

This document serves as a reference for applicants only. AFT will only accept 2026 Farm Vitality grant applications submitted through our online grant application portal, Survey Monkey Apply.

Regenerate Virginia
2026 Farm Vitality Grants Application Questions for Reference
Deadline to Apply: 11:59pm Eastern, December 19, 2025

*All questions marked with a * are required.*

Applicant Information

Contact Information:

- Name
- Address
- Email
- Phone

***In which language is the applicant completing this application?**

- English
- Spanish

***Have you ever received a Regenerate Virginia Farm Vitality Grant?**

If yes, please explain how this proposal builds on your planning grant work?

***Do you, any of the applicants, or any of the persons engaged in implementation and/or outreach and education with regard to your proposal qualify as a historically underserved producer?**

- Yes
- No

***Do you qualify as a limited-resource farmer, using the USDA's [online tool](#) for self-determination?** Due to the government shutdown this link may be inactive at this time. Please answer to the best of your knowledge.

- Yes
- No

***Are you/are any of the applicants a Beginning Farmer? Years involved in Operating a Farm:** ([USDA Beginning Farmer Definition](#)) Due to the government shutdown this link may be inactive at this time. Please answer to the best of your knowledge.

No – Farming/Ranching 10 Years or more

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Yes – Farming/Ranching 6-10 Years

Yes – Farming/Ranching 1-5 years

Yes – Farming/Ranching less than 1 Year

***Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?**

Yes, on active duty now

Yes, on active duty in the past, but not now

Never served in the military

Prefer not to answer

Farming Information

Details about your farm's location, ownership, and operations.

***Farm Address:**

- Line 1
- Line 2
- City
- State

If your farm does not have a USPS address, please include its Section, Township or Range.

***In which county is your farm located?**

***Which classification best describes the location of your farm?**

- Rural
- Suburban
- Peri-urban
- Urban

Farm website and/or any social media handles (if applicable):

***Size of farm** (total acres of land including cropland, pasture, woodland, and all other land):

***Total acres in cultivation or agricultural use:**

***Do you own or lease farmland at this address?**

- Own
- Lease
- Do not own, but operate family land

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***Briefly tell us about your current farming status and land tenure situation.** If you lease, please explain the terms of your lease agreement (yearly, month-to-month, or otherwise), including what year your current lease extends to and if it is a formal or informal lease agreement. (ex: full-time, part-time, hobby/personal use, leasing land, managing a farm, etc.) (500-word max):

Farming Experience

Share your background, training, and current farming status.

***Did you spend a majority (50 percent or more) of your work time farming or ranching over the last 12 months?**

- Yes
- No

If you answered “no”, please explain why farming is not currently your primary occupation (150 words max):

***Briefly describe your farming background, training, and experiences** (500 words max):

***Please tell us anything else about you, your story, or your background that you think is important for us better to understand you and your farm, including any hardships or impacts you may have encountered based on your identity** (150-word max):

Production & Practices

Describe your current regenerative practices and production history.

***Did you produce food or agricultural products for your community in 2024 and/or 2025 for sale or barter/exchange?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, and products were sold, what were your gross revenues?

If no, please state an explanation (150 word max):

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***What products did this farm operation produce, raise, or grow in 2024 and/or 2025 growing seasons? (Choose all that apply)**

- ☐ Dairy
- ☐ Beef
- ☐ Sheep/Goats (meat)
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Equine
- ☐ Poultry-meat
- ☐ Poultry-eggs
- ☐ Fiber
- ☐ Other Livestock
- ☐ Fruit
- ☐ Vegetables
- ☐ Feed Grains
- ☐ Nursery
- ☐ Flowers
- ☐ Greenhouse
- ☐ Forages, hay
- ☐ Ethnic Crops
- ☐ Seed Production
- ☐ Grains, dry beans, oil seeds for human consumption
- ☐ Maple
- ☐ Bees/honey
- ☐ Peanuts
- ☐ If product not listed above, please specify: _____

***Describe your current regenerative farming practices as they relate to soil, water, community, economics, and/or farm inputs and outputs (500 words max):**

(*REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE DEFINITION: For the purposes of this Program, AFT defines regenerative agriculture as a way of farming that improves the health of soil, water, and ecosystems while also supporting strong farms and communities.)

