



Young Farmer Grant Program 2024 Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of products do I need to be growing/raising to be eligible?

There is no restriction on what type of agricultural products your farm/ranch is producing.

Is there an age limit to apply for these grants?

Yes, farmers must be at least 18 years old and at most 40 years old by May 1, 2024 to be eligible for this funding.

I am a part-owner of a cooperatively owned farm business, is my farm eligible to receive a grant?

These grants will be given to individual farm owners (or farm managers/lead farmers of nonprofit farms). Individuals who own parts of a cooperative farm are eligible to apply and may put their funding toward on-farm projects, but the cooperative must pick an individual owner to represent the farm on the application.

Are these grants open to farmers of all races and genders?

Equity is central to Young Farmers work. These grants are not designed to exclude anyone but are designed to recognize that not all farmers are starting from equal access historically and presently, to similar agricultural financial resources. We aim to ensure that farmers within those groups who have been left behind are adequately served by this program.

While these grants are open to farmers of all races and gender identities we believe ensuring that at least half of those who receive grants identify as Black, Indigenous or other farmers of color, and that at least half identify as womxn, nonbinary and trans farmers is an important step to resisting the systemic racism and sexism that has historically kept these groups from accessing financial resources in agriculture and elsewhere. Because there are Black, Indigenous, and other farmers of color who are women, nonbinary and trans, and vice versa, these two 50% commitments do not add up to 100% of all grants available.

Are hydroponic/aquaponic producers eligible for this funding?

Yes!

Are grants available to farmers in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands?

Yes!

How will Spanish-language applications be reviewed?

Spanish-language applications will be translated for the same review committee to read as will read the English-language applications.

If I got a Young Farmer Grant in a previous year can I receive one again?

With the large volume of applications we receive, and the small number we are able to fund, we are not currently offering grants to farmers who have received a Young Farmer Grant in the past.

What is the timeline for when I have to spend the money if I get a grant?

Final reports for the 2024 grant season are due in October 2024. We expect that you will have used the funds by that time so that you can share with us how it went!

I work on a farm that is owned by a city/park district, is my farm eligible to apply?

No land tenure or lease situation affects eligibility to for this program. Grants will be made out to individuals who are looking to make a living as full time farmers for the long term. At this time we are not supporting volunteer community or school garden projects unless there is an individual farmer related to the project who is seeking to use this work to support themselves financially. In a case like that, the farmer individual is eligible to apply!