



## Eligibility Questions

1. Is the applicant's farm operation located in the state of Virginia? Y / N (N = not eligible and cannot progress)
2. Can the applicant attest that they are NOT any of the following: AFT staff, board member, or significant contributor, or a family member thereof? Y / N (N= not eligible and cannot progress)

Y to both = applicant "unlocks" the application form and can proceed

## Farm Vitality Planning Grants Application

American Farmland Trust (AFT)'s Regenerate Virginia Farm Vitality Planning Grant Program is intended to assist Virginia farmers in working towards the long-term vitality of their operations, focusing on planning efforts that support the adoption or expansion of regenerative practices and systems. The program will also focus on land access, tenure, and succession planning to ensure farms remain regenerative operations for generations to come. AFT understands that Virginia farmers desire to be both strong stewards of their land and significant contributors to their regional economies; our farm vitality work aims to create more significant opportunities for farmers to plan for improved profitability and business viability alongside adopting regenerative systems.

*\*All questions are required unless specified*

1. In which language is the applicant completing this application?

2. *Applicant Information*

Farm Name/Farm Business Entity Name (if different):

First Name:

Last Name:

Email

Retype Email:

Phone Number:

3. Personal Mailing Address:

- a. Line 1
- b. Line 2
- c. City
- d. State
- e. Zip Code

4. Farm Address (if different than personal address):

- a. Line 1
- b. Line 2
- c. City
- d. State

5. In which county is your farm located?

6. Which classification best describes the location of your farm?

- a. Rural
- b. Suburban
- c. Peri-urban
- d. Urban

7. Do you own or lease your farmland? Select any that apply.

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

8. 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.

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

- a. Website:
- b. Facebook:
- c. Instagram:
- d. Other:

### Your Farming Situation

10. Briefly tell us about your current farming status and land tenure situation (ex: full-time, part-time, hobby/personal use, leasing land, managing a farm, etc.) (500-word max):

11. Please briefly describe your farming background, training, and experiences (500 words max):

12. Please describe your current regenerative farming practices as they relate to soil, water,

community, economics, and/or farm inputs and outputs (500 max):

13. Did you spend a majority (50 percent or more) of your work time in farming or ranching over the last 12 months?
- a. Yes
  - b. No

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

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

16. Total acres in cultivation or agricultural use:

17. Did you produce food or ag products for your community in growing year 2023 ,including for both barter/exchange and sales.?
- a. *Yes*
  - b. *No*

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

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

20. What products did this farm operation produce, raise, or grow in 2023 and/or 2024 growing seasons? (Choose all that apply)

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

21. Please tell us anything else about you, your story or your background (including hardships you may have encountered based on your identity as a Historically Underserved producer, if applicable) that you think is important for us better to understand you and your farm (300-word max):

### Proposed Use of Funds

22. Please select the categories that describe the proposed use of funds: (select all that apply)
- a. Financial/business technical assistance
  - b. Legal support, representation, or consultation

- c. Consultation or costs associated with accessing farmland
- d. Support with or coaching for labor management, compliance, or developing employee policies to improve equity and well-being for farm staff
- e. Other:

23. Please briefly share how you specifically are proposing to use the funds. Include in your description (500 words max):
- a. Specific details about the services that will be acquired. Include the name(s) of consultants or other professionals, if known. If you need assistance identifying service providers, please note that in your application.
  - b. A description of how the services you seek will enhance your farm's vitality and regenerative farming goals.
24. 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)?

### Project Cost

25. Grant Amount Requested [\$10,000 maximum]:
26. Please provide an estimated budget outline for your project:
27. Optional: You may upload documentation related to the project budget/costs here if you wish. (3 max)
28. If other funds are required, what is the source of other funds?
29. Farm Vitality Planning Grant funds will generally be awarded according to the following schedule:
- a. 80% when award letter is signed
  - b. 10% after a 6-month check-in with AFT staff
  - c. 10% when reporting is completed

How will you ensure that this payment schedule works for your operation?

### Timeline

*All work supported by the grant must be completed within one year of the date of the award letter.*

30. When do you expect that the project will be completed? (Month / Year): \_\_\_\_\_
31. If the project cannot be completed within one year, please explain why:

### Additional Applicant Info & Demographics

32. 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?
- a. Yes
  - b. No

If yes, answer 32a, 32b and 32c. If no, go to 33.

32a. Do you qualify as a limited-resource farmer, using the USDA's [online tool](#) for self-determination?

- c. Yes
- d. No

32b. Are you/are any of the applicants a Beginning Farmer? Years involved in Operating a Farm: ([USDA Beginning Farmer Definition](#))

- e. No – Farming/Ranching 10 Years or more
- f. Yes – Farming/Ranching 6-10 Years
- g. Yes – Farming/Ranching 1-5 years
- h. Yes – Farming/Ranching less than 1 Year

32c. Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?

- i. Yes, on active duty now
- j. Yes, on active duty in the past, but not now
- k. Never served in the military

### Demographics

Please consider sharing a bit about yourself with our team. Responses to these demographic questions will **not** be a determining or preferential factor in award selection, and responding to the below demographic questions is optional.

33. Please select your age group:

- a. Under 25 years
- b. 25-34 years
- c. 35-44 years
- d. 45-54 years
- e. 55-64 years
- f. 65 years and over
- g. Prefer not to answer

34. Which gender identity do you most identify with?

- a. Man
- b. Woman
- c. Transgender/Trans woman
- d. Transgender/Trans man
- e. Non-binary
- f. Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Prefer not to answer

35. Which racial and ethnic category(ies) best describes you?

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin

- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White or European
- Other (two or more races)
- Prefer not to answer

36. How do you describe your sexual orientation or sexual identity (choose all that apply)?

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Queer
- Heterosexual
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to answer

#### Almost Done!

37. How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

38. 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:

- I understand.

#### Join Us in Saving the Land That Sustains Us

All grant applicants have the option to sign up for email updates and action opportunities from AFT and receive a complimentary one-year American Farmland Trust membership.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I wish to receive updates and a complimentary membership from AFT.

\_\_\_\_ No, I do not wish to receive updates and a complimentary membership from AFT.

You have reached the end of the application. You may review your responses. When you are ready to submit, click Mark as Complete below, and then click the green Submit button located on the left-hand side under your task progress in order to fully submit your application package. Once successfully submitted, you'll receive a confirmation email that we've received your application.

Thank you for applying!