

**Veteran or Young Farmer Grant/Loan**

The Oklahoma Agriculture Enhancement and Diversification Program (AEDP) offers an opportunity for young farmers and veterans involved in agriculture to apply for a veteran or young farmer grant or loan. Grants or loans are available to individuals who are at least twenty-one (21) years of age, a legal resident of the state of Oklahoma and fits the definition of a veteran or young farmer as defined by ODAFF:

* **Veteran farmer** means an individual who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.
* **Young farmer** means an individual under forty-five (45) years of age.

Veteran or young farmer grants/loans shall be for a veteran or young farmer who is engaged in the creation or expansion of an agricultural farming/ranching operation or business. Proposals for a veteran or young farmer loan or grant shall:

(1) Demonstrate financial need of the veteran or young farmer.

(2) Provide a strong business plan which includes a minimum of five (5) years projected productivity and income and

(3) Not be for growing or any other aspect of marijuana.

Proposals must demonstrate a well-prepared plan of action. Markets for the product must have been researched and possible income must be projected. New and innovative plans for marketing products must also be evident.

Applicants may get help in completing the application and must receive an endorsement from individuals who are professionals/specialists in the field the applicant is applying for. These advisors must be willing to assist the applicant in fulfilling the project and have reviewed the application and be willing to answer questions if contacted about the application. Advisors may be associated with but not limited to:

* Extension Educators
* Vo Ag Teachers
* Kerr Center
* Noble Foundation
* University faculty or staff
* Adult Farm Management Instructors
* Agricultural Loan Officers

Grants and loans are available at the following levels:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| $2,500 or less | No match required |
| $2,501 - $5,000 | 25% match required, can be dollar-for-dollar or in-kind match |
| $5,001 - $10,000  | A dollar-for-dollar cash match  |
| $10,001 or above | All applications in excess of $10,000 will be considered as a loan |

Each application will be considered on an individual basis and its own merits. All applications that exceed $5,000.00 in funding will have a maximum fifteen (15) minute oral presentation to the selection committee

Upon approval of the application by the AEDP selection committee and the State Board of Agriculture, a contractual agreement between the applicant and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) will be entered into and may not exceed 1 year in length. Payments will be disbursed in three (3) divisible increments based upon properly submitted invoices, compliance with the Oklahoma Agriculture Enhancement and Diversification Act and furnishing complete and comprehensive reports.

For additional information please contact Jason Harvey at (405) 606-1477.

**Veteran or Young Farmer Loan/Grant Application**

Funds requested $ Enter dollar amount of funds requested

Overall Cost of Project: $ Enter total cost of project

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Full Name: Enter First Name Last Name Middle Initial

Age at time of submission Enter age

Mailing Address: Street City State Zip code

Phone numbers: primary contact number

Email Address: Enter Email address

Military Information – (If applicable)

Have you served or currently served in the U.S. military? [ ]  Yes [ ] No

If yes which branch: [ ] Air Force [ ] Army [ ] Coast Guard [ ] Marine Corps [ ] Navy

When discharged from the military which best represents your characterization of service?

[ ]  Honorable discharge

[ ]  General discharge under honorable conditions

[ ]  Other than honorable (OTH) discharge

[ ]  Bad conduct discharges.

[ ]  Dishonorable discharge

[ ]  Medical discharge

[ ]  Not discharged, currently serving (must provide a letter of support from their commanding officer or designated representative attesting to their characterization of service)

Agricultural information

Location of ag operation Enter Town Enter County County

How long have you owned the operation for which this project will impact?

[ ]  Have not bought or leased yet [ ]  Less than 1 year

[ ]  2-5 years [ ]  6-9 years

[ ]  10 or more years

Total acreage of your operation enter acres leased/rented Enter acres owned

Do you consider your agricultural operation to be: [ ]  Full time [ ] Part time

Which of the following characterizes your agricultural project?

[ ]  Start up

[ ]  Expansion of Current operation

[ ]  Diversification of crops livestock or other agricultural activity

[ ]  Other ( Describe )

Project type: (check all that apply)

[ ]  Aquaculture [ ]  Bees [ ]  Horticulture List/Describe (ex. cut flowers)

[ ]  Viticulture [ ]  Dairy [ ]  Crop List/Describe (ex. soybeans)

[ ]  Livestock List/Describe (ex. cattle) [ ]  Agritourism List/Describe (ex. pumpkin patch)

Will your project create new employment? [ ]  Yes [ ]  NO

If so, please provide estimate of how many new jobs       full-time       Part-time       Seasonal

Have you received grant funding before: [ ]  YES [ ]  NO *(If yes complete next 3 questions)*

Funding Entity (USDA-NRCS, ODAFF, SARE) Enter Name

Dollar amount $ Enter total cost of project

What year and type of grant did you receive and give a description of what was accomplished?

