

Grant Opportunities

AGRICULTURE

Opportunity Title:	Horizon Farm Credit Jump Start
Funding Close Date	Apr 19, 2024 at 4PM EST
Funding Organization	Horizon Farm Credit
Description	<p>JumpStart is a new and beginner farmer grant program from Horizon Farm Credit that awards up to 15 farmers a grant of \$10,000 to help get them started on their agricultural journey. Applicants must be 18 or older with two years or less of farming experience or be planning to start farming in the next two years.</p> <p>Applicants must reside in Horizon Farm Credit's service territory in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. The application requires a series of essays, a business plan, and completion of an Ag Biz Basics course.</p>
Link	https://www.horizonfc.com/jumpstart

Opportunity Title:	Sky High Farm Grants
Funding Close Date	Apr 22, 2024
Funding Organization	Sky High Farm
Description	<p>In its 2024 grant cycle, Sky High Farm will make at least \$350,000 in grants (total) to individuals working in agriculture, food justice, and/or land sovereignty. Funding decisions will be made by an independent committee of farmers, food justice activists and key stakeholders working to create a more equitable food system. Grants are available to individuals or organizations working in agriculture, food justice, and/or land sovereignty.</p> <p>Applications will be prioritized among those who identify as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual, and those working in communities historically exploited and harmed by the existing industrial agricultural system.</p> <p>Grants will be reviewed and awarded every four months beginning in June 2024 and through the end of the year.</p>

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Link	https://www.skyhighfarm.org/grants
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Opportunity Title:	Minnesota Cooperative Development Grant Program
Funding Close Date	Apr 24, 2024 by 4 p.m. CT
Funding Organization	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Description	<p>Minnesota's Cooperative Development Grant Program is now accepting applications from new cooperatives looking to finance business development strategies that will aid in the successful production, processing, or marketing of agricultural commodities, products, or services produced in Minnesota.</p> <p>The Minnesota Department of Agriculture will award up to \$375,000 in this round of Cooperative Development Grants. Applicants may request between \$2,500 and \$50,000 per project, and must commit to matching at least 50% of the total project cost.</p>
Link	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/business-dev-loans-grants/cooperative-development-grant-program

Opportunity Title:	Maine School Food System Innovation Grant
Funding Close Date	May 01, 2024
Funding Organization	USDA and Full Plates
Description	<p>The School Food System Innovation Grant will support innovative and collaborative pilot projects that reimagine what the local school food system could look like and have the potential to be sustained and/or scaled. Projects can be regional or statewide in scale and should address the unique barriers faced by schools when trying to increase their use of Maine-based items in school meal programs and expand their suppliers.</p> <p>Proposed activities should be clearly aligned to the following objectives and demonstrate the potential for long-term sustainability and/or scalability in the following six areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen Maine's food supply chain and enhance the capacity of growers, producers, processors, distributors, and other partners to supply fresh, nutritious, and Maine-sourced foods to schools;

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<p>Link</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Increase the sourcing and use of Maine foods in school meal programs across the state; 3. Address barriers for schools related to sourcing, ordering, processing, and/or storing foods produced in Maine; 4. Support school nutrition teams in using Maine's fresh ingredients, being responsive to the unique needs and preferences of students, and increasing creative menu development and scratch cooking in school kitchens; 5. Foster lasting partnerships and collaborations between SFAs and community-based food system partners like Maine growers, producers, fisheries, processors, distributors, aggregators, parents, caregivers, students, teachers, administrators, and other food system partners impacted by school food supply chain issues; and 6. Establish sustainable solutions and best practices for the K-12 food system that are scalable and replicable for other SFAs and organizations. <p>USDA and Full Plates anticipate awarding up to \$7.4 million through this grant. Funding requests can range from \$100,000 to \$1.5 million. Applications must have one Maine-based Lead Partner and at least two Partner Organizations.</p> <p>https://www.maineschoolmealgrants.org/school-food-system-innovation-grant</p>
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Opportunity Title:	Research Facilities Act Program
Funding Close Date	May 13, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-NIFA-OP-010555
Description	<p>The purpose of the Research Facilities Act Program (RFAP) is to assist qualifying institutions with the costs related to constructing, purchasing, updating, renovating, or modifying agricultural research buildings to conduct research in the areas of agriculture and food sciences. The proposed agricultural research facility must expand the institution's capacity for long-term impactful research and must be the result of thorough strategic planning. Awards may be used to fund the construction of buildings or sites for agricultural research facilities or other facilities that store agricultural research experimental samples or specimens, as well as the purchase of real estate or durable equipment. Activities might include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluating infrastructure and sites

