

Community and Economic Development Sources of Funding

Target Topic: Agriculture and Nature Tourism

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The Basics of Searching for a Grant

Once a project goal is identified, the search for sources of funding can begin. The process is to:

- (1) search databases and construct a list of potential funding sources
- (2) a telephone call to the organization to introduce yourself and your project follows
- (3) the program director will share with you the potential for your project to receive funding, and
- (4) if the project is a good match for the organization, a written document is submitted for preliminary review.

A key to writing a successful grant proposal is the relationship you develop with the program director. The insights you gain from this relationship typically help you articulate and justify your need in relation to the funding available.

The UCD Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research has a searchable databases available at <http://ovcr.ucdavis.edu/General/funding.html#database>. The easiest one to use is the 'Community of Science' database (NOTE: for this database a listserv is available if you would like to receive e-mail alerts for funding opportunities). Other databases include: Commerce Business Daily (access current notices of proposed government procurement actions, contract awards and sales of government property), Federal Register (funding offered by the US government), GrantsNet (opportunities in biomedical research and science education), National Science Foundation (NSF) (browse funding opportunities, submission guidelines and policies), OVCR Publications (search the directory of support for teaching and research).

A number of professional and regional organizations maintain a list of current funding sources, including The Great Valley Center (<http://www.greatvalley.org>) and the National Sustainable Agriculture Information Center (<http://www.attra.ncat.org>). Also, UCD development officer Ricardo Fouster (510-987-0376 or Ricardo.Fouster@ucop.edu) has information about gifts and other venues of obtaining funding.

Funding Sources

Unless otherwise noted, those eligible for the grants listed herein require at least one partner/collaborator to hold status as a 501c3 nonprofit corporation.

Grants for Research Projects with a Community-Economic Development Theme

National Research Initiative (NRI)

Available from the USDA are research grants for markets (studies of niche marketing, community supported agriculture, cooperatives, and/or agro-tourism and how to capture added value in rural products,

Grants for Research Projects with a Community-Economic Development Theme (cont.)

processes and amenities; and studies of rural entrepreneurship and its implications for agricultural competitiveness) and trades or rural development (i.e., understanding forces affecting rural areas and designing/evaluating new approaches to rural development). Approximately \$200,000 is awarded annually (proposals due in December each year).

Website: <http://www.reeusda.gov/nri/programs>

Contact: NRI, c/o proposal services unit, SCREES/USDA, Stop 2245, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington DC

e-mail program leader: Patricia Hipple, phipple@reeusda.gov to arrange a telephone conversation

Markets & Trade Program Leader: (202) 401-2185 questions about suitability of research topics

Rural Development: (202) 401-2185

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

U.S. cities and towns use these Federal monies to support community and economic development projects in areas of low average income. Grant criteria require job development (that includes opportunities for disabled persons), benefit for low-moderate income persons, and improvement of a community development need. Contact your county grants office for the funding criteria used in your county. The program can begin anytime between Jan 1 and Oct 1 (projects are generally reviewed within 45 days of submission).

Website: <http://www.hud.gov/cpd/cdbg.html>

In addition to your county office, you may contact: Office of Block Grant Assistance, HUD, Office of Community Planning and Development, Entitlement Communities Division, Room 7282, 451 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20410 (202) 708-1577

Earthwatch Institute

Provides grant funds for field research studies. Will fund sustainable agriculture projects.

Website: <http://www.earthwatch.org/research/proposals>

Grants for Projects with a Community Development Theme

Corporation for National and Community Service: Learn and Serve America

Funding is available for projects that involve a science-learning and/or youth component.

Website: <http://www.nationalservice.org>

USDA Rural Community Development Initiative Grants, Rural Housing Service

Technical assistance and training grants that develop the capacity and ability of community-based housing and community development organizations, and low-income rural communities to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Website: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi>

USDA Rural Business Cooperative Service

Technical assistance, training and planning grants for projects promoting business and economic development in rural areas.

Website: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Grants for Projects with a Community Development Theme (cont.)

