

PA's Fresh Food Financing Initiative [grant](#) is open

Open through through 5 p.m., **January 18, 2025.**

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2026.

(PAVFN can review your narrative prior to submission as a 2nd pair of eyes--allow time ahead of the deadline if you'd like assistance.)

Online applications only through [Commonwealth's Single Application for Assistance online application system](#).

Reimbursement grant--you must have funds to undertake the project and then put in for reimbursement.

A 15% match is required. (You provide 15% of the total cost; PDA will reimburse 85% of total cost.) No in-kind match is allowable. Grant funds may not pay for salaries; you cannot show other state or federal funds as your match.

Eligibility:

- Applicants engaged primarily in the sale of staple and perishable food to consumers; operate within PA; provide access to affordable, high-quality fresh food to **underserved communities**; expand access to Pennsylvania-grown or processed **produce, dairy, and meat products**.

Go [here](#) to research underserved communities.

- Funds to facilitate the establishment, construction, rehabilitation, and expansion of grocery stores, farmers' markets, and other retail food establishments including mobile markets, co-ops, farmers markets, on-farm markets, direct to consumer businesses, urban farms.

Priority given to projects that increase business opportunities for:

Veteran-Owned Businesses, Small and Diverse Businesses, PA Preferred Businesses with an active trademark license agreement, Businesses that have a fully implemented business plan.

Eligible Projects

- Improve Access to Fresh Food: fruits and vegetables, herbs, meat, and dairy products in underserved communities.
- Expand or diversify the production, aggregation, sourcing, or sale of Pennsylvania agricultural commodities.
- Increase business opportunities for small, diverse businesses, and veteran-owned businesses within PA.

- Support innovative technology or delivery methods to expand customer purchasing options, enable mobile or pop-up farmers markets, implements mobile EBT reader technology, or increase direct to consumer sales.

Funding limits:

- Grocery Store - up to \$500,000
- Food Enterprise - up to \$100,000

Application Requirements:

Name, business address and contact information.

Narrative explaining how the applicant is an eligible applicant.

The details of the project or equipment purchase for which reimbursement grant money is sought, including the following:

- A project budget.
- A statement of the maximum amount of grant money sought for the project.
- A project implementation schedule, a construction schedule or an equipment purchase plan, as appropriate for the project or purchase with respect to which the grant is sought.
- A narrative identifying each entity that will assist in, participate in and benefit from the project.
- A project completion date, which shall be no later than June 30, 2026.
- An attestation signed by the applicant, verifying the accuracy of the information presented on the application.

Additional information may be obtained from the Department by contacting Corinne Elliott, (717) 787-6041, corielliot@pa.gov.