

2026 Boulder County Soil Health Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

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. If interested in applying for public lands, please visit the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Healthy Soils initiative page.
4. **If I received an award last year, can I apply to the fund again?**
 - b. You must wait 2 years to apply to the fund again.
 - c. For example, if you received funding in 2025 you must wait until 2027 to reapply.
5. **Does the screening committee have quotas to allocate equal amounts of funding to each broad area of soil health?**
 - d. No
6. **Is there an advantage to applying to certain categories?**
 - e. No
7. **If I miss the deadline of submission, is my project ineligible?**
 - f. Your project is ineligible if you miss the submission deadline. We will not accept any additional documentation or applications past the deadline.
8. **If I complete a partial application will my project still be reviewed?**
 - g. No. You must have all required forms for your project to be reviewed.
9. **Can I submit multiple applications?**
 - h. No
10. **How do you define a start-up?**
 - i. Businesses in operation for less than 1 year.
11. **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.
12. **What are [NRCS Climate-Smart Mitigation Activities](#)?**
 - a. A voluntary sub-set of conservation activities identified as critical to climate change mitigation. Please visit the [NRCS Climate-Smart Mitigation Activities](#) website for a more detailed description of the conservation activities.