



Grant Writing Assistance Program

Ag Grant Update

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION
Solutions in your community

July 13, 2015

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Grant Writing 101: Baseline Data

Most grant proposals are based on the premise that the funding you are requesting will lead to an improvement of some kind, whether it's in the way we grow tomatoes, in the quality of life for limited-resource farmers, or anything in between. A strong proposal will establish the need for the project and make the scale of this improvement very clear, so that reviewers have no questions about the impact that your project should have. The first

“The first step in building your case is providing baseline data, i.e., a quantitative summary of the current state of affairs.”

step in building your case is providing baseline data, i.e., a quantitative summary of the current state of affairs. For field-based research, this could be the average tomato yield in your region under certain growing conditions. You may be able to source this data from peer-reviewed journals, ag-related periodicals, your own records, or other publicly available reports. For projects with a social aspect, you can often find relevant [US Census](#), [USDA Census of Agriculture](#), or [USDA Economic Research Service](#) (see below) data. In either case, you can also collect your own with free simple online services like Survey Monkey, or the full-featured Qualtrics, which you may have access to through a University account of yourself or a project partner. Depending on the grant program, preliminary or statistically insignificant results may be acceptable. Always be sure to document your data source, and describe your survey methods and sample size if you've collected your own data.

The extra effort required to gather and interpret quantitative baseline data is well worth the reward. Reviewers of your proposal will have a concrete sense of the “bang for the buck” that you are offering, i.e., the size of the improvement that you think you can provide for the dollar amount requested. As an added benefit, reviewers may also take your initial efforts as a positive sign that you are serious about the proposed work, and are likely to complete the project as proposed. These steps will help your proposal stand out among others in the competitive world of grant writing.

Program Highlight: USDA Economic Research Service

In your efforts to substantiate your grant proposals, it's important to provide solid evidence of need for the work proposed as well as some baseline data (see above). The [USDA Economic Research Service](#) (ERS) is one excellent source for many types of data. The ERS mission is to inform and enhance public and private decision making on economic and policy issues related to agriculture, food, the environment, and rural development. This includes the generation of data and reports on topics like the US's role in world agricultural trade, the economic impact of new or changed regulations and

assistance programs, rural US economy and social conditions, the relationships between environmental changes and crop production, the adoption of new technologies, and food access. No matter what your role in the agricultural industry is, there's a good chance that you can find ERS data to inform your proposals or on-going projects.

Ag-related Grant Directory

Below is a list of grant programs with an agricultural focus that are currently accepting applications. This list is updated as deadlines pass and new programs are announced, and is not intended to be exhaustive. Please submit unlisted programs to Nevin Dawson at ndawson@umd.edu

Past grant programs are archived [here](#). They may be helpful in planning for future grant-funded programs, although there is no guarantee that they will be offered again.

Also visit the following links for additional listings.

Rolling calendar of grant programs:

[National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#)

Guide to Federal Programs (2014):

[Building Sustainable Farms, Ranches and Communities](#)

Guide to grant and assistance programs (2009):

[ATTRA Grant Program Directory](#)

Search tool for Rural Federal Funding:

[National Agricultural Library Rural Federal Funding Database](#)

Search tool for Federal Agriculture Funding:

[Grants.gov](#)

Jump to...

[Grants with firm deadlines](#)

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[Grants coming soon](#)

Grants with Firm Deadlines

In chronological order by deadline

Morris Animal Foundation Large Animal Studies

July 15 deadline

Good science is at the heart of Morris Animal Foundation's mission. We greatly appreciate our long-standing partnership with the veterinary research community.

