

## 2025 SFAF Q&A

1. **Can you be reimbursed for items already purchased?**
  - a. No
2. **Are existing staff salaries eligible for funding?**
  - a. Funding cannot be used to pay staff to complete work that was already in existence. However, if the project requires new or additional labor for existing staff, some funding may be used for their salary. Funding may also be used if the grant project requires contracted labor.
3. **Can funds be used on private or public lands?**
  - a. This funding is prioritized for private lands.
4. **Are my chances hurt if I apply for the Sustainable Food and Ag Fund and the Healthy Soils Initiative?**
  - a. No, but note, they each have very different project requirements.
5. **If I received an award last year, can I apply to the fund again?**
  - a. You must wait 2 years to apply to the fund again.
6. **If I have already received an award from this fund are my chance hurt to be awarded again?**
  - a. No
7. **Does the screening committee have quotas to allocate equal amounts of funding to each Broad Local Food and Ag Category?**
  - a. No
8. **Is there an advantage to applying to certain categories?**
  - a. No
9. **If I miss the deadline of submission is my project ineligible?**
  - a. Your project is ineligible if you miss the submission deadline. We will not accept any additional documentation or applications past the deadline.
10. **Can I submit multiple applications?**
  - a. Please only submit 1 application to the Sustainable Food and Agriculture Fund.
11. **How do you define a start-up?**
  - a. Businesses in operation for less than 1 year. Start-ups are not eligible for the Sustainable Food and Ag Fund.
12. **What is an example of [USDA historically underserved](#)?**
  - a. Limited resource farmer, beginning farmer or rancher, socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher, veteran farmer or rancher. Please visit the [USDA historically underserved](#) website for a more detailed description of these examples.