School and Youth

1. **School Fruit and Veggie Grants (Skoop and Chef Ann Foundation)** *Purpose:* Awards school projects that help kids learn about and eat more fruits and vegetables. Sponsored by Skoop and Chef Ann Foundation. *Eligibility:* Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Schools with greater than 50% free and reduced eligible enrollment encouraged to apply. *Funding:* $2,500/school. *Deadline:* Available until funding is depleted.

Rural

1. **Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program (USDA RD)** *Purpose:* Funds projects to start up, expand, or improve rural cooperatives or other mutually-owned businesses. *Eligibility:* Nonprofit organizations or higher education institutions. *Funding:* Up to $200,000. *Deadline:* May 26, 2017 (electronic). June 2, 2017 (paper).
2. **Community Facilities Fund (Rural LISC)** *Purpose:* Rural LISC was recently approved as a USDA Community Facilities Re-lender. These loans fund construction of essential community facilities. *Eligibility:* Nonprofits or public entities in rural areas. *Funding:* $100,000 - $8 million. *Deadline:* Rolling.
3. **Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program (USDA RD)** *Purpose:* Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities, including local food system facilities, in rural areas with populations under 20,000. *Funding:* Varies. *Eligibility:* Public bodies, community-based nonprofits, federally-recognized Tribes. Priority is given to small communities (populations of 5,500 or less) and low-income communities. *Deadline:* Rolling.
4. **Rural Business Development Grant (USDA RD)** *Purpose:* Supports development of small rural businesses, including projects related to land acquisition/development, community economic development, and feasibility studies. *Funding:* $10,000 to $500,000. *Eligibility:* governments/authorities, nonprofits, universities, federally-recognized tribes, rural cooperatives. *Deadline:* Applications are accepted through local or state Rural Development offices once every year.
5. **Rural Health Info Grants Database** *Purpose:* Compiles grants and opportunities for rural-based projects.

Food Systems and Food Security

1. **LINK Up Illinois Double Value Coupon Grant (Experimental Station)** *Purpose:* Funds incentive programs that double the value of SNAP purchases at Illinois farmers markets. *Eligibility:* Authorized SNAP farmers markets. *Funding:* Up to $12,500. *Deadline:* Please see website.
4. **Developing Healthy Places** *Purpose:* Kresge Foundation seeks to fund nonprofit or government initiatives that build healthier and more equitable food systems, transportation infrastructure,
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and land use. **Eligibility:** Nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, government entities. **Funding:** Varies. **Deadline:** Rolling.

5. **Surdna Foundation/Local and Regional Food Grants** **Purpose:** Fund projects that develop regional food infrastructure, reduce barriers to access, strategize financing, or link organizations to more effectively advance regional food efforts. Preference is given to projects that address low-income communities of color and combine food supply efforts with infrastructure construction. **Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations. **Funding:** Need-based. **Deadline:** Rolling.

6. **The Good Food Fund in Michigan** **Purpose:** $30 million to supply loans, grants, and new market tax credits for the Good Food Sector. This grant prioritizes enterprises that serve low and moderate-income food-insecure Michigan communities. Sponsored by Fair Food Network, Capital Impact Partners, Michigan State University Center for Regional Food, and W.K. Kellogg Foundation. **Funding:** Varies. **Eligibility:** Good Food enterprises in Michigan that promote the aims of the Fair Food Network. **Deadline:** Rolling.

7. **Free Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Equipment to process SNAP Benefits (USDA and Farmers Market Coalition)** **Purpose:** Covers the cost of purchasing or renting SNAP EBT equipment for up to three years from a list of participating companies. Funding for this opportunity has been depleted, and interested applicants can sign up for the waitlist. **Eligibility:** Farmers Markets that have been authorized to accept SNAP benefits that do not already possess functioning EBT equipment; or have only possessed functioning EBT equipment before May 2, 2012. **Funding:** Covers the cost of purchasing/renting equipment. **Deadline:** Available until funds are depleted.

**Health**

1. **Healthy Food Behavior Research Grants (Duke Behavioral Economics and Healthy Food Choice Research Center)** **Purpose:** Funds projects that develop and test strategies for improving food choice behavior in low-income populations, particularly SNAP participants. **Eligibility:** Researchers at institutions of higher learning. **Funding:** Up to $50,000. **Deadline:** June 1, 2017.