Thanks to the work of committed researchers, the world is a better, healthier place for animals. Large Companion Animal (Horses and Llamas/Alpacas) Proposals for Established Investigators, First Awards, Fellowship Training, and Pilot Study grants on topics relevant to large companion animal health and welfare are currently being accepted. <http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/researchers/>

Maryland Cover Crop Program

July 15 deadline

The Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program provides grants to help farmers offset seed, labor, and equipment costs associated with planting cover crops in the fall. Maryland has earmarked approximately \$22 million for this year's program. At least five acres of cover crops must be planted by November 5, 2015. Cover crops may be grazed or harvested. Incentives apply for some crops and seeding methods. http://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Pages/cover_crop.aspx

USDA Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grant Program

July 14 deadline (online)

July 20 deadline (hard copy)

This program assists organizations that provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas. Examples of technical assistance are conducting feasibility studies, developing business and strategic plans, and providing leadership training. USDA plans to make up to \$3 million in grants available. The maximum award is \$175,000. Eligible applicants include groups of cooperatives, cooperative development centers, and individual cooperatives that serve socially-disadvantaged groups. The cooperatives or centers can be located in any area, but the groups assisted must be located in an eligible rural area. Also, the majority of the governing body of the organization must be comprised of individuals who are members of socially-disadvantaged groups. <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/socially-disadvantaged-groups-grant>

New Technologies for Ag Extension

July 20 deadline

The purpose of the New Technologies for Ag Extension (NTAE) Program is to increase the capacity of the Cooperative Extension System (CES) to adopt new and innovative technology applications for delivering science-based educational resources from land-grant and other

partner institutions about matters of high importance to the general public. Applications are being solicited for the NTAE to deliver state of the art technology and software applications, high quality leaders and staff, training for an exceptional CES workforce, legally binding contractual and financial instruments, and comprehensive evaluation, communications and marketing activities. <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/new-technologies-ag-extension-ntae>

USDA Capacity Building Grants for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) Program

July 20 deadline

NLGCA Institutions may use the funds: (a) to successfully compete for funds from Federal grants and other sources to carry out educational, research, and outreach activities that address priority concerns of national, regional, State, and local interest; (b) to disseminate information relating to priority concerns to interested members of the agriculture, renewable resources, and other relevant communities, the public, and any other interested entity; (c) to encourage members of the agriculture, renewable resources, and other relevant communities to participate in priority education, research, and outreach activities by providing matching funding to leverage grant funds; and (d) through: (1) the purchase or other acquisition of equipment and other infrastructure (not including alteration, repair, renovation, or construction of buildings); (2) the professional growth and development of the faculty of the NLGCA Institution; and (3) the development of graduate assistantships. <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/capacity-building-grants-non-land-grant-colleges-agriculture-program-nlgca>

USDA Biomass Research and Development Initiative

July 27 deadline

This funding is dedicated to the development of (A) technologies and processes necessary for abundant commercial production of biofuels at prices competitive with fossil fuels; (B) high-value biobased products – (i) to enhance the economic viability of biofuels and biopower; (ii) to serve as substitutes for petroleum-based feedstocks and products; and (iii) to enhance the value of coproducts produced using the technologies and processes; and (C) a diversity of economically and environmentally sustainable domestic sources of renewable biomass for conversion to biofuels, bioenergy, and biobased products. BRDI FOA requires that funded projects address only one of the three legislatively mandated technical areas identified

below. Applicants can only apply for one technical area. The technical areas are: (A) Feedstocks development, (B) Biofuels and biobased products development, and (C) Biofuels development analysis. Anticipated award size ranges from \$500,000 to \$2 million per award. <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/biomass-research-and-development-initiative-brdi>

Rural Cooperative Development Grant

Deadline July 27

USDA is accepting applications from non-profit corporations and institutions of higher education for grants to help rural cooperatives develop new markets for their products and services. The primary objective of the Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG) program is to improve the economic condition of rural areas by assisting individuals and businesses in the startup, expansion, or operational improvement of rural cooperatives and other mutually owned businesses through Cooperative Development Centers. RCDG will make up to \$5.8 million in grants available in Fiscal Year 2015. One-year grants up to \$200,000 are available. In most cases, grants may be used to pay for up to 75% of a project's total costs. <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-cooperative-development-grant-program>

Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership

July 31 Deadline

USDA has announced the availability of \$17.5 million in financial and technical assistance through the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP), a special enrollment option under the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program's Wetland Reserve Easement component. Under WREP, states, local units of governments, non-governmental organizations, and American Indian tribes collaborate with USDA through cooperative and partnership agreements. NRCS will sign multi-year agreements with partners to leverage resources, including funding, to achieve maximum wetland restoration, protection and enhancement and to create optimum wildlife habitat on enrolled acres. WREP partners are required to contribute a funding match for financial or technical assistance. These partners work with willing tribal and private landowners who voluntarily enroll eligible land into easements to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their properties. <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2015/06/0177.xml&contentidonly=true>

