

*Become a WFC member*

**JOIN THE  
WYOMING FOOD COALITION**

*Grow the Change*

**YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD...**



**WYFOODCOALITION.ORG**



**@WYFOODCOALITION**

# *WFC Members*

## **HAVE ACCESS TO...**



**Training and  
Networking Events**



**Event and Grant Alerts On  
our Website and In Our  
Newsletter**



**WY Table Local Food  
Directory & Map**



**Assistance with the WY  
Food Freedom Act**



**Land Link WY Map**



**Monthly Virtual Speaker  
Series**



*Join today!*

**MEMBERSHIP IS FREE  
FOR A LIMITED TIME**

**WYFOODCOALITION.ORG/JOIN-US**



# Vista Applications

SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE  
WYOMING FOOD COALITION  
REMOTELY & IN-PERSON

## NOW OPEN

**WORKING PERIOD**

*April 2025 - May 2026*

**LINK ON OUR  
WEBSITE TO APPLY!**



*Apply Today!*  
**SERVICE AREAS:**

FOOD PRODUCTION AND  
AGRICULTURE

FOOD SYSTEMS SECURITY,  
HEALTH, AND HUNGER

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TRIBAL OUTREACH AND  
EDUCATION



*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Welcome- Thank you for coming!***

***WY Food Matters***

# Wyoming Food Coalition

# GRANT & GROW WY

*Thanks to  
our partners:*



COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY



Rocky Mountain  
Farmers Union



WYOMING DEPARTMENT  
OF FAMILY SERVICES



**FOOD BANK**  
OF WYOMING™



Western  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Research and Education





# ***What are Forward Contracts & Purchase Agreements?***

***How do they work for WY Producers?***

...

**LeAnn Miller-  
Fresh Foods WY  
leannmiller1251@gmail.co**

**m**



# *Forward Contracting in Wyoming*





# *What does forward contracting mean to us?*

- Private agreement between two parties to buy or sell an asset at a predetermined price and date in the future.
- Reduce the risk of price changes and to plan for future production.



*Pantry or Food Bank  
creates inventory of needs*

*Matches with Producer or  
Producers*

*Agreement is made on  
pricing, availability,  
harvest*

*Delivery of goods is made*





*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Break***

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Grant Opportunities in  
2025-2026***





## ***Local Food Procurement Grant***

***Deadline: June 2025***

**Odessa Oldham**  
**[ooldham@wyomingfoodbank.org](mailto:ooldham@wyomingfoodbank.org)**

# Local Food Purchasing Agreement

How to Become a Partner we Purchase from?

- **Call me (307) 287 -1672**

What you will **NEED**

- W-9 Form
- ACH Information
- Projection yield (quantity)

Logistics

- Delivered or Pick-Up
- Protein
  - Do you have a USDA Processor
  - Product already processed



# Local Food Purchasing Agreement

## What's the **Payment Process**...?

- Receive all documents
  1. W-9 Form
  2. ACH Information
  3. Projection yield (quantity)
- I get this to Finance Team to get processed (2 weeks)
- Payment Process begins once the Food Bank has **RECEIVED** product. This process takes 3 weeks minimum





# Western SARE Grant Programs

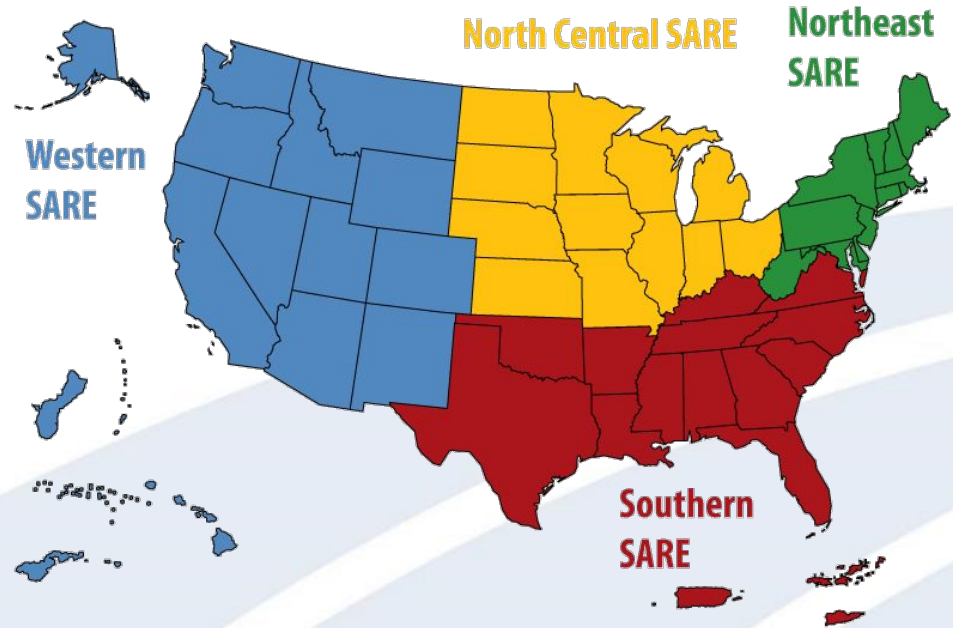
*Grant and Grow WY*  
*February 15, 2025*