Track

Select your track and describe how funds will be used. Applicants are only permitted to apply for 1 track. All funding requests must align with the parameters of the selected track.

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For more information on tracks or eligible expenses [click here](#).

Select a Track

Equipment: Supports the purchase of **special-purpose equipment** that improves farm viability or profitability **and** supports regenerative practices.

Maximum Award: \$15,000

Business Development: Supports **financial acumen, planning, and succession** for regenerative farm businesses.

Maximum Award: \$15,000

Product/Market Expansion: Supports expansion through **new products, broader markets, and wider distribution** of regenerative goods.

Maximum Award: \$25,000

*Proposed Use of Funds

If you selected Track A: Equipment

1. Please describe the equipment you propose to purchase.
2. How will this equipment contribute to your long-term farm viability?
3. How will this equipment contribute to your farm's vitality in terms of regenerative agriculture or improving your land stewardship?

If you selected Track B: Business Development

1. Please select the categories that describe the proposed use of funds: (select all that apply)
 - Financial/business technical assistance
 - Legal support, representation, or consultation
 - Consultation or costs associated with accessing farmland
 - Support with or coaching for labor management, compliance, or developing employee policies to improve equity and well-being for farm staff
 - Other:
2. Please briefly share how you specifically are proposing to use the funds. Include in your description (500 words max):
 - Specific details about the services that will be acquired.

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- Include the name(s) of consultants or other professionals, if known and applicable. If you need assistance identifying service providers, please note that in your application.
- A description of how the services you seek will enhance your farm's vitality and regenerative farming goals.

If you selected Track C: Product/Market Expansion

1. Please briefly share how you specifically are proposing to use the funds. Include in your description:
 - Specific details about the products you hope to develop or the markets you hope to expand into. Include the name(s) of consultants or other professionals you hope to engage as technical assistance providers, if known and applicable.
 - A description of how this expansion will enhance your farm's vitality and regenerative farming goals.
2. How do you envision the proposed project contributing to the regional agricultural economy or food system?

Project Budget and Timeline

All work supported by the grant must be completed within one year of the date of receipt of funds unless alternative arrangements are made.

***Grant Amount Requested** [\$15,000 maximum for Tracks 1 and 2; \$25,000 maximum for Track 3]:

***Please describe your operation's readiness for this award.** Why is this the right opportunity at the right time for your farm business (500 words max)?

***Please provide an estimated budget outline for your project** (see [Excel](#) or [Word](#) budget templates if desired):

If other funds are required, what is the source of other funds?

Farm Vitality Grant funds will generally be awarded according to the following schedule:

- 75% within 90 days of receipt of award acceptance and verification of information.
- Final reports are due to AFT 365 days after the receipt of the initial funds. The final 25% of the award amount will be disbursed to the award recipient approximately 90 days after submission of a final report.

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***How will you ensure that this payment schedule works for your operation? Grant funds will be disbursed in two installments as reflected above.** This schedule is fixed and cannot be modified. Please respond in a way that reflects this schedule.

***When do you expect that the project will be completed?** (*Month / Year*):

If the project cannot be completed within one year of award, please explain why:

Optional: You may upload additional documentation related to your request if you wish.

***I understand that all award updates & communication will be done via email and an online platform.** Failure to reply may result in loss of award. Emails may come from the following staff/email addresses:

- AFT's Brighter Future Fund – brighterfuture@farmland.org
- Amanda Cather – acather@farmland.org
- noreply@mail.smapply.net

- Yes
- No