Merck Family Fund Conserving Ecologically Valuable Land
August 3 deadline (Letter of Inquiry)

Urban sprawl, resource extraction, and poorly enforced environmental regulations place enormous pressures on natural resources. A healthy world needs a combination of outright protections, sustainable use policies to ensure clean air, clean water, and healthy land. The geographic focus of this area will be the southeastern United States, with priority given to the Southern Appalachians and the states of Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia. Specifically, the Fund welcomes proposals that Advocate for and secure public financial resources and commitments to land protection, Demonstrate community engagement and certified sustainable management of land particularly concerning forestry and farming, and Provide leadership to existing and emerging coalitions that build a multi-stakeholder voice. http://merckff.org/?page_id=94

Merck Family Fund Urban Farming and Youth Leadership
August 3 deadline (Letter of Inquiry)

Growing food in community is a collective and personal entry point to many systemic issues including: health and nutrition, job training, environmental sustainability, and the creation of social capital. The local cultivation and distribution of fresh, healthy, and affordable food raises the awareness about quality and access something sorely lacking in low-income communities. This new program at the Merck Family Fund will support programs in low-income urban areas in the Northeast that are harnessing the power of young people to create urban farms and local markets. Specifically, the Fund welcomes proposals that Provide high quality leadership development and employment for youth, Support highly productive urban farming projects and increase local access to fresh food, and Engage residents in food access and food security issues in the community. Priority will be given to projects that combine all aspects above and that reside in the six New England states, New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia, PA. http://merckff.org/?page_id=106

Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust
August 15 deadline

The Trust makes grants to organizations that are recognized as 501(c)(3) public charities by the United States Internal Revenue Service, and to non-U.S. organizations that can demonstrate that they would meet the requirements for such status. The Trust supports projects that directly further research or education in

ornamental horticulture in North and South America including: Development of programs and projects; Salaries; Physical improvements; Signage; Access; Equipment; Publications; and, under some circumstances, general operations. The Trust does not fund endowments or indirect costs. The Trust also does not fund projects concerned primarily with agriculture, environmental issues, science education, or horticultural therapy. <http://www.adminitrustllc.com/stanley-smith-horticultural-trust/for-grantseekers/>

Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship

August 19 deadline

This grant program supports: (1) training students for Master's and doctoral degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences, and; (2) Special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances (IRTA) for eligible USDA NNF beneficiaries. Awards are specifically intended to support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in USDA mission areas. Applicants provide clarity about the philosophy of their graduate training, and relevance to USDA mission sciences, NIFA priorities and national science education policies and statistics. Applications are being solicited from institutions that confer a graduate degree in at least one of the following Targeted Expertise Shortage Areas: 1) animal and plant production; 2) forest resources; 3) agricultural educators and communicators; 4) agricultural management and economics; 5) food science and human nutrition; 6) sciences for agricultural biosecurity; and 7) training in integrative biosciences for sustainable food and agricultural systems. <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/food-and-agricultural-sciences-national-needs-graduate-and-postgraduate>

USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational Program

September 30 deadline (Letter of Intent)

The AFRI Foundational Program is offered to support research grants in the six AFRI priority areas to continue building a foundation of knowledge critical for solving current and future societal challenges. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities. Single-function Research Projects, multi-

function Integrated Projects and Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE). Grants are expected to address one of the Program Area Priorities (see Foundational Program RFA for details). <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/agriculture-and-food-research-initiative-foundational-program>

USDA Northeast SARE Partnership Grant

October 6 deadline

Partnership Grants are reserved for agricultural service providers--extension staff, nonprofits, consultants, state departments of agriculture, and others working in the agricultural community--who want to conduct on-farm demonstrations, research, marketing, and other projects with farmers as active cooperators. The Partnership guidelines have been expanded to incorporate proposals that used to be submitted under the Sustainable Community Grant. <http://www.nesare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant/Partnership-Grant>

