

## Our Goal...

Provide technical assistance to Socially-Disadvantaged Groups in rural areas through eligible cooperatives and associations of cooperatives.

## Benefits ...

### For applicant

- Enrich economic development of a community by provide advisory service for the benefit of Socially-Disadvantaged Groups.
- Receive technical assistance in many critical business areas.

## For More Information...

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## Visit...

 <http://www.rd.usda.gov/mn>



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United States Department of Agriculture

## Socially Disadvantaged Group Grant (SDGG)



Striving to support rural communities and enhance quality of life for rural residents by improving economic opportunities, community infrastructure, environmental health, and the sustainability of agricultural production.

# Socially Disadvantaged Group Grant Program

The SDGG Program is authorized by the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act with the primary objective of providing Technical Assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Groups. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

## Eligibility...

Grants are available for:

- Cooperative Development Centers
- Individual Cooperatives
- Groups of Cooperatives

That serve socially-disadvantaged groups and where a majority of the boards of directors or governing board is comprised of members of socially-disadvantaged groups.

## Project Area...

The proposed project must take place in a rural area with a population of 50,000 or less and not urban in nature.

- Property Eligibility Check Link:  
<http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov>



## Grant Period...

- Funds must be used within 12 months and applications must have a time frame of one year or less
- Agency may approve requests to extend the grant period for up to an additional 12 months at its discretion
- If have an existing SSDPG award, applicant must be performing satisfactorily to be considered for new award.

## Eligible Use of Funds...

Technical assistance includes, but is not limited to:

- Market research
- Product and/or service improvement
- Legal advice and assistance
- Feasibility study
- Business plan
- Marketing plan development
- Training



**Please contact your local  
USDA Area Specialist for  
more information.**