Jenna Meeks  
PDP Coordinator  
Western SARE



# SARE: Producer-Focused Research and Education

- USDA-NIFA funded program
- Four SARE regions oversee the day-to-day operations of the program
- Each region hosted by a host institution and overseen by an Administrative Council



# Western SARE's Mission



To advance innovations that improve profitability, stewardship, and quality in American agriculture by investing in groundbreaking research and education

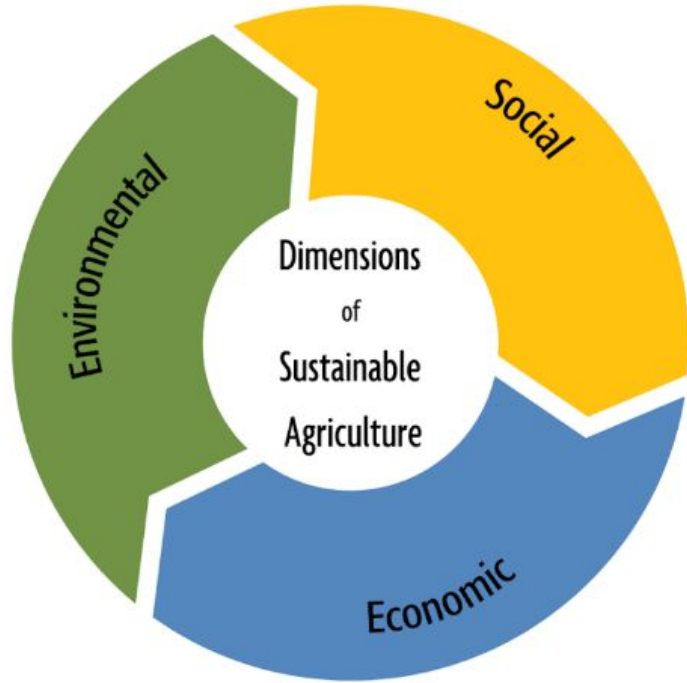


# What makes Western SARE Unique?

Built on a foundation of respect for agricultural producers, the idea that farmers and ranchers know what works best on the land.



# Dimensions of Sustainable Agriculture



- Enhance the quality of life for producers in local communities
- Improve the profitability of producers and associated agricultural businesses
- Sustain and improve the environmental quality and natural resource base on which agriculture depends

# Western SARE Competitive Grant Programs

Research and  
Education

Professional +  
Producer

Farmer/Rancher

Sabbatical

Graduate  
Student

Professional  
Development  
Program

Local Education  
and  
Demonstration



# Farmer/Rancher Grant Program

## Overview

- Project Team:
  - Farmer or Rancher (PI)
  - Technical Advisor
- Project Length: 1-3 years
- Funding: up to \$35,000

## How It Works

- Funds are issued directly to the Farmer or Rancher
- Producers conduct on-farm research and field trials with support of a technical advisor
- Education and outreach activities ensure that findings are shared with the broader community

# Who can apply for the Farmer/Rancher Program?

- Primary occupation is farming or ranching and have a farm/ranch taxpayer identification number (TIN)
- Part-time producer with at least \$1,000 (or equivalent) of documented annual income from farming or ranching activities



# Professional+ Producer Grant Program

## Overview

- Project Team:
  - Agricultural Professional (PI)
  - Producers (at least 3)
- Project Length: 1-3 years
- Funding: up to \$85,000

## How It Works

- With the collaboration of at least three producers, projects must integrate research and education aiming to advance the three components of sustainable agriculture
- Outcomes result in quantifiable benefits for producers, increase the preservation of the natural and social resources upon which agriculture relies, and be shared with other producers



# Western SARE Project Topics

- Soil Health/Management/Quality
- Integrated Pest Management
- Field/Vegetable Food Production
- Water Management
- Economics/Marketing
- Integrated Crop Livestock
- Animal Production
- Natural Resource Management
- And More



# Examples of Farmer/Rancher Projects in Wyoming

- TAG grazing Cattle as a Tool for Range Management: Targeting Cheatgrass and False Annual Grass to see the impacts of restoring native species
- Goats - Invasive Weed Reduction & Native Plant Reintroduction on River Bottom Wetland Habitat
- Trout Creek Farm Patch: adding new revenue streams on a traditional cow/calf ranch
- Enhancing Rural Agricultural Family and Community Development in Wyoming Through Sustainable Biofuel Crop Production
- Utilizing Soil Moisture and Climate Monitoring Technology to Reduce Water and Energy Needs and Improve Sugar Beet Crop Production for Producers in the Big Horn Basin Region of Wyoming
- Nitrogen Efficiency of Cool-Season Perennial Forage Grasses Grown With and Without Alfalfa Under Irrigation for Hay Production



