



Master Shepherd's Course Participant Application Form

The Master Shepherd's Course (MSC) is 12 modules offered over an 18-month period, running from September 2020 through to January 2022. This offering of the course will be online only. Each module will consist of 8 x 1.5-hour sessions.

It is expected that participants in this course have at least three years' experience with sheep production, either as a sheep business owner/operator or as an employee working on a sheep farm.

For more information, including the current schedule of program dates, please visit www.OntarioSheep.org/master-shepherds-course.

Section A Contact information

Farm, business, or company name		
Name of applicant		
Address		
City	Province	Postal code
Phone	Email	
OSF District	Age of applicant	

Section B Business/organization profile

Owner/producer applicants			
Number of years of experience in sheep industry		OSF Producer Number	
Number of employees	<i>Full time</i>	<i>Part time</i>	<i>Seasonal</i>
List other farm enterprises:			
Farm worker applicants			
Number of years of experience in sheep industry			
Number of hours worked/week			
Description of other livestock experience that is transferrable to sheep production			



Section C Farm description

(If you are a farm employee applicant, answer these questions based on the farm where you work.)

Number of acres farmed	Number of breeding ewes in flock
Lamb feedlot: Barn capacity	Number of feeder lambs produced in a year
Type of production system (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual lambing <input type="checkbox"/> Accelerated lambing <input type="checkbox"/> Feedlot <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pasture based system <input type="checkbox"/> Confinement system <input type="checkbox"/> Combination
Primary focus of your production	
<input type="checkbox"/> Market lambs <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding stock	
How do you currently market your product? Check all that apply.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public auction <input type="checkbox"/> Farmer's markets <input type="checkbox"/> Private sales <input type="checkbox"/> Direct to packer <input type="checkbox"/> To other sheep farmers	
What records to you currently keep on your farm? Check all that apply.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial – tax purposes <input type="checkbox"/> Financial – business analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Flock production <input type="checkbox"/> Flock health	
Business relationships with agricultural support professionals off farm. Check all that apply.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian <input type="checkbox"/> Feed nutritionist <input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound pregnancy scanner <input type="checkbox"/> Accountant <input type="checkbox"/> Crop advisor <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	
Describe your farm and any unique features, assets, or opportunities that you may have.	
Describe your greatest challenges as a sheep farmer.	
What do you hope to learn or experience by taking this course?	



Are you willing to actively participate in class discussions and share your farm successes and failures for the benefit of all class participants?

Yes No

If no, please explain your reasons.

Previous education specific to sheep production.

Please list all courses, seminars, and workshops that you have attended in an effort to learn more about sheep farming. Include approximate dates.

What major factors influenced your decision to get started in the sheep industry?

Do you have the capacity to expand your farming operation and increase lamb production in any of the following areas? Yes No If yes, check all that apply.

Financial Land base Buildings # of ewes # of lambs marketed # of employees

What new technologies or management practices regarding animal health, production, or nutrition do you currently use on your farm?

What new technologies or management practices would you like to learn more about?



Section D Business plan

If your farm has a mission and vision statement, please include both here.

Mission statement
Vision statement

List your top three short term goals – things you would like your farm/flock to accomplish in the next three years.

Short term goal #1
Short term goal #2
Short term goal #3

List your top three long term goals – things you would like your farm/flock to accomplish in the next five to 10 years.

Long term goal #1
Long term goal #2
Long term goal #3



Section E General information

The information you supply on the application form is being collected by Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) and will be used **ONLY** for the purpose of administering the Master Shepherd's Course. This includes processing your application, confirming your program eligibility, and contacting you if you are selected to be a participant in this course.

Questions about the collection of personal information on this form can be directed to the General Manager, Jennifer MacTavish, Ontario Sheep Farmers, 130 Malcolm Road Guelph, Ontario, N1K 1B1, or by phone at 519.836.0043 x323.

The topic of the 12th module will be decided upon based on the specific needs and requests of the program participants who have signed up for the full program. The final presentations of business plans will only be open to program participants who complete **ALL OF** the previous modules.

Please indicate if you wish to enroll in the full program (all 12 modules) or on an individual module basis. If applying for individual modules, please indicate which ones you would like to register for.

- I am applying for the full program (12 modules).
 I would like to register for individual modules. Please indicate which module(s) you are registering for below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Industry dynamics and governance	<input type="checkbox"/> Flock Productivity and Reproduction	<input type="checkbox"/> Lambing and lamb rearing
<input type="checkbox"/> Financials and Business planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Ewe Flock Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/> Predation and pasture management
<input type="checkbox"/> Genetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure and feeding systems	<input type="checkbox"/> Effective flock health management
<input type="checkbox"/> Lamb feedlots and dairy sheep	<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing and wool	

Full online course enrollment fee \$1,750

Payment schedule: Deposit of \$1,000 is required to secure your enrollment. Balance of \$750 is due on February 28, 2021.

Individual module fee \$200* per person per module. Registrations will be accepted up to the date the module begins. **A cancellation fee of \$50** will be charged for cancellations made within the week prior to the module.

Questions regarding the application and the Master Shepherd's Course can be directed to **Anita O'Brien, MSC Coordinator** at mastershepherd@ontariosheep.org or 519-836-0043 extension 322.

For the most up-to-date schedule of modules visit www.OntarioSheep.org/master-shepherds-course.



Section F Payment information

Fees payable

Full course enrollment (deposit)

Individual module registration

Total owing

Bank e-transfer to finance@ontariosheep.org (Put your name and phone number in the memo field)

cheque enclosed (payable to **Ontario Sheep Farmers**)

charge my credit card

VISA

MasterCard

Card number

Expiry date	CVS
Name on the card	

Part G Certification

I, the undersigned, acknowledge and understand for this Master Shepherd's Course the curriculum is subject to change and this course is not intended to be a complete and all-encompassing manual on sheep production. Ontario Sheep Farmers and the program guest speakers will strive to give complete and up to date information, but I recognize that not everything may be applicable to my specific situation. I understand that there will be homework assignments and supplementary course reading material, and research requirements.

I certify that the information provided on all parts of this application is true, complete to the best of my knowledge.

Name of applicant
Signature of applicant
Date

Submit your completed application to

Ontario Sheep Farmers

130 Malcolm Rd

Guelph, ON N1K 1B1

E: mastershepherd@ontariosheep.org

F: 519.836.2531

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