



\$1.7 Million Available for NY Beginning Farmers!

New York Farm Viability Institute is pleased to announce that the **2026 NYS Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant Program (BFCG)** is launching on **March 16, 2026**. The BFCG is a competitive funding opportunity administered in partnership with the **New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets**. The program will provide 1.7 million to support beginning farmers in building financially sustainable, independent, commercial agricultural enterprises throughout New York State.

What can be funded?

- Start-up, improvement or expansion of farm operations
- Purchase of land, machinery, equipment, or livestock
- Construction or improvement of structures
- Marketing initiatives
- Worker or apprenticeship training
- Other business needs tied to financial impact

Who is eligible?

NY Beginning farmers with 10 years or less of farm operation experience and who will materially and substantially participate in operating a farm in New York State.

Funding Information

Application Period: **March 16 – June 14, 2026**
Total Funding Available: **\$1,700,000**
Track 1 Grant Award Range: **\$5,000 - \$49,999**
Track 2 Grant Award Range: **\$50,000 - \$200,000**
Required Match: **5%**

Information Sessions

Friday, March 20 (12:00pm-1:00pm)
Thursday, March 26 (5:00pm-6:00pm)
Tuesday, April 7 (5:30pm-6:30pm)

All applicants must demonstrate the potential for the project to grow the business and improve financial sustainability. Please visit our website for the RFP and tips on how to create a strong application.

Learn more at www.nyfvi.org