



Transportation and Marketing



Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI)

Overview

The purpose of the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) program is to develop and administer state coordinated initiatives to build resilience across the middle of the State's food supply chain for food crops. Funds will support expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced food products, including specialty crops, dairy, grains for consumption, aquaculture, and other food products, excluding meat and poultry. The State Department of Agriculture will work in partnership with USDA to make competitive subaward investments in middle of the supply chain infrastructure (Infrastructure Grants) to domestic food and farm businesses and other eligible entities. The term 'State' means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Who is eligible?

The State Department of Agriculture will enter into a cooperative agreement with USDA-AMS.

Organizations or individuals interested in an RFSI Infrastructure Grant should contact their State Department of Agriculture. Contact info for the awarded state agencies will be posted to: www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsi.

What is the maximum grant amount?

Up to \$420 million will be awarded to all States divided based on formula funding. AMS is providing a minimum funding allocation of a minimum of \$2 million for all States regardless of the size of their production.

Infrastructure Grant applicants can apply for a minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$3 million.

Is there a cost share or match required?

State Departments of Agriculture do NOT have a cost share/match requirement for the administration of this award.

Infrastructure Grant Recipients are required to contribute 50% of the total proposed project cost as a match to federal funding. This applies to all applicants except those who qualify for the reduced match described below.

For historically underserved farmers and ranchers, or for other businesses that qualify under SBA categories of Small disadvantaged business, women-owned small business, or veteran-owned small business, the required match funding Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Grant (RFSI) contribution or cost share is reduced to 25% of the project cost. States must require that applicants self-certify in their RFSI Infrastructure Grant Proposal Template applications that they are eligible for this reduced match.

What can I use the funding for?

RFSI will focus on funding Infrastructure Grant activities in each State that:

- Expand capacity for processing, aggregation and distribution of agricultural products to create more and better markets for producers;
- Modernize manufacturing, tracking, storage, and information technology systems;
- Enhance worker safety through adoption of new technologies or investment in equipment or facility improvements;
- Improve the capacity of entities to comply with federal, state, and local food safety requirements;
- Improve operations through training opportunities;
- Support construction of a new facility;
- Modernize or expand an existing facility (including expansion and modifications to existing buildings and/ or construction of new buildings at existing facilities);
- Construction of wastewater management structures, etc.;
- Modernize processing and manufacturing equipment; and
- Develop, customize, or install equipment that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases efficiency in water use, improves air and/or water quality, and/or meets one or more of USDA's climate action goals.

Infrastructure Grant Proposal Applicants should contact their State Department of Agriculture for specific grant details.

More information

Visit the RFSI website for additional information and resources at: www.ams.usda.gov/rfsi.

Contact us

For questions about Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI), please email RFSI@usda.gov.