2. **Childhood Obesity Prevention Challenge Area (USDA NIFA)** **Purpose:** Funds projects that reduce the prevalence of obesity among children. Applications will generate new knowledge about childhood obesity factors, develop effective interventions to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables and build healthy habits, expand effective ongoing interventions, and increase the number of partners to prevent childhood obesity. **Eligibility:** Land-Grant Institutions and Hispanic-Serving institutions. **Funding:** Up to $2.5 million. **Deadline:** June 28, 2017.

**Farmer, Rancher & Food**

1. **Food Safety Outreach Program (USDA NIFA)** **Purpose:** Funds projects that develop and implement food safety training and education for operators of small to mid-sized farms, processors, and wholesalers. **Eligibility:** Cooperative Extension Service, organizations representing farmers, processors, and wholesalers, government entities, institutions of higher education. **Funding:** Up to $400,000. **Deadline:** June 6, 2017.

2. **Water for Food Production Systems Challenge Area (USDA NIFA)** **Purpose:** Funds projects that integrate new technologies and strategic management that solve issues related to water availability and quality. **Eligibility:** Land-Grant Institutions, Hispanic-serving Institutions, Private and Public Institutions of Higher Education. **Funding:** $34 million. **Deadline:** Aug. 2, 2017.
3. **Organic Certification Cost Share Programs (USDA-AMS)**  
**Purpose:** Helps cover organic certification-related expenses.  
**Eligibility:** Producers and handlers.  
**Funding:** Up to 75% of certification costs.  
**Deadline:** Check with state department of agriculture.  

4. **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Farmer Rancher Grant Program**  
**Purpose:** Funds projects that research sustainable solutions to farm management.  
**Funding:** up to $7,500 for individual projects and up to $22,500 for group projects.  
**Deadline:** Varies.  

5. **Beginning Farmers Grants and Resources**  
**Purpose:** Provides financial and technical assistance to new or beginning farmers or ranchers. Priority is given to veterans, socially disadvantaged and women farmers or ranchers.  
**Eligibility:** See website.  
**Deadline:** See website.  

6. **Illinois Annual Agriculture Loans**  
**Purpose:** Helps Illinois farmers pay annual start-up costs associated with seed, fertilizer, plants, crop insurance, and other expenses. Funding through the Ag Invest Annual interest rate reduction program from the Illinois Treasurer’s Office.  
**Eligibility:** See website.  
**Deadline:** See website.  

7. **Farm Storage Facility Loans**  
**Purpose:** Provides low-interest financing to build or upgrade permanent facilities to store or process agricultural products. Most recently, these loans made available funding for refrigerated vehicles.  
**Funding:** Up to $500,000 per loan.  
**Eligibility:** Please see eligibility requirements here.  
**Deadline:** Rolling.  

8. **USDA Microloans (USDA-FSA)**  
**Purpose:** USDA’s Farm Service Agency provides financial assistance for small, beginning farmer, niche and non-traditional farm ownership or operations. Non-traditional farm operations can include truck farms, farms, direct marketing farmers, Community Supported Agriculture, restaurants and grocery stores, or those using hydroponic, aquaponics, organic, and/or vertical growing methods.  
**Eligibility:** Please see website.  
**Funding:** Maximum of $50,000.  
**Deadline:** Rolling.  

9. **USDA EZ Guarantee Loans (USDA-FSA)**  
**Purpose:** USDA’s Farm Service Agency has streamlined this loan process for smaller scale farms and urban producers. The program provides $100,000 to help beginning, small underserved, and family farmers and ranchers to purchase farmland or finance agricultural operations. The USDA also added a new category of lenders, including microlenders.  
**Eligibility:** Please check with local FSA office.  
**Funding:** Up to $100,000 loan.  
**Deadline:** Rolling.  

10. **Farmers Advocating Organics Grant Program (Organic Valley Co-op)**  
**Purpose:** Funds projects that conduct research, education, and advocacy to support organic farmers.  
**Eligibility:** Nonprofit organizations and academic/research institutions.  
**Funding:** $5,000-$50,000.  
**Deadline:** Rolling. Grant applications are reviewed on June 15th, September 15th, and February 15th (2018) yearly.  

11. **Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program Ohio Department of Agriculture**  
**Funding:** Varies.  
**Eligibility:** Land owners with greater than 40 acres of land in the State of Ohio. Land use must remain in agricultural production.  
**Deadline:** Rolling.  

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**Community**

1. **Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs (Economic Development Administration)**  
**Purpose:** Construction, non-construction, and revolving loan fund investments to support regional economic development strategies.  
**Eligibility:** Nonprofit organizations, Native American tribal organizations, institutions of higher education, governments.  
**Funding:** $100,000 - $3 million.  
**Deadline:** Rolling.