



AMS Grant Programs

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants>

Velma Lakins

FMLFPP Grants Management Specialist

Maryland Governor's Grants

Conference November 14, 2016

Funding Opportunities

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) works to improve domestic and international opportunities for U.S. growers and producers. AMS works with State and local agricultural departments to provide support to rural America and the Nation's agricultural sector.

Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program (FMLFPP)

- FMLFPP grants are available annually to support local and regional food systems.
- FMPP grants fund farmer-to consumer direct marketing projects such as farmers markets, community-supported agriculture programs, roadside stands, and agritourism.
- LFPP grants fund local and regional food business enterprises that serve as intermediaries to process, distribute, aggregate, and store locally or regionally produced food products.

Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program

Eligible entities include:

Agricultural Businesses	Economic Development Corporations	Producer Associations
Agricultural Cooperatives	Local Governments	Public Benefit Corporations
CSA Networks	Nonprofit Corporations	Regional Farmers Market Authorities
CSA Associations	Producer Networks	Tribal Governments

Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP)

- FSMIP provides matching grant funds to State departments of agriculture to conduct applied research projects that explore new market opportunities for U.S. food and agricultural products and improve the efficiency and performance of the U.S. agricultural marketing system.
- Projects can focus on a wide variety of agricultural research goals, including increased sales of value added meat products, aquaculture, fresh and processed products, local and regional food systems, forestry, bioenergy, and horticulture.

Specialty Crop Multi-State Program (SCMP)

- SCMP competitively award funds to State departments of agriculture to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops by funding collaborative, multi-state projects that address the following regional or national level specialty crop issues: food safety; plant pests and disease; research; crop-specific projects addressing common issues; and marketing and promotion.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

- Fund projects that solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, including fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cut flowers, and other horticulture products.
- Funds awarded to State departments of agriculture in the 50 states and U.S. territories to partner with specialty crop stakeholders to fulfill specialty crop priorities.
- Projects can focus on a wide variety of specialty crop initiatives including food safety, education, marketing, and research.

Tips For Successful Applicants

- Thoroughly read the Requests for Applications and follow all of the instructions provided.
- Make sure that your proposal project fits within the scope of the program.
- Ensure that all critical resources and infrastructure are in place.
- Commitment from Partnering Organizations and Community Support.

Tips For Successful Applicants

- Track performance measurements. Thoroughly address the required outcome indicators outlined in the Requests for Applications.
- Communication with the grant's management specialist.
- Is there a need for the project work and how does the project work benefit and or impact the community.

Contact Information

Website:

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants>

Phone Numbers:

FMPP: 202-720-0933

LFPP: 202-720-2731

SCBGP: 202-260-8701

FSMIP-202-720-5024

SCMP:202-720-5024