

Southern SARE Equity and Prosperity Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program

Historically underserved farmers and ranchers face a myriad of challenges in agriculture. From lack of access to land, to issues in technology, to concerns regarding family matters and health, underserved farmers and ranchers struggle to remain profitable, while supporting their communities.

Community leaders, whether they are individual farmers/ranchers, farmer groups, or non-governmental organizations that support those underserved farmers and ranchers, strive to create ag community resiliency and vitality in the face of those challenges.

In recognition of those contributions, Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SSARE), has created the Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program.

The Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program, operated by Southern SARE's Equity and Prosperity Committee, champions the leadership contributions of historically underserved farmers and ranchers and non-governmental organizations that serve those audiences within the Southern region.

The purpose of the program is to enhance the resiliency, strength and vivacity of historically underserved farmers and ranchers. Such groups include minority and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American), beginning farmers and ranchers, military veterans and women farmers.

In order to recognize those contributions in the sustainable agriculture community across the Southern region, the Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program provides a small amount of sponsorship funds to support education and training activities specifically targeted to historically underserved farmers and ranchers.

In addition, the individual farmer/rancher, farmer group or NGO selected to participate in the Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program will be recognized for their contributions through a series of communications pieces developed by Southern SARE.

Requirements to Apply

Who is Eligible:

- Historically underserved farmers and ranchers in leadership positions in their community.
- Farmer groups who have demonstrated leadership contributions for historically underserved farmers and ranchers.
- NGOs or other community groups who have demonstrated leadership contributions for historically underserved farmers and ranchers.

Historically underserved farmers and ranchers include:

- minority and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers (African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American),
- beginning farmers and ranchers,
- military veterans,
- women farmers.

Funding Amount:

The maximum funding amount requested is \$3,000.

Activities funded must be completed by July 31, 2021. Expenditures must be submitted for processing no later than August 1, 2021.

What the Funding Supports:

The sponsorship funds:

- Education and training activities for historically underserved farmers and ranchers. **Youth-related projects are not eligible.**
 - Activities must demonstrate that the outcomes will benefit historically underserved farmers and ranchers as the end audience;
 - Activities must pertain to sustainable agriculture topics. Such topics can include, but are not limited to ag production, heirs property, education and training resources, safety and health, market challenges, food access, disaster recovery, access to technology, and stress and mental health;
 - Activities can be in-person or online. They can include, but are not limited to farmer field days, “how-to” demonstrations, curriculum/course development, training manuals, webinars, workshops, and hands-on training.

Allowable Budget Items

The following budget items are allowable expenses, based on USDA-NIFA rules and regulations. Each budget item requested must be allowable, justified and itemized. Any items listed that do not fall under this allowable list will be rejected.

Allowable Budget Items:

- Meals
 - Lunches and refreshments only when the food is part of the costs of the continuity of the event. Is food necessary for continuity to achieve event goals?
 - Dinner only if there is a speaker or educational program held during the dinner, and the dinner serves the purpose of disseminating educational and technical information.
- Travel for event speakers and presenters only
 - Registration of event for speakers or presenters
 - Transportation costs of speakers or presenters
 - Lodging for speakers or presenters
- Rental of event facilities or planning spaces
- Technical equipment rentals, such as audio visual technologies, online webinar fees, etc.
- Speaker or presenter fees
- Incidental items in support of the event, such as printing of publications or marketing materials; training materials; books; brochures; posters/flyers; or advertising. Items must be educational resources.

Program Evaluation

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the project activity, program participants will be asked to provide evaluation materials at the conclusion of their project. This can include a video, an impact report, or other evaluation documents. Failure to submit an evaluation report can prohibit the recipient from receiving Southern SARE sponsorship funding in the future.

Program Recognition

In addition to funding support, Southern SARE will recognize those participating in the program through a series of communications materials. These materials can include videos, photos, podcast interviews, press releases, and other communications efforts that will enable program participants to share their stories and share their project activity with the greater sustainable ag community across the Southern region.

To learn more about Southern SARE visit: <https://southern.sare.org>

NOTE: SPONSORSHIPS ARE CONTINGENT ON ANNUAL FUNDING AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME OF REQUEST. FUNDS ARE DISCRETIONARY AND WILL BE AWARDED AT THE DISCRETION OF SOUTHERN SARE. A SUBMISSION OF SPONSORSHIP REQUEST DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY INDICATE SUPPORT ACCEPTANCE.

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Southern SARE Equity and Prosperity Sustainable Ag Leadership Nomination Form

To be considered for the Southern SARE Equity and Prosperity Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program, fill out this nomination form and the budget request form and email to Brennan Washington at washingtonb@fvsu.edu by **June 1, 2021**.

The maximum funding amount requested is \$3,000. Activities/events must benefit historically underserved farmers and ranchers. Youth-related projects are not eligible.

Activities funded must be completed by **July 31, 2021**. Expenditures must be submitted for processing no later than **August 1, 2021** to be eligible for reimbursement.

Contact Information

Name of Individual: _____

Name of Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

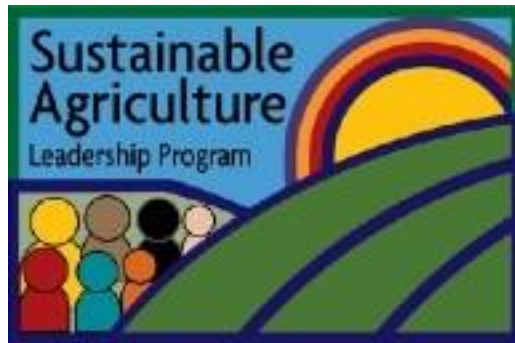
Phone number: _____

Details of Training/Education Event

Name of Event : _____

Date of Event: _____

Brief Description of Event : _____



Southern SARE Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program Budget Request Form

Applicants of the Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program must fill out a budget request form along with the nomination form. Each budget item requested must be allowable, justified and itemized, or the form will be returned. Any items listed that do not fall under this allowable list will be rejected. Refer to the Sustainable Agriculture Leadership Program flyer for a list of allowable budget items.

An itemization refers to providing a list of individual parts of a particular budget item. The cost of each item should equal to the total amount requested of a particular budget category. For example, if you are requesting \$1,000 for travel, the itemization could include a breakdown of airfare, lodging (rate per night for X number of nights), and the registration fee of the event being attended.

Justification refers to the explanation as to why that budget item is needed to ensure the success of event.

Include your budget form along with your nomination form and email both to Brennan Washington at washingtonb@fvsu.edu

Budget Item	Amount Requested	Itemization	Justification
Meals			
Travel			
Facilities			

Technical Equipment			
Speaker/presenter Fees			
Incidental Expenses			