# Examples of Professional + Producer Projects in Wyoming



- Weaning strategy influence on pulmonary hypertension risk and respiratory disease
- Enhancing producer decision making: Lamb feeding strategies and meat quality assessment in the Katahdin sheep breed
- Kernza® in Wyoming: Evaluating Perennial Grains to Revitalize Wyoming Dryland Agriculture
- Does cattle selection matter? Testing larkspur-native vs larkspur-naïve cattle to reduce death losses on larkspur infested rangelands.
- Growing and Marketing Ancient Grains in Wyoming
- Residual Feed Intake - Producer Adoption and Genetic Selection Potential



# Proposal Narrative



1. Relevance to Sustainable Agriculture, and Project Value and Benefits (15%)
  2. Stakeholder Needs and Support (5%)
  3. Project Team (5%)
  4. Research Plan (30%)
  5. Educational Plan (30%)
  6. Timeline (5%)
  7. Evaluation and Producer Adoption (5%)
- Budget and Justification (5%)

# Tips for Applying

- Read through the Call for Proposals (CFP) and materials on the website – make sure it's a good match.
- Look into other SARE funded projects – see if there are projects that relate to your idea; look at the future recommendations' sections of the final reports.
- Be sure your proposal addresses SARE's goals.
- Be clear – why is this project needed, what are you trying to learn, how will you conduct your research, and how will you get your results out and to who?
- How will the project benefit other producers?

# Search SARE Funded Projects



Keyword(s):

[Hide all filters](#)

[search tips](#)

Search

[Reset](#)

Order by: ☒ Relevance ☐ Year ☐ Project Number

Region

State

Project Type

Project Funding From:  To:

## Commodities\*

- ☐ None
- ☐ Agronomic
- ☐ Fruits
- ☐ Nuts
- ☐ Vegetables
- ☐ Additional Plants
- ☐ Animals
- ☐ Animal Products
- ☐ Miscellaneous

## Practices\*

- ☐ Animal Production
- ☐ Crop Production
- ☐ Education and Training
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Farm Business Management
- ☐ Natural Resources/Environment
- ☐ Pest Management
- ☐ Production Systems
- ☐ Soil Management
- ☐ Sustainable Communities

[projects.sare.org/search-projects/](https://projects.sare.org/search-projects/)



**Western**  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Research and Education

[National](#)[North Central](#)[Northeast](#)[Southern](#)[Western](#)

[western.sare.org/grants/documents-for-applying](https://western.sare.org/grants/documents-for-applying)

## Resources for Applying

In this section, you will find documents and resources helpful in preparing your proposal submission. This includes templates, budgetary information, and hints for strong proposal writing.

It will also be useful to review [archived Calls](#) under each grants program section, [grantwriting webinars](#), [reporting expectations and materials](#) and the [subaward process](#) for current grantees.

### Submission Process

Submitted proposals that fulfill the submission requirements will undergo the evaluation of a Technical Review Panel - researchers, educators, and agricultural producers- following the scoring review criteria included in the Call for Proposal. The Technical Review Panel ranks and provides recommendations of proposals. The Western SARE Administrative Council selects the proposals to be funded during its winter and summer meetings. You will be notified of the status of your submission shortly after the final selection.

#### LINKS TO RESOURCES

- [Budgetary Details](#)
- [College of Micronesia Applicants](#)
- [Gantt Chart & Time Table](#)
- [Generating Program Income](#)
- [Indirect Cost Recovery Guidance](#)
- [Obtaining a Unique Entity Identifier](#)
- [Successful Objectives](#)



## Grants

# western.sare.org/grants/

Western SARE provides grants in several categories. Each of these grants is available at specific times of the year. [Applying](#) online for a grant is a simple step-by-step process. Please read each grant's specific Calls for Proposals and review our [Resources for Applying](#). View our [Application and Award Life Cycle Flowchart](#) to better understand learning about, applying for, and managing a Western SARE grant. [Grantwriting webinars](#) have been recorded for your viewing. Current grantees can find [information and documents for managing your award here](#).

Not sure which grant is right for you? [Review this infographic](#) to help you decide which of our grant programs is the best fit! Before reaching out regarding a specific grant program, [please review who is the best person to contact](#). If you don't know the specific grant program, please [contact the Host Institution](#) for more assistance.

CLOSED

### Research and Education Pre-Proposal

The Research & Education Program involves scientists, agricultural producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to advance sustainable agriculture through innovative research and

CLOSED

### Professional + Producer

The Professional + Producer Program provides opportunities for agriculture professionals working directly with farmers and ranchers on sustainable agriculture efforts.

