

# Resilient Food System Infrastructure Program









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Program Guidelines Overview

MiLogin Registration

Applications (MiAgGrants)

Question & Answer via Chat

Please submit all questions via the Q&A feature or by email to mda-grants@michigan.gov



#### RFSI Grant Timeline

- May 8, 2024 Program Launched
- May 15, 2024 Informational Webinar
- June 17, 2024 Applications are Due
- Virtual Office Hours
- In-person Office Hours



#### RFSI Program Overview

#### The RFSI program is designed to:

- Build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain
- Provide more and better markets for Michigan's small farms and food businesses
- Support the development of value-added products for consumers, fair prices, fair wages, and job creation

Funds will support expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced food products.



## RFSI Funding Priorities

#### The funding priorities include

- Expanding capacity for processing, aggregation and distribution of ag products to create more and better markets for producers;
- Modernizing manufacturing, tracking, storage, and IT systems;
- Enhancing worker safety through adoption of new technologies or investment in equipment or facility improvements;
- Improving the capacity of entities to comply with federal, state, and local food safety requirements;
- Improve operations through training opportunities;
- Support construction of a new facility;
- Modernizing or expanding an existing facility;
- Construction of wastewater management structures, etc;
- Modernizing processing and manufacturing equipment; and
- Developing, customizing, or installing equipment that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases efficiency in water use, improves air and/or water quality, and/or meets one or more of USDA's climate action goals.



 Agricultural producers or processors, or groups of agricultural producers and processors

Nonprofit organizations

For-profit entities whose activities are primarily focused for the benefit of local and regional producers, and that meet the eligibility requirements of the SBA small business size standards are eligible.

- For-profit entities must meet the eligibility requirements of the SBA small business size standards matched to industries described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).
- Local government entities
- Tribal governments
- Institutions such as schools, universities, or hospitals bringing producers together to establish cooperative or shared infrastructure or invest in equipment that will benefit multiple producers



## RFSI Equipment Only Funding

- For equipment purchases related to the supply chain by eligible entities
- Minimum and Maximum grant amount \$10,000 -\$100,000
- Can be multiple pieces of equipment
- Quotes/Estimates need to be provided
- No match is required for this funding



## RFSI Infrastructure Funding

- For broader infrastructure grants related to:
  - expanding the processing or distribution of agricultural products
  - modernizing or expanding technology systems
  - facilities
  - training opportunities
  - enhancing worker safety, and more
- Infrastructure grants require a 50 percent match in most cases
- NEPA Review
- Maximum funding amount of \$475,000



# Cost Sharing and Matching for Infrastructure Grants

 Required to contribute 50% of the total proposed project cost as a match to federal funding.

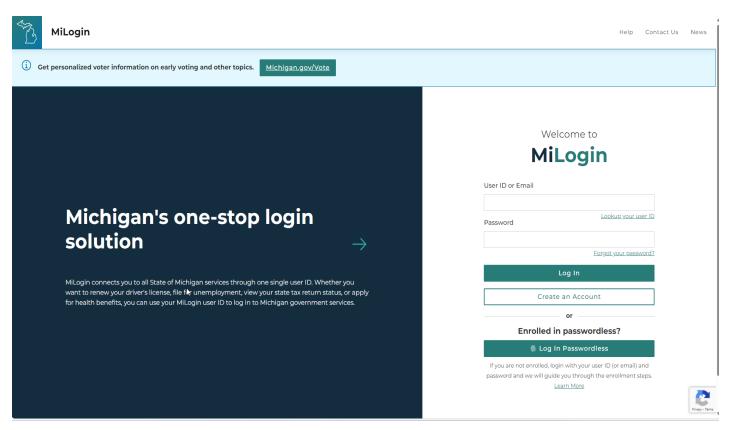
• This applies to all applicants except those who qualify for the reduced match.

 For historically underserved farmers and ranchers, or for other businesses that qualify under SBA categories of small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, or veteran-owned small businesses, the required match funding contribution or cost share is reduced to 25% of the project cost.

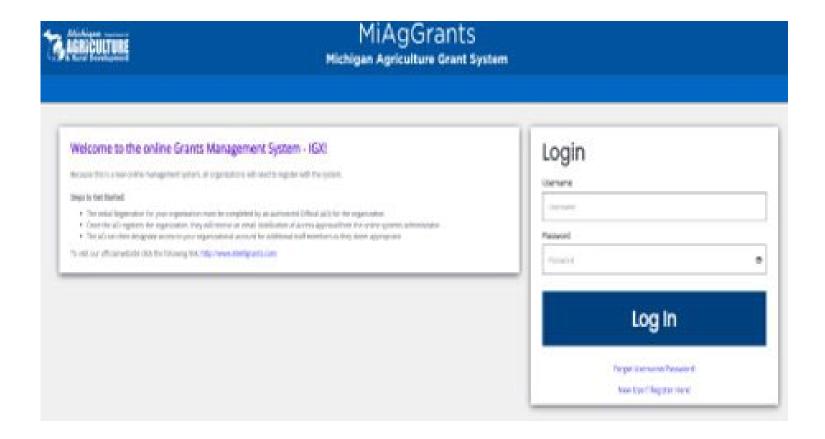


## MiAgGrants System Registration (DEMO)

- MiLogin Login (michigan.gov)
- DEMO MiLogin Registration



# MiAgGrants System Application (DEMO)

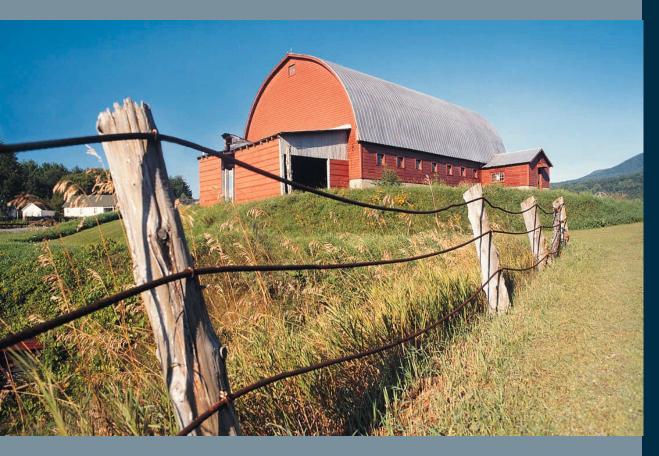


#### **Application Review Process**

- Competitive Review
- JEC scoring and review meeting
- Scoring Based off a 100 point scale
  - Alignment and Intent 30 points
  - Technical Merit 20 points
  - Achievability 25 points
  - Fiscal Plan & Resources 20 points
  - Historically Underserved Status 5 points



#### **Question and Answer**



Contact us at mda-grants@michigan.gov





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