

Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program 2023

Vermont Community Foundation

Program Details

The Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program addresses the critical needs of Vermont farms that sustained damage from the historic storms and flooding in July and August. The program is designed to meet unmet need, and help farms and farmers continue or return to production. This opportunity is made possible by many organizations and individuals who contributed generously to the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023.

What We Fund

The Vermont Community Foundation will award up to \$1 million from the Vermont Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023 to support Vermont farms. Farms directly impacted by storms and flooding in July and August 2023 may seek funding through the Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program. For those losses not otherwise covered by insurance or able to be covered by sources of income, grant awards can support:

- Replacement of seed, feed, livestock, supplies or equipment.
- Infrastructure and/or capital repairs.
- Loss of revenue due to closure or damages, including loss of value of crops at the time of flooding and/or storms.
- Outstanding bills including farm mortgage costs, land lease payments, utility payments, or animal feed bills.
- Unexpected expenses related to storm and flood impacts.

What We Don't Fund

Damage or expenses that occurred prior to the July 2023 storms and flooding are ineligible. Grants cannot be applied to any logging, forestry, hemp, or cannabis related activities. Grants cannot be used to recover projected income from crops lost in storms and/or flooding (cannot cover estimated damage to future harvest). For example, projected income from produce to be harvested in fall 2023 is not eligible. Grants cannot be used for expenses or losses that have already been covered through insurance and/or another flood response/recovery funding source.

Who May Apply

A farm will be considered eligible if:

- It is located in Vermont and the land is owned or leased by a Vermont resident(s).
- It is committed to remaining in business.
- It sustained damage in July and/or August 2023.

- It has at least 20 percent of income coming from agricultural activities (supported by appropriate tax documentation).
 - Farms that began operations in 2023 (new or startup farms) are eligible so long as they can demonstrate investment and potential for growth.
- Nonprofits managing farm operations are eligible to apply so long as they can demonstrate investment and potential for growth.

This grant program will prioritize:

- Farmers who identify or self-identify as part of a vulnerable or marginalized population.
- Farms that will not be receiving any other flood assistance.

Program Assistance & Inquiries

With questions related to applicant eligibility and/or the Farm Disaster Relief Program guidelines, please contact Kate Neubauer at 802-388-3355 ext. 250 or kneubauer@vermontcf.org. If you have limited access to a computer, need translation services, would prefer to complete a written application, and/or would like to work directly with a VCF staff member to complete an application over the phone, please contact Evelyn Gearty at 802-552-3224 or egearty@vermontcf.org. Evelyn is also available to offer technical assistance to help applicants navigate the Online Grants Manager (OGM).

Grant Size

Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to farms that have applied and are eligible, as available funds allow.

Deadline and Notification

Round 1 Deadline: Applications will be accepted between August 23 and September 6, 2023. Applications and supporting documentation must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6 to be considered. Applications sent by mail must be postmarked by September 6, 2023. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions in September 2023.

Round 2 Deadline: Applications will be accepted between September 6 and September 27, 2023. Applications and supporting documentation must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27 to be considered. Applications sent by mail must be postmarked by September 27, 2023. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions in October 2023.

Additional program details may be viewed online at vermontcf.org/farmgrants.

Contact Information

First and last name of applicant*

Character Limit: 100

Mailing address*

Character Limit: 250

Phone number*

Character Limit: 100

Email address*

Character Limit: 254

Are you the farm owner?*

Choices

Yes

No

Farm Information

Name of farm*

Character Limit: 250

Farm address (if different from mailing address provided above)

Character Limit: 250

Phone number (if different from phone number provided above)

Character Limit: 100

Email address (if different from email address provided above)

Character Limit: 254

Farm website URL (if applicable)

Character Limit: 2000

County where farm is located*

Character Limit: 100

Is the land leased or owned?*

Choices

Leased

Owned

None of the above

Application Questions

Amount Requested*

Character Limit: 20

Applicant may request up to \$10,000.

Description of Farm*

Please provide a brief description of your farm, including: number of years in business, ownership and management structure, acreage, type of crops, number and type of animals produced, and primary markets sold to.

Character Limit: 3750

Employees*

Do you have employees?

Choices

Yes

No

If you answered "yes" above:

How many employees did you have before the July/August storms and flooding? How many current employees? Are these employees paid or unpaid? *Please include both full- and part-time and specify how many for each type.*

Character Limit: 2500

Vulnerable or Marginalized Populations Q1*

Do you identify or self-identify as a part of one or more of the following vulnerable or marginalized populations? Choose all that apply.

Choices

No, I do not identify as part of a vulnerable or marginalized population

Black, Indigenous, Persons of Color (BIPOC)

People living in rural areas/internet deserts

People with disabilities

Refugees/Immigrants/multilingual communities

Migrant workers

LGBTQIA+ people

People experiencing poverty

Women, including trans women and non-binary people

Other, please explain:

Other Q1:

Character Limit: 1500

Vulnerable or Marginalized Populations Q2*

Do any of your employees identify as a part of one or more of the following vulnerable or marginalized populations? Choose all that apply.

Choices

No, farm employees do not identify as part of a vulnerable or marginalized population

I do not have employees

Not known

Black, Indigenous, Persons of Color (BIPOC)

People living in rural areas/internet deserts

People with disabilities

Refugees/Immigrants/multilingual communities

Migrant workers

LGBTQIA+ people

People experiencing poverty

Women, including trans women and non-binary people

Other, please explain:

Other Q2:

Character Limit: 1500

What were your gross annual sales in calendar year 2022?*

Character Limit: 250

Income from agricultural activity 2022*

Did income from agricultural activity make up at least 20 percent of your total gross income in 2022? If not, please describe any recent investments or plans that were in place to increase sales from the farm.

Character Limit: 2500

Briefly describe the losses incurred as a result of the July/August storms and flooding.*

Please include your estimated total monetary loss.

Character Limit: 3750

Other funding sources*

If you anticipate being eligible for insurance coverage, FEMA, and/or other federal/state assistance, please list the amount of estimated future assistance here. Please indicate if the funding has been received, confirmed, or is pending approval.

Character Limit: 2500

Did you or your farm submit an application to the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP)?*

Choices

Yes

No

How will a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation allow your business to continue?*

Character Limit: 3750

Additional documentation that you would like to provide (this is optional, no additional documents are required for the grants review process)

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Required attachments

Financial Documentation*

Upload a copy of your most recent Schedule F.

- If your business started operations in 2023, please upload a current profit and loss (P&L) statement.
- If you do not file a Schedule F, please provide Form 1065 or Form 1120-S.

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Completed Form W-9*

Upload a completed Form W-9. A blank form may be downloaded [here](#) or accessed online [here](#).

File Size Limit: 5 MB

SAVE AND SUBMIT

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This is not a first come, first serve grant program. Grant decisions will be made in consultation with a diverse, volunteer review committee made up of organizational partners, community members, and stakeholders who represent different farm and food sectors and geographic areas of the state.

By submitting your application to the Vermont Community Foundation, you give us permission to share your application and information about your project with state partners.