Closed: Oct 22, 2024 12:00 PM

#### GRANTS

- [Resources for Applying](#) ▶
- [Managing Your Grant](#) ▶
- [Resources for Conducting Outreach](#) ▶
- [Grant Writing Tutorials & Webinars](#) ▶
- [Search the Projects Database](#) ▶
- [Apply to Be a Reviewer](#) ▶
- [Which Grant Should I Apply For?](#) ▶

Have

# western.sare.org/grants/farmer-rancher/

Learn more  
and apply

[Home](#) » [Grants](#) » Farmer/Rancher

## Farmer/Rancher

Closed - Opens February 2025

Download Archived CFP

Info for Managing Award

The Western SARE Farmer/Rancher Research & Education Grant Program focuses on advancing on-farm sustainability solutions by funding innovative producer-driven research and outreach. This grant program involves agricultural producers (main applicants) and technical advisor(s) implementing projects to address identified needs in sustainable agriculture.

*We recognize that producers are always innovating and improving on-farm/ranch practices. This program aims to honor producer innovation by funding on-farm research that benefits and is led by producers themselves. We encourage you to explore whether this grant program is right for you.*

### How the Program Works

Producers may apply for up to \$35,000.

With a Farmer/Rancher Grant, a producer and a technical advisor work together to develop a project (**1-3 years in scope**) that conducts **both research and outreach** on a sustainable

#### RESOURCES

[FAQs](#)

[What Expenses are Allowed?](#)

[How to Host a Field Day](#)

[How to Conduct On-farm Research](#)

[Other Sources of Funding](#)

[Managing Your FR Grant](#)

[Glossary of Terms](#)

[Technical Adviser Guide](#)

# 2026 Program Timelines

## Farmer/Rancher

Call for Proposals Opens: **February 17, 2025**

Proposals Due: **October 2025**

Technical Review Panel: **January 2026**

Proposal Selection: **February 2026**

Awards Announced and Funded Projects Begin: **April 2026**

## Professional + Producer

Call for Proposals Opens: **Mid-April 2025**

Proposals Due: **October 2025**

Technical Review Panel: **January 2026**

Proposal Selection: **February 2026**

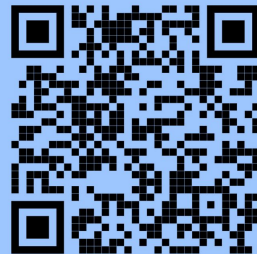
Awards Announced and Funded Projects Begin: **April 2026**



# Western SARE Reviewers



- Learn about grant writing from the reviewer's perspective
- Process:
  - Evaluate submitted proposals on our online platform
  - Meet with other reviewers and discuss merits of each proposal
  - Make recommendations on proposals



[western.sare.org/about/technical-reviewer-application/](https://western.sare.org/about/technical-reviewer-application/)



# Western SARE Resources

What are you looking for?



[Can't Find It?](#) [Filters](#)

[www.sare.org/resources](http://www.sare.org/resources)

## Browse By Topic

[More Topics »](#)



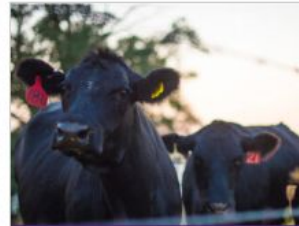
Commodities



Crop Production



Farm Business  
Management



Animal Production



Soil Management



Production Systems



Sustainable Communities



Pest Management



Education and Training



Natural Resources /  
Environment

**Find us online:**  
**western.sare.org**

**Contact us:**

**Jenna Meeks**  
**Professional Development Program Coordinator**  
**307-575-2416**  
**[jmeeks@sare.org](mailto:jmeeks@sare.org)**

**Caitlin Youngquist**  
**Western SARE Administrative Council**  
**[caitlin@dirtyworkswyo.com](mailto:caitlin@dirtyworkswyo.com)**







## **Specialty Crops**

### **Small Grants Program**

- \$500 - \$10,000
- Fruits, vegetables, nuts, herbs, medicinal plants
- Projects that promote and help teach the general public about the growth and consumption of local specialty crops



- Open to Private Entities (individuals and/or businesses), Community Gardens, Garden Clubs, Community-Based Nonprofit Organizations, Local Schools, Colleges and the University, Conservation Districts, Municipal Governments
- Reimbursement grant
- Must include an educational/ demonstration component
- 25% match required - can be waived with a donation to a local food security organization
- **Projects must be completed by September 1, 2025**





# For questions and an application, contact:

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**Lina Dunning**

Specialty Crops Grant Coordinator

[lina@feedinglaramievalley.org](mailto:lina@feedinglaramievalley.org)

(307) 223-4399

[www.feedinglaramievalley.org/  
specialty-crops](http://www.feedinglaramievalley.org/specialty-crops)