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Link	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Conceptual planning and design for a newly constructed, restored, or rebuilt structure or place 3. Creating construction plans and schematics for the facility or site that is being built, restored, or rebuilt. 4. Building, restoring, or remodeling a facility or location. 5. Investing in and putting in permanent equipment for research monitoring and safeguarding samples and specimens. 6. Investing in and putting in essential building systems like electricity, climate control, security, life safety, lighting, utilities, telecommunications, and energy management. <p>Estimated Total Program Funding: \$ 908,542. Award Ceiling: \$250,000. Award Floor: \$100,000.</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353127</p>
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Opportunity Title:	Regional Food System Partnerships
Funding Close Date	May 14, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-AMS-TM-RFSP-G-24-0027
Description	<p>The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), requests applications for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) grant program. RFSP purpose is to support partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local and regional food systems.</p> <p>Approximately \$5 million will be available to fund applications under this solicitation, minus administrative expenses. RFSP Planning and Design projects range from \$100,000 to \$250,000, while Implementation and Expansion projects range from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000. RFSP is part of the Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP). AMS welcomes applications that meet LAMP goals.</p> <p>to support the development, coordination, and expansion of direct producer-to-consumer marketing, local and regional food markets and enterprises, and value-added agricultural products. Eligible entities and activities remain the same as in previous years. A 25% cash match is required.</p> <p>In the FY 2023 application cycle, AMS funded 10 (13%) of the 74 applications received.</p>

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<p>Link</p>	<p>AMS encourages applications from partnerships that engage with smaller farms and ranches, beginning farmers and ranchers, underserved producers, veteran producers, and/or underserved communities. For grants intending to serve these entities, applicants should engage and involve those beneficiaries when developing projects and applications. USDA promotes climate-resilient landscapes and rural economic systems, including tools to support agriculture, forests, grazing lands, and rural communities. AMS encourages applicants to consider including goals and activities related to reducing and stabilizing the levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere or adapting to the already occurring climate change in their project's design and implementation.</p> <p>Below are highlights of major changes to the program since last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AMS General Terms and Conditions have been updated to reflect recent changes to the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200) and Buy America preference for infrastructure projects. • The Farm to Institution project type is no longer available under RFSP. • Applications applying under the 'areas of concentrated poverty' priority area must provide additional information on the Project Narrative (section 1.3.5). <p>https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsp/apply</p>
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Opportunity Title:	Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP)
Funding Close Date	May 21, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-AMS-TM-FSMIP-G-24-0014
Description	<p>The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) requests applications for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP). AMS is awarding grants that require a 1:1 match to eligible applicants for projects that explore new market opportunities for U.S. food and agricultural products and encourage research and innovation aimed at improving the efficiency and performance of the U.S. agricultural marketing system.</p> <p>Approximately up to \$1 million will be available to fund applications under this solicitation. The final amount available is subject to</p>

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<p>Link</p>	<p>Congressional action. All project types range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. Eligible entities and activities remain the same as in previous years. A \$1 for \$1 match, in the form of cash or in-kind contributions, is required by statute.</p> <p>AMS encourages applications intended to serve smaller farms and ranches, new and beginning farmers and ranchers, historically underserved producers, veteran producers, and/or underserved communities. For projects intending to serve these audiences, applicants should engage and involve those beneficiaries when developing projects and applications.</p> <p>USDA promotes climate-resilient landscapes and rural economic systems, including tools to support agriculture, forests, grazing lands, and rural communities. AMS encourages applicants to consider including goals and activities related to reducing and stabilizing the levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere or adapting to the already occurring climate change in their project's design and implementation.</p> <p>https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fsmip</p>
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CONSERVATION

Opportunity Title:	Revolving Fund Program
Funding Close Date	May 01, 2024
Funding Number	RDRUS-24-RFP
Description	<p>This program provides grants to qualified private, non-profit entities to capitalize revolving funds for the purpose of providing financing to eligible entities for pre-development costs associated with proposed water and wastewater projects or with existing water and wastewater systems, and short-term costs incurred for replacement equipment, small-scale extension of services, or other small capital projects that are not part of the regular operations and maintenance activities of existing water and wastewater systems.</p> <p>Estimated Total Program Funding: \$1,000,000.</p>

