



Brighter Future Fund's New England Regenerative Livestock Farming Grant

Letter of Support Guidance for Applicants

What is a "Service Provider"?

A service provider is any business, agency, organization, or consultant who provides technical, financial, or other business/professional assistance to farmers.

The purpose of the letter of support from a service provider is to:

Provide the grant application reviewers with a clear understanding that the requested funds will be used in accordance with the grant guidelines as part of a larger vision for a successful project. Ideally, the letter of support will be written by someone familiar with the scope of work included in the grant proposal.

By requiring this brief letter of support, we hope to encourage New England farmers to tap into the extensive range of technical assistance and support services available in our region. We expect this will result in more successful outcomes for applicants seeking to implement regenerative agriculture practices on their farms.

A strong letter of support will:

- Describe the service provider's relationship to the farmer.
- Describe the service provider's understanding of the farmer's goals and the circumstances that are relevant to the grant application.
- Briefly describe the service provider's knowledge and credentials, either formal or informal, and how the services provided are related to the proposed project.
- Describe how the service provider feels the proposed project will aid in the farmer's success.
- Include the service provider's name, title, organization/business affiliation, address, email address, date, and signature (electronic signatures are acceptable).
- Be no more than 2 pages.

See letter of support template on next page as an example. (Letters do not need to follow this exact format.)

For those applicants actively working with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS"), we will accept a copy of a conservation plan that is **relevant** to your proposed project to meet the "letter of support" requirement.

Applicants will be required to upload the letter of support at the time of submission as a Word or PDF attachment.

Letter of Support Template

Brighter Future Fund
New England Regenerative Livestock Farming Grant
Review Committee
American Farmland Trust

DATE

RE: ABC Farm Regenerative Livestock Farming Grant Application

Dear Review Committee,

I am writing on behalf of [FARMER NAME] of [FARM NAME] located in [TOWN, STATE]. [FARMER] is a [beginning / experienced] farmer in [REGION] growing/raising [FARM PRODUCTS] seeking grant funds to [SUMMARIZE PROJECT PROPOSAL e.g. support the purchase of a _____]. The addition of [ITEM] to the [FARM] will allow [FARMER] to [ANTICIPATED IMPACT].

[SERVICE PROVIDER] has worked with [FARMER] for [X years/months] assisting [FARMER] with [HOW YOU ASSISTED FARMER]. We believe if awarded the grant, [EXPAND UPON ANTICIPATED IMPACT].

Sincerely,

Signature (electronic signature is acceptable)

Name, Title
Organization
Address
Address
Email