

Agricultural Marketing Service

Creating Opportunities for American Farmers and Businesses

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

Presented at the 2019 NAAMO Conference
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Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

- Funds projects that enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, including fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, cut flowers, and other horticulture products
- Awards to State departments of agriculture in the 50 states, D.C., and U.S. territories to partner with specialty crop stakeholders to fulfill specialty crop priorities
- <http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants>

2018 Farm Bill

- Continuation of current programs as well as introduction of new programs to the AMS Grants Division
- Removal of “solely” – and addition of 4 key points
- Evaluation of Performance Measures

FY 2019 Update

- FY19 available funding was announced March 7, 2019
- Grant applications were due by May 24, 2019
- Approximately \$72.4 million available to fund applications
- State Plan and Project Profile templates updated

Allocations

Allocations	<p>For FY 2019, each State department of agriculture was eligible to receive an estimated base grant of approximately \$241,627.</p> <p>Remainder is allocated based on the average of specialty crop acreage and production value in each state.</p> <p>This data is derived from NASS and ERS respectively.</p>
Funding	<p>Mandatory outlays - \$85M</p> <p>ANNUAL FUNDING</p>

FY 2018 SCBGP Data

- In FY 2018, the SCBGP awarded \$72,157,417.86 to 795 projects throughout the 50 states, D.C., and 5 territories
- Examples of FY 2018 funded projects:
 - An Idaho project that will use artificial intelligence techniques to estimate fruit yield earlier in the season.
 - A New Mexico project to develop programs that will increase the volume and sale of New Mexico cider by 50 percent.

Questions?

Thank you very much for your time!

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