

Grants & Funding Information

General

1. [Intro to Applying on Grants.gov](#) (webinar).
2. [How to Register with Grants.gov](#) (webinar).

School and Youth

1. Whole Kids Foundation offers [School Programs & Grants](#) **Purpose:** Dedicated to growing healthier kids through better nutrition. [Salad Bar Grant](#) **Eligibility:** Any district or independent school participating in the National School Lunch Program. **Funding:** See website. **Deadline:** See website.
2. [School Fruit and Veggie Grants \(Skoop and Chef Ann Foundation\)](#) **Purpose:** Awards school projects that help kids learn about and eat more fruits and vegetables. Sponsored by Skoop and Chef Ann Foundation. **Eligibility:** Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Schools with greater than 50% free and reduced eligible enrollment encouraged to apply. **Funding:** \$2,500/school. **Deadline:** Available until funding is depleted.

Rural

1. The Ford Family Foundation offers the [Community Building Spaces Grant](#) **Purpose:** To provide funding for the development of public spaces. **Eligibility:** Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, governmental entity, or IRS-recognized tribe. **Funding:** \$50,000 to \$250,000. **Deadline:** Rolling.
2. The Ford Family Foundation offers [The Good Neighbor Grant](#) **Purpose:** To provide small grants to organizations in response to unexpected needs or simple projects. **Eligibility:** Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, governmental entity, or IRS-recognized tribe. **Funding:** \$1,000 to \$10,000. **Deadline:** Rolling.
3. [Community Facilities Fund \(Rural LISC\)](#) **Purpose:** Rural LISC was recently approved as a USDA Community Facilities Re-lender. These loans fund construction of essential community facilities. **Eligibility:** Nonprofits or public entities in rural areas. **Funding:** \$100,000 - \$8 million. **Deadline:** Rolling.
4. [Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program \(USDA RD\)](#) **Purpose:** Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities, including local food system facilities, in rural areas with populations under 20,000. **Funding:** Varies. **Eligibility:** Public bodies, community-based nonprofits, federally-recognized Tribes. Priority is given to small communities (populations of 5,500 or less) and low-income communities. **Deadline:** Rolling.
5. [Rural Business Development Grant \(USDA RD\)](#) **Purpose:** Supports development of small rural businesses, including projects related to land acquisition/development, community economic development, and feasibility studies. **Funding:** \$10,000 to \$500,000. **Eligibility:** governments/authorities, nonprofits, universities, federally-recognized tribes, rural cooperatives. **Deadline:** Applications accepted through local or state Rural Development offices once every year.

Food Systems and Food Security

1. [EPA Environmental Education Local Grant Program Solicitation](#) **Purpose:** To support locally-focused environmental education projects that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental and conservation issues and provide the skills that participants in its funded projects need to make informed decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment. The program supports projects that reflect the intersection of environmental issues with agricultural best practices, conservation of natural resources, food waste management, and natural disaster preparedness. **Funding:** Between \$50,000 and \$100,000. **Deadline:** 4/11/18.

2. [Developing Healthy Places](#) **Purpose:** Kresge Foundation seeks to fund nonprofit or government initiatives that build healthier and more equitable food systems, transportation infrastructure, and land use. **Eligibility:** Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, government entities. **Funding:** Varies. **Deadline:** Rolling.
3. [Surdna Foundation/Local and Regional Food Grants](#) **Purpose:** Fund projects that develop regional food infrastructure, reduce barriers to access, strategize financing, or link organizations to more effectively advance regional food efforts. Preference is given to projects that address low-income communities of color and combine food supply efforts with infrastructure construction. **Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations. **Funding:** Need-based. **Deadline:** Rolling.
4. [The Good Food Fund in Michigan](#) **Purpose:** \$30 million to supply loans, grants, and new market tax credits for the Good Food Sector. This grant prioritizes enterprises that serve low and moderate-income food-insecure Michigan communities. Sponsored by Fair Food Network, Capital Impact Partners, Michigan State University Center for Regional Food, and W.K. Kellogg Foundation. **Funding:** Varies. **Eligibility:** Good Food enterprises in Michigan that promote the aims of the Fair Food Network. **Deadline:** Rolling.