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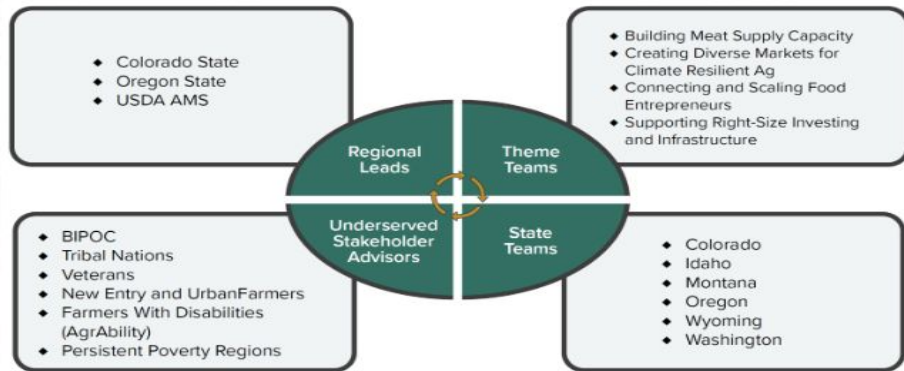


**Jen Faulkner**  
**[jennifer.faulkner@uwyo.edu](mailto:jennifer.faulkner@uwyo.edu)**

# Currently Open Funding Opportunities

- RFBC Business Builder Grants- Deadlines vary from March 1- April 1
- Sponsored Attendance to Farm Stop Conference & Northwest Food Hub Summit- Feb 21st deadline to submit letter of interest
- Get Your Recipe To Market Program- ongoing program

## STRUCTURE



## OUR REGION

Farm and food businesses are the foundation of our resilient, diverse and balanced food systems. As a **USDA Regional Food Business Center**, we've got the connections and resources to help you start up, and scale up, your manufactured and value-added food business. Serving the Northwest and Rocky Mountain region, we are networked with the USDA's **Investments in Farms and Rural Communities**.



- Building Meat Supply Chains
- Diverse Markets for Climate Resilient Ag

## THEME



Supporting meat supply chains that respond more nimbly to changes in demand or supply



Assisting food entrepreneurs in successfully entering local, regional or national markets



Expanding and diversifying markets for climate resilient agricultural products



Supporting right-sized, appropriately targeted investment in food value chain infrastructure to enhance business success and long-term viability

- Scaling & Connecting Food Entrepreneurs
- Right Sized Investing & Infrastructure



# Business Builder Grants Now Open

## Diverse Markets Business Builder Grant Program

December '24 - March '25

### Grant Eligibility

Businesses must be growing, producing, processing and/or supporting the aggregation, distribution and marketing of grain, pulse and/or pseudocereal products. Farms must be in our six-state region (CO, ID, OR, MT, WA, WY). Non-farm food businesses must be (1) located in our six-state region and (2) sourcing from local or regional producers, defined as within our six-state region or 450 miles of their business.

Businesses must have been operating for a minimum of two years. Funds are not for the development of new businesses.

For full eligibility details, please visit our webpage.

### Funding Opportunity:

**Farm and Food Businesses working with Grains, Pulses and Pseudocereals**

The NWRM RFBC Diverse Markets for Climate Resilient Agriculture team is offering grants between \$3,000 and \$50,000 that are designed to support small- to mid-scale farms and non-farm food businesses growing, producing, processing and/or supporting the aggregation, distribution and marketing of grain, pulse and/or pseudocereal products within local and regional value chains.

This is the first of two rounds in the Diverse Markets Business Builder grant program. A total of \$120,000 will be awarded in this round, with an anticipated 12 to 30 awards being granted.

### Application Details

Grant deadline March 1st, 2025

Awardees will be announced in April 2025

### Additional Information

☎ (541) 737-8337  
✉ [businessbuilder@nwrwm-rfbc.com](mailto:businessbuilder@nwrwm-rfbc.com)

🌐 [nwrckymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com/biz-builder/](https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>



## Meat Supply Chain Business Builder Grant Program

### Grant Eligibility

The Meat Supply Chain Business Builder grant program is designed for:

- Meat and/or poultry or seafood producers
- Processors
- Distributors
- Wholesalers
- Brands
- Aggregators
- Retail butcher shops
- Value-added meat businesses
- Food hubs that sell meat
- Grocery stores with butcher counter
- Farm stands with meat sales

For full eligibility criteria, scan the QR code below



**Application Deadline:**  
March 7, 2025 (11:59pm Mountain Time)

### Request for Applications

Enhancing Local and Regional Meat Supply Chains Business Builder



The Northwest and Rocky Mountain USDA Regional Food Business Center is offering grants between \$3,000 and \$50,000 that are designed to expand the capacity of meat, seafood, and poultry businesses that provide important services to small or mid-scale producers and brands. Priority will be given to applicants that serve and enhance multiple small- or mid-scale producers. This grant is exclusive to businesses in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming.

