

Value-Added and Regional Food Systems Grants

Promoting and Expanding Michigan's
Agricultural Processing Industry



Value-Added and Regional Food Systems Grants

The Value-Added Grant Program is designed to help retain, expand, attract, or develop agricultural processing in Michigan through targeted investments in technology and equipment, feasibility studies, healthy food access, regional food systems, and urban agriculture.

The value-added proposals are evaluated through a competitive selection process. Applicants for grant funds are asked to describe how the project will impact and produce measurable outcomes for Michigan’s food and agriculture industry.

\$100,000

MAXIMUM GRANT

WITH 30%


FUNDING MATCH

REQUIRED

18-24

MONTH

GRANT CYCLE



Where Is Funding Focused?

Funding will be focused on the following types of projects:

PROJECT TYPE	EXAMPLES
FOOD HUB DEVELOPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feasibility studies• Expansion of capacity, including equipment, cold storage, marketing, etc.• Training and education for Michigan growers
FOOD ACCESS, INCLUDING ACCESS TO FRESH/NUTRITIONAL FOODS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of educational resources about Michigan-grown food and commodities• Feasibility studies around food resources• Expansion of projects in food-insecure regions
VALUE-ADDED FOOD PROCESSING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Innovation and equipment• Technical assistance, including feasibility studies that lead to jobs/investment• Outreach and training

A Plan for Successful Proposals

The Department hosts an informational webinar for each Request for Proposal.

- Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) accepts proposals intended to help expand value-added agricultural processing and food hub development in the state, as well as access to fresh, nutritional Michigan-grown foods.
- This grant is a **cost reimbursement** program. Grantees are responsible for costs until proper reports/invoices/receipts are received and reviewed.
- Successful grantees will be eligible for reimbursement up to three times at specified dates during the grant cycle.
- Successful grantees will be required to submit written reports and appropriate financial documentation to MDARD for payment.
- Grantees may also be required to report on the outcomes and impact of their grant for a period of time (up to three years) after the grant period ends.

Ineligible Activities

Grant funds cannot be used to pay for:

- Land acquisition.
- Purchase of a building or facility.
- Structural repair of building or facility.
- Indirect costs. Indirect costs are defined as the expenses of doing business that are not readily identified within the project but are necessary for the general operation of the organization and the implementation of proposal-related activities.
- Salaries, wages, and benefits.
- Equipment installed outside of the state of Michigan.
- Travel costs.

How to Apply

Any additional communications concerning the Value-Added Grant Program should be sent to **mda-grants@michigan.gov**. For more information about MDARD's grant programs, visit **michigan.gov/mdardgrants**.

It's Time to Get Funded!

Inquiries can be emailed to mda-grants@michigan.gov.

Grant guidelines, program information, and project review criteria can be found at michigan.gov/mdardgrants.



Website: michigan.gov/mdard

Toll Free: (800) 292-3939

