mailing address of Legal Owner / Applicant _____

Telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Contact name (if different than legal owner) _____

Mailing address of contact _____

Contact telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Location of farm or ranch (which is the subject of this application):

County _____

Distance _____ from nearest town _____

Township _____ Range _____ Section _____

Address or physical location of the farm or ranch (which is subject of this application)

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application - Continued

GPS (Global Positioning System) Coordinates, if known _____

Please attach a map or drawing showing the location of the eligible property within the context of the family farm or ranch.

Founder(s):

Original family owner(s) or founder(s) _____

Founder(s) prior Country or State if not Oregon _____

Date (year) this farm or ranch was acquired by founder(s) _____
(Attach verifying documentation. See Application Qualification #7)

Who farms or ranches the land today? _____

Relationship of applicant to original owner. Clearly explain lineage from original ownership documents to current applicant. (See Application Qualification #7) _____

The family:

How many generations live on the farm or ranch today?

List names and birth years:

How many acres were included in original farm or ranch? _____

How many acres are included today in the farm or ranch? _____

How many acres are in agricultural use today? _____

If the farm or ranch has ever been rented or leased, please explain the owner's role in this relationship. For example, is the owner actively involved in the management of the land?

Farm Succession Family Tree:

One of the keys to a successful Century or Sesquicentennial Farm/Ranch application is a list of the family members through time that have owned your farm. This worksheet will help the OCF&R committee members to understand those changes in ownership over time.

1. Original owner(s) and date farm established _____
2. Next family member owner name(s) _____
 - a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____
 - b. Relationship to original owner (s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

3. Next family member owner name(s) _____
 - a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____
 - b. Relationship to previous owner(s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

4. Next family member owner name(s) _____
 - a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____
 - b. Relationship to previous owner(s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

5. Next family member owner name(s) _____
 - a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____
 - b. Relationship to previous owner(s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

6. Next family member owner name(s) _____
 - a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____
 - b. Relationship to previous owner(s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued

7. Next family member owner name(s) _____

a. Date of farm transfer to this owner _____

b. Relationship to previous owner(s) (brother, daughter, niece, etc.)

History of crops or livestock raised on farm or ranch:

What were the early crops or livestock?

How did the crops / livestock / use of farm or ranch change over the years?

What are crops / livestock raised on the farm or ranch today?

History of buildings:

Are any of the original buildings still in use? Yes No

When was the first house built? If it is still in use, describe the changes that have been made.

What years were other structures built (examples: barns, silos, machine shops, coops, smokehouses, dryers, etc.). Describe the changes that have been made to them, including any demolition.

Is any part of the property on the National Register of Historic Places? Is so, please explain.

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application – Continued

What are the three most important things/events that you would want someone to know about your family's farm or ranch?

The family history narrative:

Submit two or three pages of family history narrative, including, but not limited to generational transfers of the farm or ranch. Please also submit historical & current photos of the property & family, if available. Do *not* send original documents as they will not be returned. Digital format photos (at highest resolution [300 dpi]) are particularly desirable, so that they may be used in publications, the program's database or the web site. Submitted information, including photos, will be deposited in the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center for future reference. Please send digital photos included with your application to cfr@oregonfb.org by **May 1**.

Type of information to include in your family history narrative:

- Where founder(s) may have moved from to farm or ranch
- Significant events in the family (births, deaths, marriages, etc.)
- Any major changes to operations (methods of production, etc.)
- Additional information on crops, buildings, other changes from the original farm or ranch
- Any special family farm or ranch stories you'd like to share, passing on techniques, interesting characters, & family folklore

Application Checklist-Do you have all of these items?:

- Completed Application (pgs. 3-7)
- Family Narrative (see page 7 for what is needed, 2-3 pgs. typed)
- Family Succession Tree (pgs. 5-6)
- Map of Property (pg. 4 make sure it clearly shows original property and anything added to date)
- Notary Page (pg. 8)
- Completed Sign order form (pg. 9); don't forget to check type (ranch or farm) of Century designation
- Check for correct amount \$400 for app fee + any additional Signs/certs (see pg. 8-9 sign/cert order form)
- If you or a family member are interested in serving on the OCF&R Program Management committee please check this box*

(Continue application on next page)

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Application

Statement of Affirmation

I, _____,

hereby affirm and declare that the farm or ranch which I own at _____

_____, in the County of _____

has been owned by my family for at least 100 continuous years, as specified in the qualifications for the Century Farm & Ranch Program, on or before December 31 of the current calendar year. Further, I hereby affirm that this property meets all other requirements for Century Farm or Ranch honors, including that the farm or ranch has a gross income from farming or ranching activities of not less than \$1,000 per year for three out of the five years immediately preceding making this statement. I understand that the application materials will become property of the OSU Libraries – Special Collections & Archives Research Center and be made available for public use. By signing below, I understand that I am consenting to the use of both information and photographs.

Signature of Owner

Date

Certification by Notary Public

State of Oregon County of _____

Be it remembered, that on this _____ day of _____, 20____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, personally appeared the within named _____, known to me to be the identical individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that _____ executed the same freely and voluntarily.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.

Notary Public for Oregon

My Commission Expires _____

Fees

Application Fee (*includes one certificate & Roadside sign, Note \$50 of this fee is non-refundable*) \$ 400.00

Additional Certificates (\$20 each) \$ _____

Additional Signs (\$315 each) \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

For office use only

Date Received _____

Approved? Yes No

Authorization _____

Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator

Make checks payable to: OAEF with Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program in the Memo Line

