

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Specialty Crop Block Grant (USDA)</b>	<b>Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Farmer-Rancher Grants (USDA)</b>	<b>Value-Added Producer Grants USDA Rural Development</b>
<b>Staff Contact</b>	Ryan Dunn (608)590-7239 <a href="mailto:ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov">ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov</a>	Diane Mayerfeld (608) 262-8188 <a href="mailto:dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu">dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu</a>	Judy Clendenning 715-345-7642 <a href="mailto:judy.clendenning@usda.gov">judy.clendenning@usda.gov</a>
<b>Webpage</b>	<a href="http://www.datcp.wisconsin.gov/specialty-crops">DATCP Home Specialty Crops (wi.gov)</a>	<a href="http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/">http://www.northcentralsare.org/Grants/</a>	<a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants</a> Key word: VAPG
<b>Application Deadline</b>	Request for Funding released in December, 2022. Applications due February 2023, (Tentative Date)	Deadline December 1, 2022, 4pm	Notice anticipated to be released late fall/winter 2022. Anticipating an application window of 90 days.
<b>Purpose</b>	To enhance the competitiveness of Wisconsin Specialty Crops.	To advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound, and good for communities through research and education	To help independent agriculture producers enter into value added activities. Activities can be for planning grants or working capital.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Non-profit organizations, producer organizations, government agencies, universities, and other groups involved in Wisconsin agriculture. Individual producers, for-profit businesses, or commercial entities may only apply if their project can demonstrate a benefit to the specialty crop industry sector.	Individual farmers or groups of farms. (SARE has other grant programs for researchers, educators, and others.)	Independent Producers, Agriculture Producer Groups, Farmer or Ranch Cooperative, or Majority Controlled Producer- Based Business Venture.
<b>Priorities</b>	2022 Priorities will be similar to 2021 which were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental sustainability, pest and disease control, &amp; varietal improvement</li> <li>• Development of food safety practices, outreach, and education that assist with compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification.</li> <li>• Increasing the demand for and supply of Wisconsin specialty crops</li> <li>• Industry innovation in production, processing, packaging, and distribution</li> <li>• Education for producers, processors, and the general public to improve production practices, or increase sales of Wisconsin specialty crops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production practices that benefit the environment, farm profitability, and communities</li> <li>• Marketing strategies that support farm profitability and environmentally and socially sustainable agriculture</li> </ul>	Anticipate a 10% set-a side for Mid-Tier Value Chain and a 10% set-a-side for Beginning Farmers or Ranchers and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers or Ranchers.
<b>Available Funds</b>	Estimated \$1,250,000	Around \$700,000 for the 12-state region	Estimated \$18 million dollars nationwide
<b>Grant Amount</b>	Estimated maximum \$100,000	Maximum of \$15,000 for one farm or \$30,000 for groups of two or more farms	Maximum planning grant \$75,000 Maximum working capital grant \$250,000
<b>Match</b>	No match required	No match required	Dollar for dollar match with eligible project cost
<b>Other Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects led or advocated by a specialty crop industry organizations will have priority over other projects.</li> <li>• Eligible specialty crops include: fruits, vegetables, culinary herbs and spices, medicinal plants, tree nuts, flowers, and nursery plants. For a complete updated list of acceptable crops, see <a href="http://www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp">www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23-month project period</li> <li>• Projects must include an outreach component.</li> <li>• Successful grants often involve partnerships.</li> <li>• Project description and results posted on SARE database</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning grant can be used to pay for business plan, feasibility study, marketing plan</li> <li>• Working capital grant can be used for operating of the ag venture, (non-owner salaries, inventory, utilities ect.) marketing plan</li> <li>• Business plan and feasibility study required for working capital grants</li> </ul>
<b>Grant expectations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant recipients are expected to provide two annual reports and a comprehensive final report with findings and analysis of project work.</li> <li>• Projects must be completed by 6/30/25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant recipients must provide a progress report after one year and a final report.</li> <li>• Recipients must send in a final budget at the end of the project detailing how funds were used.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning grant must report estimated increase in revenue, customer base and jobs created.</li> <li>• Working capital must report increase in customer base, revenue number and number of jobs created.</li> </ul>