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Link	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353264
Opportunity Title:	Announcement for Program Funding for NRCS' Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2024 - CONNECTICUT
Funding Close Date	May 24, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-NRCS-CT-CIG-24-NOFO0001403
Description	<p>NRCS is announcing the availability of Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) State Program funding to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications are accepted from eligible entities (Section C) for projects carried out in the state of Connecticut. A total of up to \$500,000 is available for the Connecticut CIG competition in FY 2024. All non-Foreign, non-federal entities (NFE) and individuals are invited to apply, with the sole exception of federal agencies. Projects may be between one and three years in duration.</p> <p>The purpose of CIG is to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies in conjunction with agricultural production in the United States and its territories. CIG projects are expected to lead to the transfer of conservation technologies, management systems, and innovative approaches (such as market-based systems) to agricultural producers, into government technical manuals and guides, or to the private sector. CIG generally funds pilot projects, field demonstrations, and on-farm conservation research.</p> <p>The CIG program is not a NRCS producer financial assistance program. Project outcomes should benefit a region of a state or the entire state and not just benefit one farm.</p> <p>IRA funds may be used and NRCS will prioritize using IRA funds for projects that will implement climate-smart agriculture conservation activities which are targeted to assist agricultural producers and nonindustrial private forestland owners in directly improving soil carbon, reducing nitrogen losses, or reducing, capturing, avoiding, or sequestering carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with agricultural production.</p>

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Link	<p>Estimated Total Program Funding: \$ 500,000. Award Ceiling: \$250,000. Award Floor: \$20,000.</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353173</p>
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Opportunity Title:	Ohio Natural Resources Conservation Service Energy Technical Assistance
Funding Close Date	May 24, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-NRCS-OH-CTA-24-NOFO0001377
Description	<p>The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is directing resources toward climate-smart agriculture and forestry (CSAF) conservation practices, including those for energy efficiency. NRCS is providing funding for a partnership to provide technical assistance to NRCS and producers on energy practices. Information related to NRCS CSAF practices can be found at the following web address: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-10/NRCS-CSAF-Mitigation-Activities-List.pdf.</p> <p>Projects may be between 1 and 5 years in duration. Additional funds may be added to agreement in later years as funds become available. Total funding is dependent on the Federal Budget and technical workload in Ohio. Applicants should plan their projects based on an estimated project start date of October 1, 2024.</p> <p>Estimated Total Program Funding: \$ 1,500,000. Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000. Award Floor: \$100,000.</p>
Link	https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353168

Opportunity Title:	CIG- FY 2024 - Missouri
Funding Close Date	May 25, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-NRCS-MO-CIG-24-NOFO0001370
Description	<p>NRCS is announcing the availability of Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) State Program funding to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications are accepted from eligible entities (Section C) for projects carried out in</p>

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Link	<p>the state of Missouri. A total of up to \$500,000.00 is available for the Missouri CIG competition in FY 2024. All non-Foreign, non-federal entities (NFE) and individuals are invited to apply, with the sole exception of federal agencies. Projects may be between one and three years in duration. The maximum award amount for a single award in FY 2024 is \$250,000.00.</p> <p>A webinar for CIG applicants is scheduled for April 8, 2024 at 9 a.m. CT Standard Time. Information on how to participate in the webinar will be posted to the Missouri NRCS CIG website.</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353215</p>
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Opportunity Title:	Conservation Technical Assistance: Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Cooperative Agreements
Funding Close Date	May 26, 2024
Funding Number	USDA-NRCS-NHQ-ST-24-NOFO0001313
Description	<p>The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) delivers conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world. NRCS provides leadership and funding to ensure that all programs and services are made accessible to all customers, fairly and equitably, with emphasis on reaching historically underserved farmers and ranchers and Native American tribal governments and organizations. NRCS is committed to advancing equity, justice, and equal opportunity to ensure equitable access to programs and services available on private agricultural and forest lands.</p> <p>The goal of this funding opportunity is for NRCS, in collaboration with a diverse set of partners, including historically underserved farmers and ranchers and their organizations, to expand the delivery of conservation technical assistance to support grazing planning and conservation practice implementation and monitoring, conferences and other education, demonstrations, producer networks, workforce training, research and outreach projects to improve agricultural resilience.</p> <p>FY 2024 GLCI funding supports the Conservation Technical Assistance: Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Cooperative Agreements. GLCI also supports NRCS technical assistance for grazing, as well as the National Grazing Lands Coalition to help state grazing coalitions</p>



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Link	<p>form and persist with participation from historically underserved producers and Native American tribal governments and organizations.</p> <p>Estimated Total Program Funding: \$22,000,000. Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000. Award Floor: \$100,000.</p> <p>https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/353214</p>
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