USDA Grants and Loans that Support Farm to School Activities

Funding from the US Department of Agriculture is available to assist farms, schools, and every link in between in feeding kids healthy local meals; teaching them about food, farming and nutrition; and supporting local agricultural economies. While the programs listed below provide a good starting point for those looking to bolster farm to school efforts, other USDA grant and loan programs support local food systems work as well. Visit [www.usda.gov/knowyourfarmer](http://www.usda.gov/knowyourfarmer) and [www.usda.gov/farmtoschool](http://www.usda.gov/farmtoschool) for more information.

### Funding Agency

- Agricultural Marketing Service
- Farm Service Agency
- Food and Nutrition Service
- National Institute of Food and Agriculture
- Rural Development

### I am a

#### Local Government

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Community Facilities Grants and Loans
- Rural Business Enterprise and Opportunity Grants

#### Farmer, Rancher, or Farm Landowner

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Farm Loans
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Sustainable Ag Research and Education Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Value-Added Producer Grants

#### State Agency or Tribal Government/Org

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Federal-State Marketing Improvement Grants
- Specialty Crop Block Grants
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Team Nutrition Training Grants
- Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Community Food Project Grants

#### Non-Profit Organization

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Federal-State Marketing Improvement Grants
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Community Food Project Grants
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants
- Sustainable Ag Research and Education Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Community Facilities Grants and Loans

#### Private Business, Public Benefits Corporation, or Ag Co-Op

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Community Food Project Grants
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Community Facilities Grants and Loans
- Value-Added Producer Grants

#### State Agency or Tribal Government

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Federal-State Marketing Improvement Grants
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants
- Sustainable Ag Research and Education Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Community Facilities Grants and Loans
- Community Facilities Grants and Loans
- Value-Added Producer Grants

#### Higher Education Institution

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Community Food Project Grants
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Rural Business Enterprise and Opportunity Grants
- Value-Added Producer Grants

#### K-12 Public, Private, or Indian Tribal School

- Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Grants
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Farm to School Support Service & Training Grants
- Community Food Project Grants
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants
- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- Rural Business Enterprise and Opportunity Grants
- Value-Added Producer Grants

Note: Eligibility guidelines can be quite specific, so be sure to confirm your eligibility on the webpage for the grant or loan program before applying. In addition, non-eligible entities can often partner with eligible entities to benefit from programs they might not otherwise have access to.
Learn More…

Funding from the Food and Nutrition Service

Farm to School Grants - www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/grants
Team Nutrition Training Grants - www.fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition-training-grants
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed) - The goal of SNAP-Ed is to improve the likelihood that persons eligible for SNAP will make healthy choices within a limited budget and choose active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate. SNAP-Ed funds support direct education, social marketing and public health based approaches to nutrition and obesity prevention. Reach out to your SNAP-Ed lead agency to learn about existing community food systems work. www.fns.usda.gov/snap/nutrition-education

Funding from the Agricultural Marketing Service

Federal State Marketing Improvement Program - www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fsmip
Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp

Funding from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Community Food Project Grants - nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grants - www.sare.org/Grants
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Grants - www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri.html

Funding from Rural Development

Value Added Producer Grants - www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_VAPG.html
Rural Cooperative Development Grants - www.rurdev.usda.gov/bcp_rcdg.html

Funding from the Farm Service Agency

Farm Loans - www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index
Farm Storage Facility Loans - www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/frm_storage_facility_lns.pdf (PDF)

For more information, and to sign up for the bi-weekly e-letter from the Food and Nutrition Service’s Office of Community Food Systems, please visit www.usda.gov/farmtoschool. Questions? Email us at farmtoschool@fns.usda.gov

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