



Transportation and Marketing Program



Grant Opportunities

Pandemic Response and Safety Grant Program

The Pandemic Response and Safety (PRS) Grant Program provides funding to help small specialty crop producers, food processors, manufacturers, distributors and farmers markets recover costs incurred by responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, including for measures to protect workers. This program is authorized and funded under [the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 \(Pub. L. No. 116—260\)](#).

Note: All applications submitted before the deadline will be considered for funding. Applications will not be reviewed on a first come first served basis.

[Visit the PRS Portal for more information and to apply for the USDA PRS Grant Program!](#)

Important Dates:

Application Period Opens: September 23, 2021

Application Period Closes: 11:59 PM Eastern Time on November 8, 2021

Who Is Eligible?

USDA is targeting support to small specialty crop producers, food processors, manufacturers and distributors as noted in the Eligible Industry Table, and farmers markets. The Eligible Industry Table details the different U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) small business qualifications for each eligible industry. Eligible entity types include:

- Small Businesses
- Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status

What Is the Maximum Grant Amount?

The minimum funding request amount is \$1,500. The maximum funding request amount is \$20,000. No cost sharing or matching funds are required.

What Can I Use the Funding For?

Grants will cover activities associated with:

- Workplace Safety: Implementing workplace safety measures to protect against COVID-19
 - Purchase of personal protective equipment, thermometers, cleaning supplies, sanitizer or hand washing stations
 - Installation and purchase of air filters or new signage
- Market Pivots: Implementing market pivots to protect against COVID-19
 - Development and implementation of online platforms
 - Creation of online or print materials to communicate market pivots
- Retrofitting Facilities: Retrofitting facilities for worker and consumer safety to protect against COVID-19
 - Installation and purchase of protective barriers made of plexiglass or plastic sheeting, walk up windows, heat lamps/heaters, fans, tents, propane, weights, tables, chairs and lighting
- Transportation: Providing additional transportation options to maintain social distancing and worker and consumer safety to protect against COVID-19
 - Additional transportation services for workers
 - New delivery routes or distribution services
- Worker Housing: Providing worker housing that protects against COVID-19
 - Additional housing resources/services to maintain social distancing or to allow for quarantining of new or exposed employees
- Medical: Providing health services to protect workers against COVID-19
 - Vaccinations, testing or healthcare treatment of infected employees, including any paid leave due to COVID-19 infection

Contact Us

For questions about this program, please email usda.ams.prs@grantsolutions.gov or call (301) 238-5550. Help desk hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time.

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