Types of projects that are eligible for this grant include:

- Business planning
- Value chain coordination
- Brand development
- Trade shows
- New products and packaging
- Improving product handling and sales
- Legal support
- Food safety
- Worker safety
- Farm-direct sales



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

### Grant Eligibility

The NWRM Business Builder grants are designed for businesses incorporated or based in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, or Washington who operating shared use kitchens, food hubs, or food processing facilities that provide multiple food businesses with access to commercial kitchen space and other "incubation" services, for example: advanced food manufacturing services, business development support.

For full eligibility criteria, visit our website.

### Application Details

Applications open from January 8th - April 1st

Awardees will be announced by June 1st, 2025

### Questions?

Upon reviewing the grant guidelines, if you have any additional questions, please reach out to the NWRM Regional Team here.



## Business Builder Grants

### Focus on Theme:

**Connecting and Scaling Food Entrepreneurs**

The Northwest and Rocky Mountain USDA Regional Food Business Center is offering grants between \$20,000-\$30,000 to operations who incubate and support multiple small, value-added food businesses.

The program is designed for operating shared use kitchens, food hubs, or food processing facilities that provide multiple food businesses with access to commercial kitchen space and other "incubation" services, for example: advanced food manufacturing services, business development support.

Uses of grant funds are intended to be used to allow businesses produce more product, more quickly, at a lower cost without reduced quality, and to expand services to more businesses.



**Want to learn more?**  
Visit our webpage at [nwrckymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com/biz-builder/](https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>

March 1st

March 7th

April 1st

# Goals of Business Builder Program

- **Business viability:**  
stable and successful

- **Market access:**  
businesses with  
rewarding markets for  
their products

- **Stronger local and  
regional supply chains**



**A more  
resilient,  
diverse, and  
competitive  
food system.**



<https://nwrockymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com/biz-builder/#>

# Business Builder Applicant Eligibility

## WY Farm, ranch, and fish/seafood businesses that are:

Small (up to \$350k annual sales)- and mid-scale (\$350k-\$999,999 annual sales)

Producing in, sourcing from, and focused on local and regional markets

## WY Value-added food businesses that are:

Small- and mid-scale

Sourcing food ingredients locally or regionally

Focusing on local or regional markets

## WY Food processors, aggregators, and distributors that:

Source locally or regionally

Serve multiple small- and mid-scale food and farm businesses

Focus on local or regional markets

- **BB Grants do not require a match but do in general require upfront payment of costs by the applicant, who is then reimbursed for their expenses**
- **Applicants required to have UEI and EIN or SSN number**

# Business Builder Eligible Projects

**Activities must be post farm gate = post production/harvest**

- Business planning
- Value chain coordination
- Brand development
- Market research and outreach
- Trade shows

- New products and packaging
- Legal support
- Food safety
- Worker safety
- Farm direct sales
- Improving product handling and sales



# \$1500 Toward Conference Attendance



- <https://www.farmstops.net/>
- March 2-4, 2025 Ann Arbor Michigan
- Costs to attend paid by participant up front, following attendance the University of WY will provide a \$1500 participant honorarium to attendee
- Interested parties must submit a letter of interest to [jennifer.faulkner@uwyo.edu](mailto:jennifer.faulkner@uwyo.edu) (due Feb 21st)



“Whether you operate a farm stop already, or think that you may one day want to open one in your community, our goal is to provide content useful to you as you move forward. With that in mind, we are putting together an ambitious slate of local food thought leaders, and planning a full lineup of panels on everything from fundraising and marketing, to farm relations and merchandising, while also leaving plenty of time for networking.”



# NORTHWEST FOOD HUB NETWORK

**The Summit is for anyone who believes that our food system works better when we work together.** What began as a humble meeting of a handful of food hub organizers in 2022 has gained momentum—the upcoming fourth annual edition will welcome audience members who bring diverse perspectives to the table, including:

- Local food producers
- Food hub staff members
- State agency representatives
- Allies and advocates
- Community members



# Get Your Recipe to Market

Turn your idea into a commercial-ready food product with support from food industry experts, OSU's Food Innovation Center, and New Seasons Market.



## Who should enroll in Getting Your Recipe to Market?

Getting Your Recipe to Market is good fit for you, if:

- You have a complete and consistent recipe.
- You have no retail sales.
- You have time to dedicate to class, advising, and the work.
- You want to make your food business idea a reality.

## The Investment

Time:

- Getting Your Recipe to Market is a 12-week training program that includes 36 hours of virtual instruction. Every session is 3 hours long.
- You will participate in the New Seasons evaluation.
- Expect to spend time outside of the classroom and in your advising sessions to work on different aspects of your business.





