

Community Facilities

The Community Facilities Program provides financial assistance for the purchase of equipment, construction and the purchase or renovation of community facilities.

Who can apply:

- Local governments
- Non-profit organizations
- Federally recognized Indian tribes
- Community based organizations
- Population less than 20,000

Possible Projects Include:

- Farmers markets
- School/Community kitchens
- Community food banks

ATTRA

The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service specializes in responding to questions about specific agriculture sustainable enterprises or practices. This program is managed by the nonprofit National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT). For more information go to www.attra.ncat.org.



Nebraska Area Offices

Ainsworth Sub-Area Office
731 E. 4th Street
Ainsworth, NE 96210
(402) 387-2242

Kearney Area Office
4009 6th Avenue, Suite 1
Kearney, NE 68845
(308) 237-3118

Lincoln Area Office
8000 S. 15th Street, Suite E
Lincoln, NE 68512
(402) 423-9683

Norfolk Area Office
1909 Vicki Lane, Suite 103
Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 371-5350

North Platte Sub-Area Office
1202 S. Cottonwood, Suite 3
North Platte, NE 69101
(308) 534-2360

Scottsbluff Area Office
818 Ferdinand Plaza, Suite B
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
(308) 632-2195

COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

100 Centennial Mall North
Federal Bldg, Rm 152
Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402-437-5551
Toll Free: 1-800-292-8293
Fax: 402-437-5408
www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne

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Committed to the future of rural communities.



WORKING TO
REINVIGORATE LOCAL
FOOD SYSTEMS

Know your farmer Know your food



USDA started the Know Your Farmer Know Your Food (KYF2) Initiative to connect consumers with local producers, helping them to get a better understanding of where their food comes from and how it gets to their plates. With this initiative, USDA will provide funding to ensure that farmers continue to contribute to economies and also to support the next generation of farmers and ranchers.

Rural Development

Rural Development provides funding to ensure farmers continue to contribute to local economies and take steps to develop critical infrastructure in communities across America. The mission of Rural Development is to assist farmers, help consumers access nutritious foods and support rural community development.

Rural Development Programs

- Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program
- Rural Business Enterprise/Opportunity Grants
- Rural Cooperative Development Grants
- Value Added Producer Grants
- Rural Energy for America Program
- Community Facilities Program
- ATTRA-National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service

Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program

The Business and Industry Guaranteed Program helps new and existing businesses based in rural areas gain access to affordable capital.

Who can apply: A lender making a loan in an eligible town or city with population size less than 50,000 to any of the following:

- Cooperatives
- Non-profit organizations
- Federally recognized Indian tribes
- Public bodies or individuals

Possible Projects include:

- Business conversion, development or repair
- Purchase and development of land
- Purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements
- Working capital and debt refinancing

Rural Business Enterprise/ Opportunity Grant Programs

These programs support the development of small and emerging businesses for start-up or expansion of their business ventures through training and technical assistance and employment-related adult educational programs.

Who can apply:

- Local governments
- Economic development corporations
- Non-profit organizations
- Federally recognized Indian tribes

Possible Projects include:

- Market expansion
- Farmers market organizations
- Employee training
- Food processing businesses



Rural Cooperative Development Grants

The primary purpose of Rural Cooperative Development Grants are to improve the economic condition of rural areas through the development of new cooperatives and improving operations of existing cooperatives.

Who can apply:

- Not-for-profit entities

Value Added Producers Grants

Value Added Producers Grants give funding assistance for planning or working capital activities related to the processing and/or marketing of value added products. They also give assistance to beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

Who can apply:

- Private for-profit agri-business owners wanting to add value to their raw commodity

Possible Projects Include:

- Planning activities
- Working capital to market the new value added product locally, regionally and nationally

Rural Energy for America Program

This program provides grants to agriculture producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficient improvements.

Who can apply:

- Rural projects that reduce energy use and result in savings for the producer or small business

Possible Projects Include:

- Efficient lighting or insulation
- Purchasing or replacing equipment with more energy efficient units