



Micro-Loan Program

New Mexico Farmers' Market Association (NMFMA) Sandia Area Federal Credit Union (SAFCU)

The NMFMA and SAFCU aim to:

- Help small-scale farmers across New Mexico who sell food at farmers' markets obtain loan funds at reasonable prices with individualized payment schedules.
- Respond to a need for micro-loans for agricultural food producers who might have difficulty qualifying for assistance from other sources.
- Encourage economic growth of agricultural food producers in new Mexico.
- Strengthen relationships between food producers, the NMFMA, and SAFCU.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Submit a pre-qualification letter to the NMFMA (see page 2 for guidelines).
- Must become a SAFCU member by establishing an account at SAFCU with a \$5.00 balance, and upon pre-qualification approval fill out a brief SAFCU Loan Application.
- Must be a food producer or food vendor (for at least one year) at a NMFMA member market.
- May be asked to complete an exit interview at the end of the payment period.

Loan Terms:

- Loan amounts must be between \$500 and \$3,000.
- Loans must be paid back within 40 months. Applicants may propose a payment schedule that works for them within that timeframe.
- Interest rate is currently at 6.00% fixed rate.
- All loans must be activated within 45 days of notification of pre-approval.
- In the event of default, remedies will be pursued by the NMFMA.
- Loan applications may be submitted any time.
- No collateral is required, no penalty for early repayment, and no application fee.
- All financial information provided as part of this loan process is confidential.
- NMFMA and SAFCU reserve the right to deny a loan application at any time, for any reason, except as prohibited by law.



Micro-loan Pre-Qualification Letter Guidelines

Please submit a legible, typed letter with the following information:

- 1) Your mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address.
- 2) A brief description of your operation, including its size and what you grow.
- 3) What is the amount of the loan that you are applying for?
- 4) Please describe the project or intended use(s) for the funds.
- 5) Include a brief description of how this funding will help to increase your ability to continue farming or improve your profitability.

Please Note: If you receive a loan for your project, the money must be used as outlined in your proposal. **If for any reason you are not able to move forward with the project you have described in your loan application, the money must be returned.** You are welcome to apply again for a new project.

Send your Pre-qualification Letters to:

Sarah Grant

NMFMA

1219 Luisa St. #1

Santa Fe, NM 87505

Or email as an attachment to Sarah at sarahg@farmersmarketsnm.org

For more information please contact the New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association: Local Santa Fe (505-983-4010), Toll Free (888-983-4400).