EDA/DOC Economic Development Administration Technical Assistance

Technical assistance grants for projects promoting economic development in economically depressed areas.

Website: <http://www.doc.gov/eda>

EDA/DOC Economic Development Administration Support for Planning Organizations

To assist States, sub-state planning units, Tribes and/or local governments strengthen economic development planning capability and formulate and establish comprehensive economic development, process and strategies designed to reduce unemployment and increase incomes.

Website: <http://www.doc.gov/eda>

Harry Chapin Foundation

This Foundation provides grants for community education, arts in education, agricultural and environmental programs. Funding is focused in the following areas: community education (programs that identify community needs and mobilize resources to meet them, fostering social and economic justice); arts in education and other approaches that create a healthier and more peaceful world; agricultural programs that support preservation of individually owned farms (and promote equitable food production and distribution); and environmental programs that promote a safe and sustainable environment.

Website: <http://www.harrysfriends.com/hcf>

Contact: Leslie Ramme at (631) 423-7558

Kellogg Foundation

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation's mission is to help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations. Programming activities center around the common vision of the world in which each person has a sense of worth; accepts responsibility for self, family, community and societal well-being; and has the capacity to be productive; and to help create nurturing families, responsive institutions and healthy communities. These are the Foundation's priorities: engaged youth; healthy, just and sustainable communities, connected communities and institutions, and civic participation.

Website: <http://www.wkkf.org/Grants>

Contact: Manager of Grant Proposals, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, One Michigan Ave East, Battle Creek, MI 49017-4058 (616) 698-1611

Ford Foundation

Supports rural development, environment, agriculture and Eastern Europe to advance the public well-being by identifying and contributing to the solution of problems of national and international importance. Grants are primarily to institutions for experimental, demonstration, and development efforts that are likely to produce significant advances within the foundations fields of interest.

Contact: The Ford Foundation, 320 East 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017 (212) 599-4584

Children and Families First Commission (CFFC)

The California First Five Program, funded through the tobacco tax, has available grants for health and school readiness programs that target 0-5 children and their caregivers. See your local County Schools Office to contact the CFFC commission in your area and obtain their request for proposals (RFP).

Grants for Projects with a Community Development Theme (cont.)

Jessie Noyes Foundation

Through the Sustainable Agriculture and Sustainable Communities Program, the Noyes Foundation supports programs focused on sustainable agricultural practices and policies, and innovative projects that link human and natural communities.

Land O' Lakes Foundation

Funds from this foundation are intended to help maintain long-standing partnerships with state and national organizations and to initiate multi-state, statewide, or national programming that benefit rural communities. Included in targeted funding areas are programs to benefit youth and agricultural education.

Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation

Provides grants for sustainable agriculture and viable communities, including projects that broaden public understanding of agriculture and improve regional self-sufficiency in agriculture.

Website: <http://www.cehcf.org/>

Grants for Projects with a Business-Economic Development Theme

USDA Forest Service Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Grants

To offset school and road funds historically allocated to forested communities, the US Forest Service has available grants for specific activities on Federal lands. Of interest to Ag and Nature Tourism projects is a funding focus on trails. See your local Forest Service office to identify the RAC for your area.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

U.S. cities and towns use these Federal monies to support community and economic development projects in areas of low average income (i.e., entitlement community program). Grant criteria require job development for unemployed, underemployed and disabled persons. Contact your county grants office or community development department for details.

Rural Business Grants

Rural Business Opportunity grants support community planning, technical assistance and training for rural businesses and can be used to support food-related micro-enterprise or job creation activities targeted at food-insecure individuals. Businesses are also eligible for funding.

Website: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html

Contact: USDA, RBS, Specialty Lenders Division, Wayne Stansbery, Stop 1521 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250 (202) 720-1400 or wstansbe@rus.usda.gov

Rural Business Enterprise grants assists small and emerging businesses in rural areas outside the boundary of a city of 50,000 or more and in the immediate adjacent urbanized or urbanizing areas. Businesses are also eligible for funding.

Website: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov.rbs/buspbprogs.htm>

Grants for Projects with a Business-Economic Development Theme (cont.)

