



# Farmer Grant Program

## About this grant program

Northeast SARE offers grants to farmers to explore new concepts in sustainable agriculture conducted through **experiments, surveys, prototypes, on-farm demonstrations or other research and education techniques**. Farmer Grant projects address issues that affect farming with long-term sustainability in mind.

## Range

Up to \$30,000 per project



Funds available for project-specific expenses including: hourly compensation, supplies, materials, services like testing and consulting, project-based travel, and outreach.

## Who can apply?

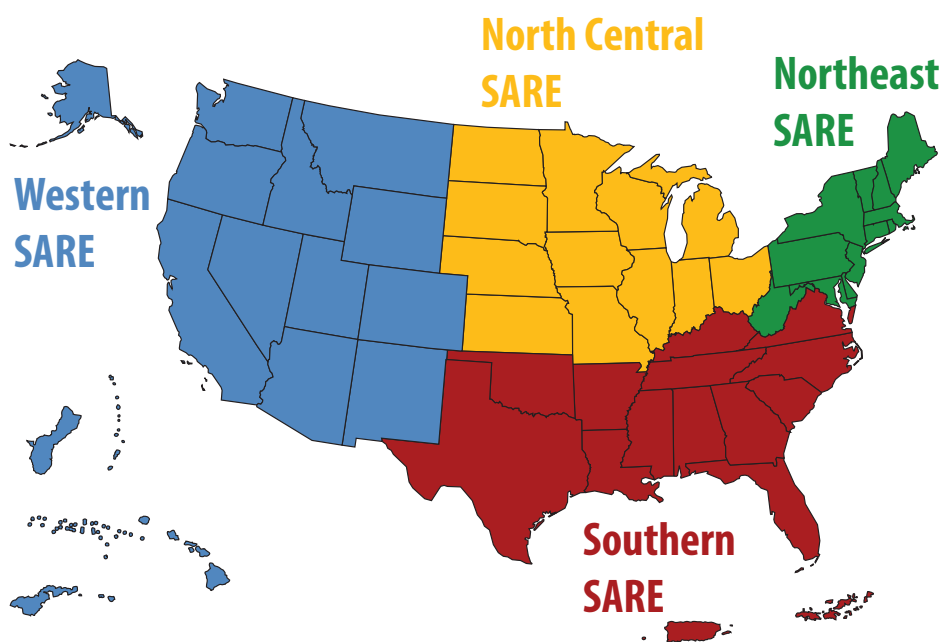
This grant program accepts all types and scales of farms.

To be eligible, you must meet the U.S. Census of Agriculture definition of a Farm: "Any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year" prior to the grant program's application deadline.

Farm business owners and farm employees are eligible to apply. Farms must be located in the Northeast

Northeast SARE encourages projects submitted from or in collaboration with women, the LGBTQIA+ community, and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

Additionally, we encourage projects submitted from or in collaboration with Minority Serving Institutions (including 1890s and other historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and tribal colleges and universities) and other organizations in the Northeast that work with historically underserved communities.



Northeast SARE serves the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Vermont, and Washington, D.C.



## What types of projects are funded?

A wide variety of topics can be funded by the Northeast SARE Farmer Grant Program, including marketing and business, crop production, raising livestock, aquaculture, social sustainability, climate-smart agriculture practices, urban and Indigenous agriculture and much more.

Competitive proposals explore new ideas and techniques or apply known ideas in new ways or with new communities. Proposals are evaluated by independent review teams made up of farmers, researchers, nonprofit staff and agricultural service providers.

Reviewers look to fund projects that are well-designed to meet proposed objectives and promise the greatest benefit to farming communities. Funding decisions are driven by the Northeast SARE outcome statement.

## Northeast SARE's Outcome Statement

"Northeast agricultural communities honor the holistic connection among land, water, air, and all living beings. Agriculture in the Northeast is accessible, sustainable, and just, addressing historic and current inequities so all farmers and farm employees can steward resources to ensure sustainability, resilience, economic viability, and a high quality of life."

## View past projects



[projects.sare.org](https://projects.sare.org)

## Get more information



[northeast.sare.org/farmergrant](https://northeast.sare.org/farmergrant)

**Northeast Sustainable Agriculture  
Research and Education (SARE) Program**  
University of Vermont  
140 Kennedy Drive, Suite 202  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
Phone: (802) 656-7650  
[northeastare@uvm.edu](mailto:northeastare@uvm.edu)  
[www.northeastare.org](https://www.northeastare.org)

## Technical Advisors

Farmer Grant projects must include a technical advisor.

A technical advisor is someone who has the experience to help you through the grant process. Providing input on your proposal, helping you define a robust project, supporting outreach, and troubleshooting.

Technical advisors provide a range of expertise — including outreach, project concept and design, and general consultation. A technical advisor may be an Extension educator, researcher, NRCS or other government employee, nonprofit staff, private consultant, veterinarian, other agricultural service provider or even another experienced farmer. Although a technical advisor is required for a grant project, the farmer applicant is the one actively in charge.

## What Farmer Grants are not for

This grant program is not meant to help start or expand farm businesses. 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 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.

Northeast SARE is funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Northeast SARE programs are offered to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status.