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>DATCP Dairy Processor Grant</b>	<b>Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant</b>	<b>Buy Local Buy Wisconsin Grants (State)</b>
<b>Staff Contact</b>	Ryan Dunn (608)590-7239 <a href="mailto:ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov">ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov</a>	Dana Christel (606) 640-7270, <a href="mailto:dana.christel@wi.gov">dana.christel@wi.gov</a>	Ryan Dunn (608)590-7239 <a href="mailto:ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov">ryand.dunn@wisconsin.gov</a>
<b>Webpage</b>	<a href="#">DATCP Home Dairy Development (wi.gov)</a>	<a href="http://datcp.wi.gov">http://datcp.wi.gov</a> Key Word: producer-led	<a href="#">DATCP Home Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin Grants</a>
<b>Application Deadline</b>	Request for Funding released in December, 2022. Applications due Jan. 30, 2023	Applications were due September 16, 2022 for 2023 funding. RFP for 2024 funding will be released around July 2023.	Applications due March 26, 2023, (Tentative Date)
<b>Purpose</b>	Improve the long-term viability of Wisconsin's dairy industry through services to dairy processing plants to facilitate operational changes, improve profitability and foster innovation and economic growth.	Increase locally-led conservation efforts and improve water quality through the development of producer-led watershed improvement groups throughout the state.	To strengthen Wisconsin's agricultural and food industries by reducing marketing, distribution, and processing hurdles that impede sales of Wisconsin's food products to local purchasers.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Eligible applicants must operate a licensed dairy processing plant engaged in pasteurizing, processing or manufacturing milk or dairy products that is located in WI	At least 5 producers that meet the eligible farm definition who operate a farm within the same watershed project area: An "eligible farm" means a farm that produced at least \$6,000 in gross farm revenues during the taxable year or a total of at least \$18,000 in gross farm revenues during the preceding three years.	Individuals, groups, businesses and organizations involved in Wisconsin agriculture, food processing, food distribution, food warehousing, retail food establishments, or agricultural tourism. Proposals may involve collaborations or partnerships between producers, food businesses, industry, academia or organizations.
<b>Priorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dairy plant modernization and expansion efforts</li> <li>Food safety</li> <li>New technology, including new processes, wastewater treatment or handling, new uses for whey, or other innovations</li> <li>Efforts to improve/enhance staff retention, training, supervisory skills, and knowledge</li> <li>Other dairy processing projects may be considered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand cost-share programming to promote innovative practices and management such as precision conservation management, rotational grazing, agroforestry, no-till, cover crops, alternative forage systems etc.</li> <li>Education efforts to learn about conservation practice benefits for specific watershed areas through on-farm demonstrations, trials and research</li> <li>Targeted outreach that promotes the financial and environmental benefits of conservation to farmers and other industry professionals</li> <li>Other projects that demonstrate innovation in conservation agriculture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing WI local food sales</li> <li>Local food market development</li> <li>Enhancement of production, processing, marketing and distribution of Wisconsin food products</li> <li>Development of supply chain infrastructure.</li> </ul>
<b>Available Funds</b>	\$400,000	\$1,000,000 per fiscal year	\$300,000
<b>Grant Amount</b>	maximum \$50,000	Maximum of \$40,000 per group	\$5,000 to \$50,000
<b>Match</b>	20% of the grant request	1:1	100% of grant request
<b>Other Notes</b>		Projects must complete a final report using the DATCP approved template including tracking spreadsheet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects must be driven by or supported by local food producers</li> </ul>
<b>Grant expectations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects must be completed within two years of the start date</li> <li>Projects must complete a semi-annual and final reports highlighting project results and benefits to the WI dairy industry</li> </ul>	All project expectations are outlined in grant contract.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning grant must report estimated increase in revenue, customer base and jobs created.</li> <li>Working capital must report increase in customer base, revenue, and number of jobs created.</li> </ul>