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Rural Development

USDA Rural Development Grant Programs

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Rural Development

Community Facility Grant (CF)

- Who is eligible?
  - Public Bodies
  - Local Governments
  - Non-profit Organizations
  - Native American Tribes
- What types of projects are eligible?
  - Food Banks
  - School Cafeterias
  - Farmers Markets
  - Community Kitchens
- Rural = communities under 20,000 population

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Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG)

- Who is eligible?
  - Public Bodies
  - Local Governments
  - Non-profit Organizations
  - Native American Tribes
- What types of projects are eligible?
  - Development of Food Hub
  - Farm to School Program Assistance
  - Farmers Markets
  - Kitchen Incubators
- Rural = communities under 50,000 population

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What's the Difference?

- Population
- CF focuses on enhancing services to the community
- RBEG focuses on assisting business & creating or saving jobs
- CF makes awards throughout the year
- RBEG is awarded once in the spring
- Applications accepted year round in both

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Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

- Who is eligible?
  - Independent Producers
  - Farmer/Rancher Cooperative
  - Agriculture Producer Groups
- What types of projects are eligible?
  - Assist ag producers entering into or expanding value-added activities
    - Planning
    - Working Capital
  - No purchase of real estate, buildings or equipment
  - You must currently grow the commodity to which you are adding value
  - 50/50 Matching Grant Program

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Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

- Who is eligible?
  - Farmers
  - Small Businesses in rural areas (< 50,000)
- What types of projects are eligible?
  - Renewable energy systems that create energy
    - Anaerobic Digesters, solar, bio-mass, etc.
  - Energy efficiency projects that reduce energy use
    - New lights, motors, refrigeration/freezer units, etc.
  - 75/25 Matching Grant Program

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Helpful Tips

- First thing you should do is contact RD. We will verify:
  - Site eligibility
  - Applicant eligibility
  - Scope of project fits parameters of program
  - Make sure you are working with the right person in our Agency

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Helpful Tips

- Competitive Grants – get scoring criteria
- Read & re-read the question – make sure your answer directly addresses the question/topic
- Assume the reviewer doesn't know anything about your project, geographic area or you
- Turn it in BEFORE the deadline

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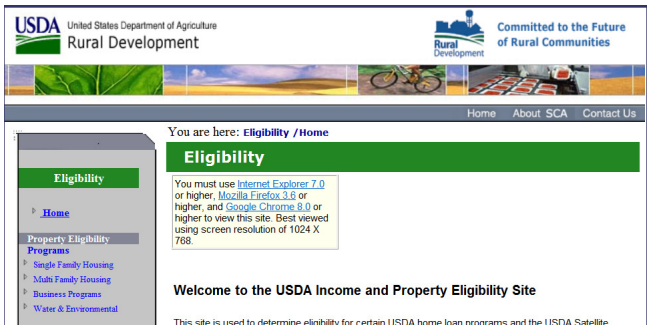
Eligibility Website

- http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/eligibility/welcomeAction.do



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Employee Contact Info

Michigan Offices

East Lansing State Office
3001 Coolidge Rd., Suite 200
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 324-5190

Caro Area Office 1075 Cleaver Rd. P.O. Box 291 Caro, MI 48723 (989) 673-7588, Ext. 6 **West Branch** (Sub-Area Office) 240 W. Wright St. West Branch, MI 48661 (989) 345-5470, Ext. 4 **Service Area** *Arenac, Bay Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Iosco, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, Ogemaw, Roscommon, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties*	**Gladstone Area Office** 2003 Minneapolis Gladstone, MI 49837 (906) 428-1060, Ext. 6 **Sault Ste. Marie** (Sub-Area Office) 2847 Ashmun Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-9611, Ext. 4 **Service Area** *Alger, Baraga, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Emmet, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinaw, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, Presque Isle, Schoolcraft counties*	**Grand Rapids Area Office** 3260 Eagle Park Dr. Suite 107 Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 942-4111, Ext. 6 **Paw Paw** (Sub-Area Office) 1035 E. Michigan Ave. Suite A Paw Paw, MI 49079 (269) 657-7055, Ext. 4 **Service Area** *Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa, St. Joseph, Van Buren counties*	**Mason Area Office** 525 N. Okemos St. Suite B Mason, MI 48854 (517) 676-1808, Ext. 6 Toll Free (888) 771-6993 **Flint** (Sub-Area Office) 1525 North Elms Rd. Flint, MI 48532 (810) 230-8766, Ext. 4 **Service Area** *Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Shiawassee, Wayne, Washtenaw counties*	**Traverse City Area Office** 1501 Cass Street Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 941-0951, Ext. 6 **Service Area** *Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Crawford, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Missaukee, Montmorency, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Wexford counties*