Alaska's 2023 Microgrant Food Security Grant Program Special Competition of Hay and Grain



Fiscal year 2024 Request for Proposals (RFP) Alaska's Division of Agriculture announces the availability of grant funds to specifically address the issue of Alaska's significant increase in livestock feed costs, including the reduced availability of local hay and grain. These funds are awarded through a competitive review process guided by industry, nonprofit, and government stakeholders. <u>NOTE: THIS</u> <u>SPECIAL COMPETITION IS NOT FOR PURCHASING ANIMALS OR</u> <u>STARTING NEW OPERATIONS.</u>

Timeline

The Alaska Division of Agriculture announces the availability of grant funds for the purpose of addressing Alaska's significant increase in livestock feed costs, including reduced availability of local hay and grain. The timeline for this application cycle is:

October 16th, 2023: Release RFP, The State will announce the opening of the applications in a Statewide Media Release, The Division of Agriculture webpage, and Alaska Grown social media pages.

November 15th, 2023: Full applications due by 5:00 PM

December 8th, 2023: Final decisions made

December 13th, 2023: State plan submitted to USDA for review and approval.

January 1st, 2023: Tentative date for the 50% advance of award from DoAG (exact date TBA)

Contact:

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The State of Alaska, Division of Agriculture is pleased to release this Request for Proposals (RFP) for a special MGFSP competition to address the significant increase in costs for livestock feed, including reduced availability of local hay and grain.

The priority of the grants is to improve available and affordable hay, grain, and other livestock feed to Alaskans who raise livestock to feed their families and local communities. Fixed awards are being offered for small livestock (poultry, eggs, rabbits) in the amount of \$2000 and large livestock (cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, bison, etc.) in the amount of \$5000.

The period of performance (when costs are incurred) is from January 1- September 30th, 2024.

Alaska MGFS grants will be determined through a competitive review process and must follow USDA guidelines for eligible spending.

Individuals and organizations may apply and must demonstrate both economic need and how the grant will help increase Alaska's food security. The grants are for existing operations, including urban farms, homesteads, micro, and small farms and are not to be used for the purchase of new animals.

More detailed information on the microgrants can be accessed at the <u>Division of Agriculture</u> website. You may also submit questions with "MGFS Hay and Grain" in the subject line to <u>dnr.ag.grants@Alaska.gov</u>.

Applications must be submitted electronically via the <u>Division of Agriculture</u> <u>SmartSimple application</u> portal.

Applicant Email:

NAME

VENDOR #: (If you do not have a valid vendor # from the state visit the <u>Vendor Information</u> webpage to obtain a vendor number. Click on the W-9 Form link.)

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT): Please visit the Division of Finance <u>website</u> to set up an EFT to receive the grant funds.

PROJECT ADDRESS (check if the address is the same as the above)

SSN (protected field)

Start Date: 1-Jan '24 End Date: 30-Sep '24

Project Info

Project Title: Provide a descriptive project title in 7 words or less in the space below. For example: "Development of the ABC Agriculture Resource Center" **NOTE: THIS APPLICATION IS NOT TO PURCHASE ANIMALS.**

1. Do you currently have a Livestock Operation? (Applicants will click 'yes' or 'no')

Type of Project

 The following fixed awards will be offered to grantees: Purchasing feed for animals for the purpose of producing meat, eggs, dairy, and other related by-products for human consumption: (Applicants will select one via a checkbox)

□ Small Animals (poultry, eggs, rabbits): \$2,000

□ Large Animals (cattle, goats, pigs, reindeer, sheep, elk, yak, bison, etc.): \$5,000

Current Affordability

 Can you currently afford to feed all your animals without assistance? (Applicants will click 'yes' or 'no')

Number of Animals Fed

- 4. What is the number of animals that will be fed? (Applicants will manually enter the number of animals they currently feed)
- 5. How many animals would you have to harvest without grant assistance? (Applications will manually enter the animal number)

Current Budget

- 6. What is this current year's cost for feed? (Applicants will manually enter the amount)
- 7. What is the current market value of your animals? (Applicants will manually enter the market value of their animals)

Last Year's Budget

- 8. What was your previous years' cost of feed for animals? (Applicants will manually enter the amount)
- 9. What was the number and type of animals you were feeding last year?

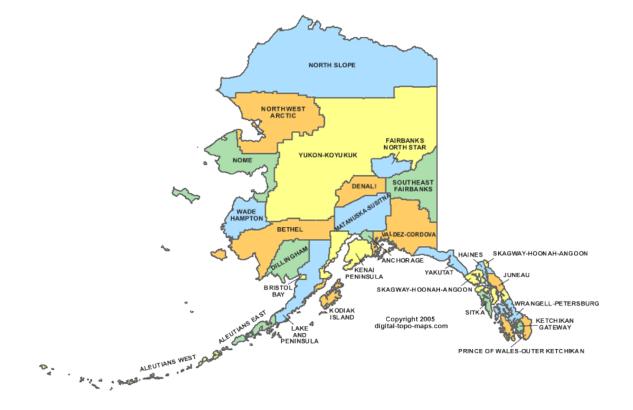
Project Detail

- 10. In 100 words or less, provide details for your project. Details include what is the quantity of food you plan to produce. For example: the number of eggs per dozen, number of broiler chickens, pounds of beef, gallons of milk, etc. (Applicants will manually enter their project details.)
- 11. What is the dollar value of the food that you plan to produce?
- 12. In 50 words or less, please describe what is the potential of requested funds to prevent the reduction of available livestock and its devastating impact on Alaskan food security. (Applicants will manually enter their details.)

Direct Beneficiaries Location

WHICH CENSUS BOROUGH ARE THE DIRECT BENEFICIARIES LOCATED? (The map is not interactive they will need to look at where they are located and select the appropriate area from a dropdown list)

Select your census area, see the map	Kusilvak Census Area
Aleutians East Borough	Lake and Peninsula Borough
Aleutians West Census Area	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Anchorage Municipality	Nome Census Area
Bethel Census Area	North Slope Borough
Bristol Bay Census Area	Northwest Arctic Borough
Denali Borough	Petersburg Borough
Dillingham Census Area	Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area
Fairbanks North Star Borough	Sitka City and Borough
Haines Borough	Skagway Municipality
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	Southeast Fairbanks Census Area
Juneau City and Borough	Valdez Cordova Census Area
Kenai Peninsula Borough	Wrangell City and Borough
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Yakutat City and Borough
Kodiak Island Borough	Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area



Number of Direct Beneficiaries

13. Number of direct beneficiaries/number of people in your household or community that benefit from the project. (Applicants will manually enter a number)

Number of Indirect Beneficiaries

- 14. Number of indirect beneficiaries/people you will be sharing, selling, or donating food to outside your personal household. (Applicants will manually enter a number)
- 15. <u>Have you previously been a recipient of a Micro-Grant Award?</u> (Applicants will check 'yes' or 'no')

SUBMIT