

Resources for Local Farmers & Food Makers

Last updated December 2024

If you have any suggested additions or edits, please email us at info@millcityfarmersmarket.org

[Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture Grants & Loans for Farmers continuously updated](#)

[*Subscribe to Sustag listserv to join a community of people with an interest in sustainable agriculture, funding opportunities often shared.](#)

GRANTS	Eligibility	Amount	Application Due Date	Link
Next Stage Grant	Farmers and food makers in Minnesota or within 200 miles of		March 1	
Mill City Farmers Market Charitable Fund	Minneapolis. Must vend at a regional farmers market.	\$1,000 - 7,000		https://millcityfarmersmarket.org/grants/
Market Entry Fund	CPG Makers	\$5,000-\$20,000	Spring	https://marketentryfund.org/micro-grants
Lakewinds Organic Field Fund	Farmers	Up to \$8,000	Late January	https://www.lakewinds.coop/community/loff/
Beginning with Compeer Grant - Compeer Financial	Farmers, Compeer clients and non-clients	\$250 - 1,500	Ongoing	https://www.compeer.com/investing-in-rural-communities/giving-back/grants/beginning-with-compeer
Farmers Market Vendor Grant -Compeer Financial	Farmers, Compeer clients only	\$500	Nov 15	https://www.compeer.com/investing-in-rural-communities/giving-back/grants/farmers-market-grant-program-vendor
Farmer Rancher Grant		Up to \$9,000 for individuals	Dec 2	
North Central Region SARE	Farmers and ranchers			https://northcentral.sare.org/Grants/Apply-for-a-Grant/Farmer-Rancher-Grant/
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) USDA	Farmers	Varies	Ongoing	https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcseprd1342638
BIPOC Farmer Micro-Grants Rodale Institute	Black, Indigenous, farmers of color	\$500 - 2,000	Feb/March	https://rodaleinstitute.org/education/bipoc-farmer-micro-grants/
Market Entry Fund	individuals demonstrating socio-economic barriers to equitable	\$500 - 5,000	Nov 2	https://marketentryfund.org/micro-grants
American Farmland Trust Brighter Future Fund	Farmers who identify as BIPOC, women, and/or LGBTQIA+	\$5,000	Ongoing	https://farmland.org/brighter-future/
Hennepin County's Waste Prevention Grant	any waste prevention projects	5-50K		https://www.hennepin.us/businessrecycling#assistance-signs-grants
Sky High Farm Grants	Farmers, priority to BIPOC and LGBTQ+	\$240-\$25,000	April	https://www.skyhighfarm.org/grants
Food Animal Concerns Trust Act	Farmers and ranchers	\$3,000	Dec 8th	https://www.foodanimalconcernstrust.org/grants
Mnimize rebate	Replace single-use plastic products with reusable or certified compostable alternatives	\$500	Ongoing	https://mnimize.org/rebate/

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA Grants)

Preparing for Extreme Weather	Farmers	\$10,000	February	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/preparing-extreme-weather-prepare-grant
Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI)	Farmers and value-added farm products	Varies	Varies	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/agri
Specialty Crops Block Grant	Farmers	\$20K - 150K	March	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/business-dev-loans-grants/specialty-crop-block-grant
Organic Certification and Transition Cost Share	Organic and transitioning farmers and handlers	Varies	Nov 1	Organic: https://www.mda.state.mn.us/organic-certification-cost-share-program Transitioning: https://www.mda.state.mn.us/minnesota-transition-organic-cost-share-program
Organic Cost Share Reimbursements			Dec 1	
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture	Organic farmers	Varies		https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/OrganicFarmingAndFood.aspx
Urban Farm Conservation Mini-Grant	Urban farmers	\$500- \$5,000	January	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/urban-farm-conservation-mini-grant
Produce Safety Mini Grant	Farmers	Up to \$800	Winter/Spring	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/minigrant
All other grants and loans				
Minnesota Department of Agriculture	Varies	Varies	Varies	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/funding

FARMER HARDSHIP RELIEF

MCFM Farmer Hardship	Farmers	\$2,000	Ongoing	https://millcityfarmersmarket.org/grants/#hardship-grant
MDA Disaster Recovery Loan	Minnesota Farmers w/ at least 25% of gross income from farm	Varies	Ongoing	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/disasterloan
MDA Farm and Rural Helpline	Resources for farmer stress	n/a	Ongoing	https://www.mda.state.mn.us/about/mnfarmerstress/copingstress

LOANS

MDA Agricultural Microloan	Eligible farmer must be a member of a "protected group"			https://www.mda.state.mn.us/pilot-agricultural-microloan-program
MDA Beginning Farmers Loan Program	Farmers in Minnesota			https://www.mda.state.mn.us/business-dev-loans-grants/beginning-farmer-loan-program
MDA Low Interest Loans	Farmers			https://www.mda.state.mn.us/financebudget/agfinance
Compeer Financial - Emerging Markets	Farmers			https://www.compeer.com/ag-financing/agriculture-loans/emerging-markets
Compeer Financial - Organic Bridge Loan	Farmers transitioning to organic			https://www.compeer.com/ag-financing/agriculture-loans/organic-bridge-loan
Women Venture	Makers			https://www.womenventure.org/services/lending/
City of Mpls Homegrown Small Business Fund*	Farmers and makers in the City of Minneapolis			http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/homegrown/WCMS1P-129854
FSA Loans	Farmers			https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index
Money to Grow	Farmers in Minnesota			https://moneytogrowmn.wordpress.com/
Latino Economic Development Center	Farmers and makers			https://www.ledcmn.org/agriculture/
Steward Regenerative Capital	Farmers in operation for at least 3 years			https://gosteward.com/borrow

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & BUSINESS COACHING

Community Economic Development Associates (CEDA)	https://www.cedausa.com/agricultural-resources/
Latino Economic Development Center	https://www.ledcmn.org/
Maker to Market	https://makertomarketmn.com/
Food Makers Academy	https://www.foodmakersacademy.com/
Northside Economic Opportunity Network	https://www.neon-mn.org/
Free Tech consulting within Hennepin County	https://www.technologist.computer/elevate
Women Venture	https://www.womenventure.org/services/training/