## Fall 2023 Wyoming GYRM Student:

Alma Law: Law of the Homestead: Sourdough Bread

Small Food Business: Feed More with Alma Law

## Spring 2024 Wyoming GYRM Students:

Dirk and Sue Gosnell: Lakeview Gardens

Susan Frost: Queens of Goodness

Leah Burback: Heirloom and Native



## Fall 2024 GYRM Student:

Cheryl Pape: Quinoa Bars

Bryan Thoman: Holy Smokes





## Sponsored Tuition amount is \$1995

1. We are looking for people that have a value added product with a complete recipe.
2. Any participant that is getting the USDA sponsored tuition does not have to pay anything upfront.
3. The USDA sponsored tuition does have some requirements: demographic survey, pre program survey, and a post program survey. **The participant is required to complete the program. They have to sign a contract that if they do not meet these requirements then they will have to pay the tuition (\$1,995).**
4. There is a process to nominate someone to the program for sponsored tuition. Please see the nomination form and detailed instructions at this link: [WY Nominate Businesses For GYRM.xlsx](#)
5. The Spring program is starting on **Tuesday, April 1 -Jun 17, 2025 Meets via Zoom Tuesday evenings 5-8pm. 13 sessions**
6. We interview and register participants year round. We offer GYRM every Spring and Fall.

## Getting Your Recipe to Market

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Marilyn Kember of [Kember's Gluten Free](#)

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Break***

# Infrastructure Grant Open March-May



- **Wyoming Hunger Initiative Infrastructure Grants** are intended to support infrastructure and longevity of anti-hunger organizations as well as long-term, sustainable solutions to food insecurity across the state.
- Grant funding can be used for equipment to expand capacity, long-term projects that promote self-sufficiency and increase food security, solutions that encourage systematic change with regard to local food access, and educational programs.
- **Infrastructure Grants** open annually in March, are reviewed by the Wyoming Hunger Initiative Grants committee in May, and final decisions are announced in June.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative knows there is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all solution to hunger and instead supports the inspiring anti-hunger warriors who fight every day to find the best answer for their community.



#### OUR PARTNERS



#### LEARN MORE



Scan to learn more about Grow A Little Extra.

### Calling All Gardeners! We invite you to join us this summer to **Grow A Little Extra**.

- **Grow A Little Extra** is a partnership with the University of Wyoming Extension's Cent\$ible Nutrition Program (CNP) and Master Gardener Program, encouraging community organizations and individuals to grow extra produce for neighbors facing food insecurity.
- Increased access to fresh produce in Wyoming is a critical tool in the fight against food insecurity. **Grow A Little Extra** is helping to remove existing barriers one vegetable at a time. Join the fight!
- Get started by picking up (free!) seeds at your local UW Extension Office. Six varieties of seeds are available and were selected for their ability to grow in Wyoming's climate.
- Be an anti-hunger warrior with two green thumbs! Plant your free seeds or your favorite crop. Come harvest time, donate some of your produce back! Produce donations can be dropped off at your local UW Extension office.

Together, we can end hunger in Wyoming. [nohungerwyo.org](http://nohungerwyo.org)



#### WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE

5001 Central Ave, Cheyenne WY 82009 • (307) 777-7398

*Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.*



# Wyoming Farm to School



## Wyoming School Nutrition Association Annual Meeting

Bobby Lane

[bobby.lane1@wyo.gov](mailto:bobby.lane1@wyo.gov)

307.287.7415

Carla Bankes

[carla.bankes@wyo.gov](mailto:carla.bankes@wyo.gov)

307.777.6263

# Outline



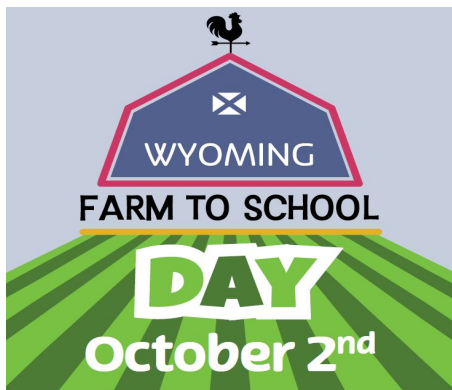
- Brief overview of Farm to School
- How to work with Farm to School Grants and Schools
- Overview of procurement for schools
- Current Grant opportunities
- **POSSIBLE** grant opportunities

# What is Farm to School



Farm to School is building relationships between local producers and school districts as well as child care centers

# Current Farm to School Activities in Wyoming



- Wyoming Farm to School Day
- One on one Technical Assistance with schools and producers / processors
- Grants
- Conference Fall 2025



# Grants for Farm to School Projects



- Producers can get grants to grow for schools
- Schools can get grants to buy from local producers

\*Depends on what grants are available at the time

# When grants are not available



Schools can purchase directly from producers without a grant.

Purchasing standards just need to be followed.

