

OVERVIEW

H.R. 133 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Stimulus Funding

Due to funds provided by H.R. 133, we are offering a one-time second round of Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding. The following information provides an overview for this request for applications (RFA) which is slightly different from the general Specialty Crop Block Grant application. Please review this information before applying and contact Calli Forsyth at callinielsen@utah.gov with any questions.

Award

- ❖ **\$434,268.98** is available to be awarded
- ❖ Applications will be open Friday, December 10th, 2021 - Friday, February 11th, 2022

Overview

Up to four projects will be awarded within one or more of the following project categories:

- **Innovative distribution for specialty crops**
- **Training the new generation of specialty crop farmers how to produce specialty crops**
- **Consumer recognition of specialty crops in the marketplace**
- **GAP certification vouchers**
 - **Other agriculture & food certification, training, education, and support will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis**

This RFA has been designed to facilitate extensive and impactful Specialty Crop Block Grant projects with larger budgets than typical for our general grant program. We encourage applicants to consider this as the project and budget are formed. The overall funding request may not exceed 50% (\$217,134.49) of the total award amount above.

Eligibility

The grant is open to the following applicants headquartered in Utah:

- Producers
- Private Businesses
- Schools
- Trade Associations

- Non-Profits
- Farmers Markets
- Farming and Ranching Co-Ops
- *Additional applicant types may be eligible, contact Calli for additional details*

Ineligible grant costs include but are not limited to:P

- ❖ Acquisition of land or buildings
- ❖ Lease to own equipment
- ❖ Equipment for purchase (unless it qualifies as special-purpose equipment)
- ❖ [Review the USDA SCBGP website for a more detailed list of eligible and ineligible costs](#)

Review Process

The review process for this round of funding has two stages 1.) an initial eligibility review and 2.) selection committee review. Applicants who make it through stage 1 will be sent to a selection committee for stage 2.

Stage 1: Considerations

- Projects that do not fit within one of the four categories above will be automatically disqualified
- Applications with project managers that do not currently have active SCBGP funding will be prioritized
- Projects centered on ineligible crops will be automatically disqualified
- Incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified
- Funds requested must be for allowable expenses
- The project must have clear, measurable, and attainable outcomes

Stage 2: Considerations

- Review the attached ranking and rating document for more detail