

Program Name	Specialty Crop Block Grant (USDA)	Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Farmer-Rancher Grants (USDA)	Value-Added Producer Grants USDA Rural Development
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<b>Webpage</b>	<a href="http://datcp.wi.gov">http://datcp.wi.gov</a> Key Word: specialty crops	<a href="http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/">http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/</a>	<a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants</a> Key word: VAPG
<b>Application Deadline</b>	Request for Funding released in January, 2021. Applications due March 15, 2021, (Tentative Date)	RFP expected in August Deadline TBA, likely late Nov. or early Dec. 2020	Notice anticipated to be released fall 2020. Anticipated due date for applications is January 2020.
<b>Purpose</b>	To enhance the competitiveness of Wisconsin Specialty Crops.	To advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound, and good for communities through research and education	To help independent agriculture producers enter into value added activities. Activities can be for planning grants or working capital.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Non-profit organizations, producer organizations, government agencies, universities, and other groups involved in Wisconsin agriculture. Individual producers, for-profit businesses, or commercial entities may only apply if their project can demonstrate a benefit to the specialty crop industry sector.	Individual farmers or groups of farms. (SARE has other grant programs for researchers, educators, and others.)	Independent Producers, Agriculture Producer Groups, Farmer or Ranch Cooperative, or Majority Controlled Producer- Based Business Venture.
<b>Priorities</b>	2021 Priorities will be similar to 2020 which were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental sustainability, pest and disease control, &amp; varietal improvement</li> <li>• Development of food safety practices, outreach, and education that assist with compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification.</li> <li>• Increasing the demand for and supply of Wisconsin specialty crops</li> <li>• Industry innovation in production, processing, packaging, and distribution</li> <li>• Education for producers, processors, and the general public to improve production practices, or increase sales of Wisconsin specialty crops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production practices that benefit the environment, farm profitability, and communities</li> <li>• Marketing strategies that support farm profitability and environmentally and socially sustainable agriculture</li> </ul>	Anticipate a 10% set-a side for Mid-Tier Value Chain and a 10% set-a-side for Beginning Farmers or Ranchers and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers or Ranchers.
<b>Available Funds</b>	Estimated \$1,250,000	Around \$700,000	Estimated \$18 million dollars nationwide
<b>Grant Amount</b>	Estimated maximum \$1,000,000	Maximum of \$9,000 for one farm; \$18,000 for two farms; \$27,000 for groups of 3 or more farms	Maximum planning grant \$75,000 Maximum working capital grant \$250,000
<b>Match</b>	No match required	No match required	Dollar for dollar match with eligible project cost
<b>Other Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects led or advocated by a specialty crop industry organizations will have priority over other projects.</li> <li>• Eligible specialty crops include: fruits, vegetables, culinary herbs and spices, medicinal plants, tree nuts, flowers, and nursery plants. For a complete updated list of acceptable crops, see <a href="http://www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp">www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23-month project period</li> <li>• Projects must include an outreach component.</li> <li>• Successful grants often involve partnerships.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning grant can be used to pay for business plan, feasibility study, marketing plan</li> <li>• Working capital grant can be used for operating of the ag venture, (non-owner salaries, inventory, utilities ect.) marketing plan</li> <li>• Business plan and feasibility study required for working capital grants</li> </ul>
<b>Grant expectations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant recipients are expected to provide two annual reports and a comprehensive final report with findings and analysis of project work.</li> <li>• Projects must be completed by 6/30/23</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant recipients must provide a progress report after one year and a final report at the end of the project. These reports will be posted on SARE's database.</li> <li>• Recipients must send in a final budget at the end of the project detailing how funds were used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning grant must report estimated increase in revenue, customer base and jobs created.</li> <li>• Working capital must report increase in customer base, revenue number and number of jobs created.</li> </ul>

Program Name	DATCP Dairy Processor Grant	Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants	Buy Local Buy Wisconsin Grants (State)
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<b>Webpage</b>	<a href="http://datcp.wi.gov">http://datcp.wi.gov</a> Key Word: specialty crops	<a href="http://datcp.wi.gov">http://datcp.wi.gov</a> Key Word: producer-led	<a href="https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/BuyLocalBuyWisconsinGrants.aspx">https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/BuyLocalBuyWisconsinGrants.aspx</a>
<b>Application Deadline</b>	Request for Funding released in September, 2020. Applications due Nov.1	Request for Funding released July 2020. Applications due October 19, 2020 (tentative) for 2021 funding.	Applications due March 2021, (Tentative Date)
<b>Purpose</b>	Improve the long-term viability of Wisconsin's dairy industry through services to dairy processing plants to facilitate operational changes, improve profitability and foster innovation and economic growth.	Increase locally-led conservation efforts and improve water quality through producer-led watershed improvement groups throughout the state.	To strengthen Wisconsin's agricultural and food industries by reducing marketing, distribution, and processing hurdles that impede sales of Wisconsin's food products to local purchasers.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Eligible applicants must operate a licensed dairy processing plant engaged in pasteurizing, processing or manufacturing milk or dairy products that is located in WI	At least 5 producers that meet the eligible farm definition: An "eligible farm" means a farm that produced at least \$6,000 in gross farm revenues during the taxable year or a total of at least \$18,000 in gross farm revenues during the preceding three years.	Individuals, groups, businesses and organizations involved in Wisconsin agriculture, food processing, food distribution, food warehousing, retail food establishments, or agricultural tourism. Proposals may involve collaborations or partnerships between producers, food businesses, industry, academia or organizations.
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dairy plant modernization and expansion efforts</li> <li>Food safety</li> <li>New technology, including new processes, wastewater treatment or handling, new uses for whey, or other innovations</li> <li>Efforts to improve/enhance staff retention, training, supervisory skills, and knowledge</li> <li>Other dairy processing projects may be considered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal demonstrates creative and innovative approaches to solve/address water quality issues.</li> <li>Project incorporates a viable method for tracking and measuring project results in short and long term.</li> <li>Farmer leadership and commitment is evident.</li> <li>Strong project support by participants, partners, industry and other relevant individuals or organizations.</li> <li>Project demonstrates a plan to increase on-farm conservation efforts within watershed area.</li> <li>New producer-led efforts.</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing WI local food sales</li> <li>Local food market development</li> <li>Enhancement of production, processing, marketing and distribution of Wisconsin food products</li> <li>Development of supply chain infrastructure.</li> </ul>
<b>Available Funds</b>	Estimated \$200,000	\$750,000 per fiscal year	\$300,000
<b>Grant Amount</b>	Estimated maximum \$50,000	Maximum of \$40,000 per group	\$5,000 to \$50,000
<b>Match</b>	20% of the grant request	1:1	100% of grant request
<b>Other Notes</b>		Projects must complete a final report using the DATCP approved template and attend the annual information-sharing workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects must be driven by or supported by local food producers</li> <li>Requests <b>over</b> \$20,000 will be analyzed for demonstration of broad supply chain or industry impacts. See scoring criteria.</li> <li>Requests <b>under</b> \$20,000 will be analyzed for innovation. Only processors and producers are eligible to apply for this category.</li> </ul>
<b>Grant expectations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects must be completed within two years of the start date</li> <li>Projects must complete a final report highlighting project results and benefits to the WI dairy industry</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning grant must report estimated increase in revenue, customer base and jobs created.</li> <li>Working capital must report increase in customer base, revenue, and number of jobs created.</li> </ul>