# Procurement Methods for Schools



## Informal Procurement

### Micro-purchase

Equitably Distribute  
Wyoming Threshold =  
\$10,000

### Small Purchase

(Requires Price Quotes)  
Federal Threshold =  
\$25,000

## Formal Procurement

Sealed Bids (IFBs)  
& Competitive  
Proposals (RFPs)  
(Requires public  
advertising)

# Current Funding Opportunities



Whole Foods and Newmans Own:

<https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/programs/school-gardens-grant/>

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition:

<https://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/grassrootsguide/local-food-systems-rural-development/farm-to-school-grants/>



# USDA Local Foods For Schools (LFS)



- This is currently not funded
- Wyoming Department of Education has submitted all the required proposals
- Waiting to hear from USDA if funds are going to be made available

# LFS - If Funded



- Will include both
  - The National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
  - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Duration
  - Three years from time of award
- Nationally
  - \$471.5 million for schools (NSLP)
  - \$188.6 million for child care (CACFP)

# What can be purchased with LFS funds (if funded)



Only unprocessed or minimally processed agricultural commodities will be allowed for purchase with LFS funds.

Delivered to the school or child care center

## Process if funded:

- Protein Track
- Produce Track
- WDE will put out an RFP for both tracks - July 2025
- Could be awarded regionally
- Will run until funds are gone





# Process if funded - continued



- Schools / Child Cares will opt into the program
- Center amount allotted to each school / child care
- School / child care will work with awarded vendor directly to purchase
- Bill will be sent to WDE for payment
- Responsibility of vendor and school / child care to sell / buy what is allowed and keep track of limits

\*USDA is not allowing for any administrative costs

# Resources



Wyoming Farm To School

**Wyoming Department of Education**

122 W. 25th St., Ste. E200, Cheyenne, WY 82002

<http://edu.wyoming.gov/>

# Questions



*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Lunch Provided by Olha's  
Market***



*Wyoming Food Coalition*

GRANT  & GROW  WY

GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!



*Thanks for attending- Please  
use our surveys to let us  
know how to improve for next  
year!*

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

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YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Grant Writing For Producers***

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

GRANT  & GROW  WY

GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!



***Break-*** please take our survey to  
help us improve for next year!

# VALUE-ADDED PRODUCER GRANT (VAPG)

VAPG assists Agricultural Producers in starting or expanding Value-Added activities related to the post-harvest processing and/or marketing of Value-Added Agricultural Products. .

*Examples: processing livestock into packaged meat products, wheat into flour, wool into clothing, tomatoes into spaghetti sauce, milk into cheese, etc.*

- ☐ Planning & Working Capital Grants require 100% Matching Funds
- ☐ Applicant must have an active SAM.gov registration
- ☐ There is NO rural requirement
- ☐ VAPG is a NATIONWIDE COMPETITION





## ***WORKING CAPITAL GRANT***

***Max Grant \$250,000***

**Processing Costs**

**Packaging/Labeling**

**Marketing/Advertising**

**Small Equipment**

**Distribution**

**Cold Storage**

**Ingredients**

**Some Salaries**



## ***PLANNING GRANT***

***Max Grant \$75,000***

**Funds may only be used to pay a Qualified Consultant to conduct and develop a Feasibility Study, Business Plan and/or Marketing of a Value-Added Agricultural Product. Planning Grants may Include or be for Food Safety related activities associated with post-harvest product.**



**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**



**VAPG Contacts:**

**Lynelle Barber | Business Program Specialist | [Lynelle.Barber@usda.gov](mailto:Lynelle.Barber@usda.gov) | (307) 233-6721**

**James Robinson | Business Program Specialist | [James.Robinson4@usda.gov](mailto:James.Robinson4@usda.gov) | (307) 233-6723**

**Cynthia Dettloff | Business Program Director | [Cynthia.Dettloff@usda.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Dettloff@usda.gov) | (307) 233-6716**

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

**GRANT**  **& GROW**  **WY**

**GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!**

***Breakout Session: Discussion  
Groups***

***Please shift to discussion group seating***

# ***Discussion Question 1:***

***What are the top 3 barriers to expansion for local food businesses in WY?***

...



***Please take our survey to help us improve for next year.***



## ***Discussion Question 2:***

***What are the top three challenges producers face when applying for grants in Wyoming?***

...



***Please take our survey to help us improve for next year.***

# *Discussion Question 3:*

*What additional resources and/or events could the Wyoming Food Coalition provide to facilitate local food production and sales in*

*2025-2026?  
Please take our survey to help us improve for next year.*



## ***Discussion Question 4:***

***Who else should be a part of this conversation?***

***What other producers and/or food system partners do you know of who should be at events like this?***

# ***Summary***

- **What are the top 3 barriers to expansion for local food businesses in WY?**
- **What are the top three challenges producers face when applying for grants in Wyoming?**
- **What additional resources and/or events could the Wyoming Food Coalition provide to facilitate local food production and sales in 2025-2026?**
- **Who else should be a part of this conversation?**
- **What other producers and/or food system partners do you know of who should be at events like this?**



# ***Compare Answers:***



***Please take our  
survey to help us  
...improve for next  
year.***

***Please Enjoy the Tours  
And  
The Free Networking Event this  
Evening!***

*Wyoming Food Coalition*

GRANT  & GROW  WY

GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP GROW  
YOUR FARM/RANCH PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS!



*Thanks for attending- Please  
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