Farmer, Rancher & Food

1. [USDA Farm Business Management and Benchmarking \(FBMB\) Competitive Grants Program](#) **Purpose:** (1) improve the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers; and (2) establish and maintain a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management. **Eligibility:** Several types of higher education institutions, for-profits other than small businesses, non-profits with 501(c)(3). **Deadline:** 4/20/18.
2. [The Farmers Market Promotion Program Grant](#) **Purpose:** Helps fund direct farmer-to-consumer marketing activities through capacity building; and community development, training and technical assistance projects. **Deadline:** 5/7/18.
3. [The Local Food Promotion Program Grant](#) **Purpose:** Projects require a 25 percent match and focus on planning and implementation of local and regional food intermediary supply chain development. **Deadline:** 5/7/18.
4. [USDA Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program](#) **Purpose:** Enhance the equitable participation of socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers in USDA resources and programs, such as Farm Service Agency loans or grants through the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP). Projects may focus on conferences, training sessions, educational materials, or new programs to help these farmers and ranchers thrive and succeed. **Deadline:** 5/15/18.
5. [USDA Specialty Crop Block Grants](#) **Purpose:** To support specialty crop growers, strengthen local and regional food systems, and explore new market opportunities for farmers and ranchers. USDA helps fund projects that bolster rural economies across the country. **Eligibility:** State Departments of Agriculture. **Deadline:** 5/24/18.
6. [Organic Certification Cost Share Programs \(USDA-AMS\)](#) **Purpose:** Helps cover organic certification-related expenses. **Eligibility:** Producers and handlers. **Funding:** Up to 75% of certification costs. **Deadline:** Check with state department of agriculture.
7. [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Farmer Rancher Grant Program](#) **Purpose:** Funds projects that research sustainable solutions to farm management. **Funding:** up to \$7,500 for individual projects and up to \$22,500 for group projects. **Deadline:** Varies.
8. [Illinois Annual Agriculture Loans](#) **Purpose:** Helps Illinois farmers pay annual start-up costs associated with seed, fertilizer, plants, crop insurance, and other expenses. Funding through the Ag Invest Annual interest rate reduction program from the Illinois Treasurer's Office. **Eligibility:** Please see website. **Deadline:** Rolling.
9. [Farm Storage Facility Loans](#) **Purpose:** Provides low-interest financing to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store or process agricultural products. Most recently, these loans made available funding for refrigerated vehicles. **Funding:** Up to \$500,000 per loan. **Eligibility:** Please see eligibility requirements [here](#). **Deadline:** Rolling.
10. [USDA Microloans \(USDA-FSA\)](#) **Purpose:** USDA's Farm Service Agency provides financial assistance for small, beginning farmer, niche and non-traditional farm ownership or operations. Non-traditional farm operations can include truck farms, farms, direct marketing farmers, Community Supported Agriculture, restaurants and grocery stores, or those using hydroponic, aquaponics, organic, and/or vertical growing methods. **Eligibility:** Please see website. **Funding:** Maximum of \$50,000. **Deadline:** Rolling.

11. [USDA EZ Guarantee Loans \(USDA-FSA\)](#) **Purpose:** USDA's Farm Service Agency has streamlined this loan process for smaller scale farms and urban producers. The program provides \$100,000 to help beginning, small underserved, and family farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland or finance agricultural operations. The USDA also added a new category of lenders, including microlenders. **Funding:** Up to \$100,000. **Deadline:** Rolling.
12. [Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program Ohio Department of Agriculture](#) **Funding:** Varies. **Eligibility:** Land owners with greater than 40 acres of land in the State of Ohio. Land use must remain in agricultural production. **Deadline:** Rolling.

Environment

1. [USDA, NRCS Offers Assistance to Protect Privately-Owned Wetlands, Agricultural Lands and Grasslands.](#) **Purpose:** **Eligibility:** Land eligible for agricultural easements includes cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland and nonindustrial private forest land. **Funding:** up to 75% of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement. **Deadline:** see website. Click [here](#) to find more information.

Community

1. [Enterprise Collaborative Action Grants](#) **Purpose:** Support proposals that shape the community and social context, and catalyze positive dynamics. Actions may be permanent or temporary, tangible or intangible, and may include creative placemaking, mapping, art installations or community events. They are typically small-scale, low-cost, and short in duration, but often fit into a larger community effort. See [call for proposals](#). **Date:** 4/30/18 (second round).
2. [The David and Lucile Packard Foundation Grants](#) **Purpose:** Funding for many different projects including those with a focus on Climate Change, Access to Healthy and Early Learning, Supporting Local Communities, and Helping Farmers Protect the Planet and Nourish the World. **Date:** Rolling.
3. [Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs \(Economic Development Administration\)](#) **Purpose:** Construction, non-construction, and revolving loan fund investments to support regional economic development strategies. **Eligibility:** Nonprofit organizations, Native American tribal organizations, institutions of higher education, governments. **Funding:** \$100,000 - \$3 million. **Deadline:** Rolling.
4. [How to Use CDBG for Public Service Activities](#), is a four-module video on the Community Development Block Grant's eligible and ineligible public service activities, how to ensure a public service program meets a CDBG national objective, and considerations for building an effective public service program to maximize the positive impacts in a community.