**Advisor information**

*Applicants must receive a letter of endorsement from an agricultural specialist (refer to the list on the cover sheet of this application form) indicating that they have reviewed the proposal and agree the business plan is sound and they are willing to provide technical assistance for this project*

Name Enter First Name Last Name Occupation Enter Occupation

Address: Street City State Zip code

Phone number: primary contact number

Email Address: Enter Email address

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

1. If you are currently farming or ranching please give a detailed description of your current operation. what ag commodities you are currently growing/raising, total acreage of operation with breakdown of each commodity, how products are marketed, type of agritourism business)
2. What agricultural products will this grant project help you to produce? Describe in detail how this funding will be used to help you start, expand or diversify your operation.
3. How will you produce these products?
4. What is your marketing strategy for this project? (Who is your target market, how and where will you sell the products, discuss market potential, competition, marketing area, etc.)?
5. What are the critical risks or challenges that could possibly occur and how will you respond?
6. Describe how the grant funds will be used.

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

Please attach a detailed timeline for the project. (Insert additional rows if needed)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project Activity:** Describe the activities that are necessary to complete project. | **When will the activity be accomplished?** Include a timeline that indicates when each activity will occur (at least month and year) and beginning and end dates for the project.  |
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**PROJECTED REVENUE**

Complete the following budget indicating projected expenses and incomes for the first **five (5)** years of the project. (copy and paste additional 4 years budgets to another page)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 20      (year) |
| Expenses |  | Income |
| List expenses i.e. seed, feed, fertilizer, inventory, building materials, machinery rental, marketing cost, etc. |  | List sales of farm or agritourism production |
|   | $ |  |   | $ |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |  |   |   |
| Total Expenses | $ |  | Total Income | $ |

**GRANT PROJECT BUDGET**

|  |
| --- |
| **Budget Summary** |
| **Expense Category** | **Funds Requested** | **Matching Funds** |
| Equipment Rental/Lease |   |   |
| Seeds/Plants/Trees |   |   |
| Supplies |   |   |
| Feed |   |   |
| Chemicals |   |   |
| Fertilizer |   |   |
| Irrigation |   |   |
| Specialized equipment |   |   |
| Other (list) |   |   |
| Other (list) |   |   |
| Contractual labor (plumbing, electrical, welder, etc.) |   |   |
| Other |   |   |
|   |   |   |
| Total Cost |   |   |

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION**

Provide detail information about what is included in each of the budget categories listed above. Justifications are required to explain these expenses and show why they are necessary for this project.

Equipment Rental/lease – Describe the equipment to be rented, length of the rental/lease and cost.

SEEDS/PLANTS/TREES – Describe the variety, quantity and cost of seeds, plants or trees that you will purchase.

SUPPLIES – Provide an itemized list of all supplies needed and describe the purpose of each supply, number/units of each supply, cost per unit and overall cost of purchase.

Contractual labor – Provide a list of contractors, detailing out their name, hourly/flat rate, services they will be providing and overall cost of the services performed.

other – List and provide detailed information for items such as number of items to be purchased, cost per unit and total cost along with a description on the intended use.

**SUBMISION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Applications, including all supplements, should be limited to twenty (20) pages. Promotional materials or unrelated materials are discouraged.
2. A copy of the proposal must be emailed to Jason.harvey@ag.ok.gov .

**CONCLUSION**

By affixing their signature(s) to this application, the applicant(s) certify that they have read and understand the Guidelines governing award of these grants and agree to all conditions set forth therein and that all information contained in this application package is true to the best of the applicant’s knowledge, information and belief.

The Oklahoma Agriculture Department of Agriculture Food & Forestry reserves the right to modify or terminate any subsequent agreements with applicant if, at a future date the Oklahoma Agriculture Department of Agriculture Food & Forestry becomes aware of material misrepresentation(s) contained in this application.

Name (type or print:

Signature:

Title:

Date: