

# RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

## OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) program is to build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain, to provide more and better markets to small farms to food businesses, to support the development of value-added products for consumers, fair prices, fair wages, and new and safe job opportunities.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) will work in partnership with USDA to make competitive sub award investments in middle of the supply chain infrastructure (Infrastructure and Equipment Grants) for domestic food and farm businesses and other eligible entities. For the purposes of RFSI, "middle-of-the-supply-chain" refers to "Processing" and "Aggregation/Distribution" stages.

This program is to support food system crops meant for human consumption (excluding meat and poultry products which are funded through other USDA programs).

## STATUS

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) submitted its state plan for the USDA to review. Applications are now open and may be found at <https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/rfsi.html>. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5, 2024, to [rfsi@ky.gov](mailto:rfsi@ky.gov).

The KDA has designed a webpage to promote the program details as they're finalized. KDA has developed a contact list of interested parties and will provide periodic updates as more details are confirmed. Please email [RFSI@ky.gov](mailto:RFSI@ky.gov) if you would like to be added to the distribution list.

## COST SHARE REQUIREMENT

Infrastructure Grant applicants can apply for a minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$3 million. Equipment only grant applicants can apply for a minimum of \$10,000 and a maximum of \$100,000. Applicants are not eligible to apply for both grants.

The Infrastructure Grant Recipients are required to contribute 50% of the total proposed project cost as a match to federal funding unless they qualify under the SBA categories of small-disadvantaged business, women-owned small business, or veteran-owned small business. The required match funding for a Infrastructure Grant contribution or cost share is reduced to 25% of the project cost for these applicant designations. Cost-share match,



## ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS

- Expand capacity for processing, aggregation, and distribution of agricultural products
- The modernization of manufacturing, tracking, storage, and information technology systems;
- The enhancement of worker safety through adoption of new technologies or investment in equipment or facility improvements
- The modernization or the expansion of an existing facility
- On-farm post-harvest processing, preservation, and storage/ cold storage

*Final eligibility and exclusions will be subject to USDA's RFSI determination.*

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsi>



**KENTUCKY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE**

## QUESTIONS?

Contact the RFSI Program at Office: 502-573-0282 8am-4:30pm ET or Email [RFSI@ky.gov](mailto:RFSI@ky.gov)

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