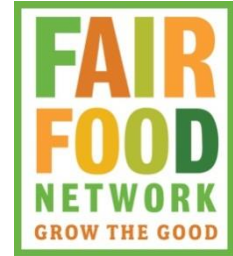


Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Grants Program



Overview

The 2014 Farm Bill (Agricultural Act of 2014) establishes a new competitive grant program, the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI), within USDA to support programs that provide fruit and vegetable incentives to participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). There is a total of \$100 million available for these programs over the course of the next five years.

Program Basics

Eligible entities: Different kinds of groups may apply for these grants including nonprofit organizations, farmers markets and associations, health agencies, economic development groups, grocery or corner stores, tribal agencies, etc.

Match: Applying organizations must provide a match equal to the amount of the federal grant. The match may be provided in-kind with the exception of for-profit entities, which may not include employee salaries or existing services to meet the match requirement.

Requirements: Proposed projects must—

- Have the support of the state's SNAP agency
- Increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by participants in the SNAP program
- Use effective technologies that can be replicated in other communities
- Participate in an independent program evaluation

Priorities: Priority will be given to projects that—

- Maximize the share of funds used for incentives
- Use direct to consumer marketing
- Demonstrate a track record of success implementing programs linking low-income consumers with farmers
- Provide locally or regionally produced fruits and vegetables
- Are located in underserved communities

Funding: USDA will have—

- \$35 million available to fund projects in 2014 and 2015
- \$20 million each for fiscal year 2016 and 2017
- \$25 million for fiscal year 2018