USDA Small Business Innovation Research Program - Phase I

October 8 deadline

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites science-based small business firms to submit research applications under this program solicitation entitled "Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR) - Phase I, Fiscal Year 2016." Firms with strong scientific research capabilities in any of the topic areas described in section 8.0 of the RFA are encouraged to participate. USDA will support high quality research or research and development (R/R&D) applications containing advanced concepts related to important scientific problems and opportunities that could lead to significant public benefit. Objectives of the SBIR program include stimulating technological innovation in the private sector, strengthening the role of small businesses in meeting Federal research and development needs, increasing private sector commercialization of innovations derived from USDA-supported research and development efforts, and fostering and encouraging participation by women-owned and socially and economically disadvantaged small business firms in technological innovation. <http://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/small-business-innovation-research-program-phase-i>

USDA Northeast SARE Farmer Grant

November 12 deadline

The goal of the Farmer Grant program is to develop, refine, and demonstrate new sustainable techniques and to explore innovative ideas developed by farmers across the region. Farmer Grant projects should seek new knowledge other farmers can use and address questions that are directly linked to improved profits, better stewardship, and stronger rural communities. Funds can be used to pay farmers for their time, for project-related materials, for project costs like consulting fees or soil tests, and for any communications or outreach expenses associated with telling others about project results. Farmer grant funds cannot be used for capital costs associated with building a barn, greenhouse, or other major farm fixture, nor can funds be used to start a farm, purchase durable equipment like tractors or computers, or for any utility, telephone, or other costs that would be there in the absence of the project. Farmer Grants can run one or perhaps two years, depending on the scope of the project. Awards are capped at \$15,000. <http://www.nesare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant/Farmer-Grant>

Rolling Deadlines

Cargill Corporate Giving

We provide grants to select national and global nonprofit and nongovernmental (NGOs) partners that serve communities in which we have a business presence. We support partners working within the following three focus areas. Food Security and Nutrition: We support partners working to address hunger, improve nutrition and increase agricultural productivity. Education: We support programs and projects that improve access to primary and secondary education for children; build skills in science, technology and engineering; and partnerships with higher education institutions in the areas of agriculture, food security and food safety. Environmental stewardship: We partner with organizations that demonstrate global leadership in protecting our natural resources and promote sustainable agricultural practices in our communities and supply chains. <http://www.cargill.com/corporate-responsibility/community-engagement/charitable-giving/corporate-giving/>

Wallace Genetic Foundation

The Wallace Genetic Foundation is particularly interested in far-sighted groups and individuals with innovative ideas, and seeks to fund organizations whose work promises to provide long-term national or global benefit. Areas of

interest include Sustainable agriculture, Farmland preservation, Conservation of natural resources, Biodiversity protection, Reduction of environmental toxins, and Global climate issues. <http://www.wallacegenetic.org/>

Daylily Student Research Grant

April 1 and September 1 annual deadlines

The American Hemerocallis Society (AHS) is pleased to solicit applications from graduate or undergraduate students or faculty/staff using daylilies (plant genus *Hemerocallis*) as experimental organisms in original research project. A typical grant award to successful candidate(s) is no more than \$5,000 for the calendar year. All aspects of scientific research on *Hemerocallis* will be considered. Fundamental areas of investigation are encouraged; examples are Banded chromosome preparations, Gene mapping, Fine structural studies of vegetative or reproductive parts, Microscopic analysis of the ontogeny of flower scapes in the crown, and Effect of various hormones on plant growth and formation of proliferations on scapes. Likewise, practical areas of study are encouraged, such as Hardiness of various cultivars in different climatic zones, Use of microtubule degradants to produce polyploids, Seed dormancy factors, and Pests and diseases. <http://www.daylilies.org/AHSgrants.html>