Contact: USDA, RBS, Specialty Lenders Division, Carole Boyko or Amy Canvanagh, Stop 1521, Room 5404 USDA South Building, Washington DC 20250 (202) 720-1400.

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Projects aimed at improving the quality of entrepreneurship teaching, research and service in U.S. colleges and universities. Community colleges are eligible to apply. Awards are based on the strength of an institution's plan to develop, expand or enhance entrepreneurship education.

Website: <http://www.kauffmannetwork.org>

Hewlett Packard Foundation

Sponsors several initiatives that support business development and best practices in the use of technology for projects such as microenterprise development.

Website: <http://grants.hp.com/us/programs>

Social and Economic Development Strategies

Projects that promote self-sufficiency of Native Americans are funded. Self-sufficiency is that level of development at which a Native American community can control and internally generate resources to provide for the needs of its members and meet its own economic and social goals. Website:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ana>

Grants for Projects with a Historic/Cultural Preservation Theme

National Trust for Historic Preservation: Preservation Services Fund

An educational video of historic garden plants and practices and/or homestead plants, animals and management qualifies for funding under this program. The Preservation Services Fund makes grants for technical assistance and education activities to benefit the historic preservation projects of nonprofit organizations, public agencies, or educational institutions. Grants are awarded in the following categories: consultant services including support for obtaining professional expertise in areas such as architecture, engineering, planning, fundraising, video production, and education; preservation education including support for preservation education activities such as preparing booklets and workshops to education a specific audience concerning preservation issues; and, co-sponsored conferences, which includes support for conferences that address subjects of particular importance to historic preservation advocates. Grants are matching grants from \$500 to \$5,000 (typically from \$1,000 to \$1,500) for preservation planning and education efforts. Deadline: June 1

Contact: Bruce Yarnall: (202) 588-6197. psf@nthp.org

URL: <http://www.nationaltrust.org/help/grants.html>

California Heritage Fund (CHF) Grant Program

Grant funds under the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 is available on a competitive basis for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of archeological and historic resource preservation projects. Need to provide 50% matching funds.

Contact: Office of Historic Preservation Fiscal and Registration Unit, P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001 (916) 653-9824 Cheri Stanton, Grants Support (916) 653-3640 or Paula Jow, Grants Manager (916) 653-6956.

Grants for Projects with a Science Education Theme

Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation

Grant awards whose work furthers the Lindbergh's vision of a balance between the advance of technology and the preservation of the natural/human environment. Grants are made in the following categories: agriculture and conservation of natural resources and education.

California Integrated Waste Management Board

Local waste management boards may fund programs that incorporate composting, vermiculture (worms), and recycling. In addition to grant information the Board has a guide on vericomposting, classroom activities for Grades K-12 entitled "Closing the Loop" and a compendium of related educational curriculum and materials.

Contact: Local waste management department and the State of California Integrated Waste Management Board at 916-934-9102 (<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov>).

Coca-Cola Foundation Grants Program

Supports educational projects, including those that link pre-college with higher education and address early childhood education. Open to non-profit organizations, including schools.

Contact: Grants Program Director Coca-Cola Foundation, P.O. Drawer 1734, Atlanta, GA 30301 (404) 676-3240

National Science Foundation

This government agency distributes funds for science education programs. Competition is national, but local award is possible.

Contact: Grants and Agreements, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22230 (703) 306-1234

National Science Teachers' Award Program

Awards teachers for innovative science projects and exemplary science education programs. Competition is national, but local award is possible.

Contact: NSTA Program, 1742 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009 (202) 328-5800

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP)

This program funds projects that advance knowledge about sustainable agriculture practices and systems nationwide. Funded by the USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service this program also funds a UCD SAREP office that funds up to \$1300 of UC workshops that share food & agricultural research.

Contact: SAREP, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-2223 (202) 720-5203

Toyota TAPESTRY Grants for Teachers

Teachers may apply for up to \$10,000 for innovative one-year programs that will enhance science education in their schools.

Contact: C/o NSTA, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22207-3000