



## New Mexico COVID-19 Local Food Supply Chain Response Fund

### Fund Overview

The New Mexico COVID-19 **Local Food Supply Chain Response Fund (the Fund)** has been designed to provide funding to address gaps in and disruptions to the local food supply chain in New Mexico. It is being supported by a number of foundations and is housed at the New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association. The purpose of the Fund is to provide resources to farmers, ranchers, and other actors in the local food supply/ value chain in response to production and market disruptions brought on by COVID-19. The Fund will consider project applications from anywhere within the state of New Mexico. Tribal individuals/organizations are especially encouraged to apply.

### Types of Funding:

There are two types of project funding available through the Fund:

- 1) Individual Producer Grants: For the Individual Producer Grants, only New Mexico-based individual farmers and ranchers or farm and ranch operations are eligible to apply. Funding for these grants can range from \$500 - \$2500.
- 2) Collaborative Grants: For the Collaborative Grants, nonprofits and federally-recognized tribes operating in New Mexico are eligible to apply. Funding for these grants can range from \$2,500 - \$15,000 and can be for up to 6 months, with the possibility of extension depending on the ever-evolving situation. Funds will be provided as unrestricted operating funds.

### Funding Priorities:

The priorities for Individual Producer Grants include:

- Smaller-scale or midsize farmer or rancher in New Mexico needing support to access new or expanded market opportunities or to produce food for emergency food needs.
- A few examples include but are not limited to: A farmer that needs to ramp up their post-harvest washing area to include a bagging space and possibly additional time for this process. A farmer/rancher who wants to make their CSA more accessible to low-income shoppers. A farmer/rancher who needs extra support for seeds, labor, cold storage, packaging, PPE, or food transport costs.

The priorities for Collaborative Grants include:

- Collaborative projects among local food supply chain actors (producers, aggregators, farmers' market organizers, CSA operators or managers, non-profits, and others) that seek to support, organize, develop, or execute new or expanded marketing opportunities in the local food system.
- The Fund will also prioritize Collaborative Grant projects that address needs of smaller-scale to midsize growers as well as projects that link local food production with access to local food for lower-income consumers, where feasible.
- A few examples include but are not limited to: A group of farmers offering a multi-farm CSA may need funding to provide better access to low-income consumers either through delivery services, food subsidies, or both. A group of farmers who want to collaborate to more efficiently serve a market that has arisen as a result of the pandemic and may need technology support, transportation, or other financial resource needs. A farmer or group of farmers and a market outlet that partner together to process Double Up Food Bucks sales. A collaborative group that comes together to improve the local food content for free-meal-eligible school age children, or provide food to low-income communities.

**Timeline:**

Applications will be available on April 20 at [FarmersMarketsNM.org](http://FarmersMarketsNM.org) and [NewMexicoFMA.org](http://NewMexicoFMA.org). Applications may be submitted on a rolling basis, and the Review Committee will review and respond to applications every two to three weeks, or sooner when possible. Requests not immediately funded will continue to be considered depending on available funding. The first review is planned for April 30.

**Eligibility:**

For Individual Producer Grants: Must be a farmer or rancher in New Mexico.

For Collaborative Grants:

- The applying organization must be operating in New Mexico and either hold 501c3 non-profit status from the IRS (or have a fiscal sponsor) or be a federally-recognized tribe.
- Initially, organizations may only submit one application to the Fund; additional requests may be considered at a later time depending on the duration of the crisis and availability of funds.

**Geographic Focus Areas:** Individual Producer Grants and Collaborative Grants can be implemented anywhere in New Mexico. Individuals and organizations working with or in tribal communities are especially encouraged to apply.

**Reporting:**

- Individual Producer Grant recipients will be expected to provide a short report (written or video) at the end of the year. We don't need anything fancy, just a summary of what was accomplished, and it's highly likely we will be checking in mid-season for a short phone call or visit.
- Collaborative Grant recipients will be expected to provide a short report (written or video) at the conclusion of the grant. We don't need anything fancy, just a summary of what was accomplished, and it's highly likely we will be checking in mid-season for a short phone conversation or visit.

**Applications:** Easy Google forms will ask the following questions. The applications are also available in Spanish.

#### [Individual Producer Grant \(linked here\)](#)

- Name of Applicant
- Email address
- Phone number
- Name of Farm or Ranch Operation
- Location of Farm or Ranch Operation
- \$ Amount Requested (must be between \$500 - \$2500)
- Please describe how your operation has been impacted by COVID-19 (up to 200 words)
- Please describe what you intend to do with the funding requested (up to 200 words)
- Who will be the primary beneficiaries of the project? (up to 100 words)
- Is there anything else you would like us to know? (up to 200 words)

#### [Collaborative Grant \(linked here\)](#)

- Applicant organization name
- Primary contact
- Email address
- Street address
- Phone number
- Is your organization a 501c3 organization or federally-recognized tribe?
- If no, share fiscal sponsor information
- \$ Amount Requested (must be between \$2500 - \$15,000)
- Geographic area of proposed project:
- Please describe how the local food supply chain has been affected in the proposed geographic area (up to 250 words)
- Please describe what you intend to do with the funding requested (up to 250 words).

- Who will be the primary beneficiaries of the project? (up to 100 words)
- Please list partner and collaborating organizations or individuals.
- Is there anything else you would like us to know?

## INDIVIDUAL PRODUCER GRANT

\$500 - \$2500

First review April 30  
(Applications accepted on a  
rolling basis via a Google form)

New Mexico-based smaller-scale  
or midsize individual farmer,  
rancher, or farm/ranch operation

Recipients will be expected to  
provide a short report (written  
or video) at the end of the year

## COLLABORATIVE GRANT

\$2,500 - \$15,000

First review April 30  
(Applications accepted on a  
rolling basis via a Google form)

Nonprofits and federally-  
recognized tribes operating in  
New Mexico. Also New Mexico-  
based collaborative projects

Recipients will be expected to  
provide a short report (written  
or video) at the conclusion of the  
grant.

Questions regarding the Fund:  
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Thornburg Foundation

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Initiative