



Food Council Development Grant Program

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

By providing funds to established food councils, Indiana Grown can assist these regional food systems with goals they would not have otherwise obtained. Applicants must demonstrate how the award will enhance the value of agriculture in their region as well as grow the market opportunities of the farmers and producers they serve.

Applications should also indicate how the proposed project aligns with the three major goals of Indiana Grown:

1. Helping Indiana farmers and producers have a greater market for their products.
2. Supporting Indiana processors in their effort to process more Indiana Grown products.
3. Educating consumers on the importance of buying Indiana Grown products.

Awards will go to the applications that are approved at a max award amount of \$25,000 with \$100,000 of total grant funds available.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Established food councils in Indiana are eligible to apply. A food council is a community-based coalition created to build a stronger food system. Each council supports a county or region and is made up of individuals that represent farmers, producers or supportive organizations. They serve their county or surrounding county areas with capacity building, technical assistance, training and market development.

New groups/organizations not established as of January 1, 2021 or individual farms/businesses are not eligible to apply.

SCORING CONSIDERATIONS

Applications that pass completeness and threshold review will be scored. Include letters of commitment from the leader of your food council on the organization's letterhead and clearly state your interest in this grant. The letter should be signed by the leader of your food council. Also include no less than 3 letters of support from your community leaders, regional stakeholders, or a member of the community. This letter must be official in structure and be signed by the supporter.

PROJECT TIMELINE

- Grant applications open January 14, 2021
- Grant applications are due February 4, 2021
- Recipients will be selected and awarded by end of February 2021
- Grant projects must be completed by July 31, 2022.

HOW TO APPLY

1. [CLICK HERE](#) to request an account.
2. Complete the [APPLICATION](#) and submit required forms – W-9, direct deposit, register with the State as a bidder.
3. Submit application. Indiana Grown staff will contact you with questions or additional information.
4. If you are in need of technical assistance for the portal, contact Leah Harmon at lharmon2@isda.in.gov. For all other questions contact Heather Tallman at htallman@isda.in.gov or 317-697-5863.