

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT 28 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

AMANDA BEAL COMMISSIONER

America's Food & Beverage Show 2023

MAINE PAVILION BOOTH SPACE APPLICATION

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (MDACF) invites and encourages all interested Maine producers to apply for the opportunity to exhibit in the State of Maine Pavilion at the America's Food & Beverage Show being held in Miami Beach, FL. The dates for the 2023 show are:

September 18-20, 2023

The Americas Food & Beverage Show & Conference is only open to the industry, making this an exclusively B2B event. Attendees of the Show are there looking for new and innovative products to source, add to their store shelves and menus. The show is sponsored by the National Association of State Department of Agriculture (NASDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) works to promote the export of U.S. agricultural products and reports on agricultural production and market development in all areas of the world. USDA/FAS works in conjunction with NASDA to help promote the USA Pavilion at the Americas Food and Beverage Show and Conference.

The MDACF is excited to host six (4) exhibitors in the State of Maine Pavilion at the 2023 show.

Application Process

The following outlines the selection and assignment of exhibitors in the State of Maine Pavilion and the application process, in effect for 2023. This process attempts to provide a fair and transparent process for all potential exhibitors applying for exhibiting opportunity.

The deadline for return of this application is:

July 7, 2023

Application for Exhibit Space

Any party interested in exhibiting must apply by completing the attached application form. Applicants should be very specific and provide as much detail as possible in order to accurately describe the items they wish to sell or display.

Exhibitor Criteria

- 1. Wholesale & retail food & beverage products.
- Applicants must offer products or services that are grown, produced or significantly altered and available in Maine.
- Exhibitors must enter into a contract for Exhibit Space with MDACF.
- 4. Exhibitors must provide staffing during all operating hours of the entire event including set up and breakdown of space.
- 5. Exhibitors will be required to follow any provided guidelines for the show, convention center, and state of Maine processes including obtaining any necessary permits, delivery, handling, or service agreements.

MICHELLE WEBB
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Selection Process

Applications that are complete and received by the deadline will be reviewed by a committee and evaluated based on criteria including but not limited to: Maine grown ingredients, Maine produced products, ability to provide staffing and meet market demands and desire to positively represent the State of Maine and work in conjunction with MDACF staff.

Exhibitor Fee Schedule

After a competitive review of applications, selected first time exhibitors will receive a kiosk within the Real Maine pavilion, free of charge. This discounted rate includes rental of space, credentials for access to the show and payment of basic electricity, table, chairs, and janitorial fees.

Returning exhibitors will be charged a rate of \$1,000.00 per space. This discounted rate includes rental of space, credentials for access to the show and payment of basic electricity, table, chairs, and janitorial fees.

Notification to Applicants

Applicants will be provided written notification of action on their application after committee review and approval by MDACF which will be sent on or before July 14, 2023.

Contract for Exhibit Space

Each selected exhibitor will be sent an exhibitor contract which must be signed by the exhibitor and returned by August 1, 2023, or space will be forfeited.

Insurance Requirements

Proof of general liability insurance must be provided with coverage meeting that required by show.

Additional Fees

Vendors will be responsible for any fees not specifically discussed in this application. These individual fees may include: travel, transportation & hotel accommodations, shipping of supplies and display materials, and samples.

More information may be obtained by contacting Melissa Jordan
Agricultural Promotions Coordinator
MDACF
Melissa.a.jordan@maine.gov
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

And online at:

https://americasfoodandbeverage.com/