Johnny's Selected Seeds

Each year Johnny's Selected Seeds provides financial support to national and local agricultural, educational, and horticultural programs, events, and efforts. To qualify for consideration, the requesting organization or program must either: Be an agricultural **needs-based** organization that actively participates in Educating people, teaching growing or farming practices and techniques for long-term impact (e.g., schools, agricultural workshops, community programs); Providing locally-grown produce to communities by working with communities to grow produce to feed themselves; Supporting and promoting healthy eating habits; Protecting seed diversity and breeding work; Supporting organic and sustainable growing practices and techniques; or Other appropriate agricultural or horticultural programs or efforts, at the discretion of the Charitable Giving Committee. <http://www.johnnyseeds.com/t-charitable-giving.aspx>

FDA Scientific Conference Grant Program

Deadline January 15 and June 15 every year

The FDA recognizes the value of supporting high quality,

small conferences and scientific meetings relevant to its mission and to the public health. A small conference or scientific meeting is defined as a symposium, seminar, workshop, or any formal meeting, whether conducted face-to-face or virtually to exchange information and explore a defined subject, issue, or area of concern impacting the public's health within the scope of the FDA's mission. Support of such meetings is contingent upon the fiscal and programmatic interests and priorities of the FDA's respective Offices and Centers. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-237.html>

The Harry Chapin Foundation

The Harry Chapin Foundation funds 501(c)(3) not-for-profit programs that operate in the United States that fall within the areas of Community Education Programs, Arts-In-Education Programs, and Agricultural and Environmental Programs. Grant sizes range from a few hundred dollars to a maximum of \$10,000. The Foundation Board meets three times a year on an as-needed basis. <http://www.harrychapinfoundation.org/>

Earth Sciences: Instrumentation and Facilities

The Instrumentation and Facilities Program in the Division of Earth Sciences (EAR/IF) supports meritorious requests for infrastructure that promotes research and education in areas supported by the Division EAR/IF will consider proposals for: 1) Acquisition or Upgrade of Research Equipment, 2) Development of New Instrumentation, Techniques or Software, 3) Support of National or Regional Multi-User Facilities and 4) Support for Early Career Investigators. http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15516/nsf15516.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click

Cedar Tree Foundation

The Cedar Tree Foundation is a small family fund whose grant making focuses on sustainable agriculture, environmental education, and environmental health. The Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals, but welcomes letters of inquiry for U.S.-based work from non-profit organizations working within its program areas. Letters of inquiry are accepted at any time. <http://www.cedartreefound.org/>

Market Access Program (MAP) Brand Promotion

The Market Access Program (MAP) Brand was designed for small businesses that desire financial support to launch a

new branded export effort. For accepted participants, Southern United States Trade Association (SUSTA) reimburses up to 50% of certain international marketing and promotion expenses, including eligible tradeshow, in-store displays, and required label changes. The application process opens August 1 the year prior to the program year and continues on a rolling basis throughout the program year. Once all the funding is allocated, the application process is over until the next year. <http://www.susta.org/services/map.html>

Maryland Urban Agriculture Commercial Lending Incentive Grant Program

The Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (“MARBIDCO”) was created with a mission to assist Maryland’s farm, forestry, and seafood businesses with achieving profitability and sustainability, promoting agricultural entrepreneurship, and nurturing emerging food and fiber markets. MARBIDCO has partnered with MidAtlantic Farm Credit to establish and manage a fund to offer grants of between \$1,000 and \$7,500 for projects designed to help beginning urban farmers (defined below) to start or improve their business operations. A total of \$75,000 is available for distribution this year. [http://www.marbidco.org/Urban%20Ag%20Lending%20Incentive%20Grant%20App%207%2013%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.marbidco.org/Urban%20Ag%20Lending%20Incentive%20Grant%20App%207%2013%20(2).pdf)

Local Government Ag/RBI Project Cost Share Program

MARBIDCO strives to have a close working relationship with local and regional economic development offices recognizing the important role that these offices can play in fostering the retention and growth of Maryland’s existing and emerging agricultural and resource-based businesses. To lend support to local rural business development efforts, as well as to provide guidance to county and municipal economic development officials, MARBIDCO has created a grant program to match rural business development investments being made by local governments and rural regional development councils. <http://www.marbidco.org/App%20Cost%20Share.pdf>

