Agriculture Innovation Center Program

**What does this program do?**

The Agriculture Innovation Center Program makes grants to Agriculture Innovation Centers that then provide technical and business development assistance to agricultural producers seeking to engage in making or producing Value-Added agricultural products.

**How may funds be used?**

Grant and matching funds may be used to operate an Agriculture Innovation Center and to provide the following services to agricultural producers:

- Consulting services for legal, accounting, and technical services to be used by the recipient in establishing and operating a Center
- Hiring employees for the Center
- Making of matching grants to agricultural producers
- Applied research
- Legal services
- Technical assistance to agricultural producers, including engineering services, scale production assessments, market planning and development, business planning, and other advisory services

**Who may apply for this program?**

- Public bodies
- Institutions of higher education
- Nonprofit organizations
- For-profit corporations

**How do we get started?**

Before you apply:

- Request a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number if your organization doesn’t already have one. You should plan on requesting it at least a month before the application deadline because you’ll need that number for the next pre-application step.

**Who can answer questions?**

- If you have questions, you can contact your nearest RD office.

**Where can I get more information about the program?**

Please read the Federal Register Notice for important information needed before applying for the grant. You can find Agriculture and Innovation Center regulations on the e-CFR.

---

**NOTE:** Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please contact your local office for assistance. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at rd.usda.gov. **USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.**

Last Updated January 2020