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAMS

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

USDA is accepting applications for loans and grants to support business expansion, create jobs, and increase economic opportunities in rural communities through the

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program. Funding to support \$14.190 million in loans and \$2.086 million in grants is currently available. RMAP provides loans and grants to Microenterprise Development Organizations (MDOs) to help microentrepreneurs – very small businesses with 10 or fewer employees – access capital to start or grow businesses. MDOs use the funds to provide training and technical assistance to small businesses or to establish revolving loan funds that provide micro-loans, typically \$5,000 to \$50,000, to rural microentrepreneurs. Applications must be received on the last day prior to the beginning of each Federal fiscal quarter to be considered for funding in that quarter. <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program>

Rural Business Enterprise Grants (RBEG)

The RBEG program provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund distance learning networks, and help fund employment related adult education programs. To assist with business development, RBEGs may fund a broad array of activities. http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/MD_RBEGfactsheet.pdf

Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG)

This grant program can fund businesses that use local rural materials or human resources. Funding can also establish business support centers and assist in the creation of new rural businesses. Technical assistance training can be provided to existing or prospective rural entrepreneurs and managers, including leadership and development training. Community and multi-county economic development planning, training centers, and interactive communications technologies to develop international trade opportunities and markets can also be funded. http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/MD_RBOGfactsheet.pdf

Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG)

This program is utilized to finance rural economic development and rural job creation projects which are based on sound economic and financial analysis. This is done by making zero-interest loans and/or grants to Rural Development electric and telephone borrowers who use the funds to provide financing for business and community development projects. Eligible project costs include project feasibility studies, start-up costs, purchasing

facilities and equipment, business incubator projects and other reasonable expenses for the purpose of fostering rural economic development. <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/REDLGfactsheet.pdf>

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

The purpose of the REAP is to provide financial assistance (grants, guaranteed loans, or a combination of grants and loans) to agricultural producers and rural small businesses in rural areas (less than 50,000 population) to purchase, install, and construct renewable energy systems; make energy efficiency improvements; use renewable technologies that reduce energy consumption; and participate in energy audits, renewable energy development assistance, and feasibility studies. REAP is comprised of three components: 1) Renewable Energy System and Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loan and Grant Program; 2) Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grant Program; and 3) Feasibility Studies Grant Program. <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/REAPfactsheet.pdf>

Coming Soon

ADM Cares Contributions

September 1 opens

November 30 deadline

Organizations classified as tax-exempt under section 501 (c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, or international organizations registered as charitable with their particular government, may seek funding from ADM Cares if their objectives involve promoting agricultural development, sound environmental practices, education for children and young adults, maintaining a vibrant community or related topics. Preference will be given to groups in ADM communities that can demonstrate clear, measurable results toward stated objectives and a solid track record of success. <http://www.adm.com/en-US/company/CommunityGiving/Pages/ApplyingforFunding.aspx>

How This Program Can Help

The Grant Writing Assistance Program can help Farmers/Producers and Agricultural Service Providers in several ways.

University of Maryland Extension (UME) Faculty and Staff working in agriculture can receive assistance with applications to the above SARE programs, as well as the SARE Graduate Student, Professional Development, and Research & Education grant programs (<http://www.nesare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant>). UME faculty and staff may also request assistance with applications to other grant programs and with the University grant submission procedure.

Agricultural Service Providers (ASPs) (for example, Certified Crop Advisors, soil conservation planners, agricultural non-profit staff, and NRCS staff) can receive detailed advice on submitting applications to the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Partnership Grant program (<http://www.nesare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant/Partnership-Grant>). ASPs may also request assistance with applications to other grant programs.

Farmers and Producers can receive detailed advice on submitting applications to the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Farmer Grant program. <http://www.nesare.org/Grants/Get-a-Grant/Farmer-Grant>

Contact Nevin Dawson at ndawson@umd.edu or 410-479-4030 to get started.

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Written and edited by:

Nevin Dawson
Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator

[Caroline County Office](#)

9194 Legion Road, Suite 4

Denton, MD 21629

Phone: (410) 479-4030, ext. 5

Fax: (410) 479-4042

ndawson@umd.edu

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MARYLAND
EXTENSION
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