Small Farm Sustainability Stipend

Wisconsin Farmers Union

This application asks questions about your farm, demographic information, and how the funding would be used. You can receive up to $2,000 to make an improvement to your farm. This can help you buy equipment, seeds, cover the costs of labor or assistance, and help you learn how to make your farm more sustainable.

Wisconsin Farmers Union Membership

Are you a member of the Wisconsin Farmers Union? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know

If you are not a member, you will need to join in order to receive funding. Do you need assistance in covering the $30 membership fee?

☐ Yes, I would like to receive a membership scholarship ☐ No, I will pay for membership myself

Contact Information

Name: _____ Farm name: _____

Mailing address: _____ Farm address: _____
(*if different*)

_____ _____

County: _____ Preferred Contact: ☐ Call ☐ Text ☐ Email

Phone: _____ Preferred Language: _____

Email: _____

Farm Description

Farm Size - Please describe how big your farm is either in acres or square feet: _____

What does your farm produce?

- ☐ **Dairy**
- ☐ **Eggs**
- ☐ **Flowers or Herbs**
- ☐ **Fruit**
- ☐ **Hay**
- ☐ **Honey**
- ☐ **Large grains (e.g., corn)**
- ☐ **Maple Syrup**
- ☐ **Meat (e.g., beef, poultry)**
- ☐ **Nuts**
- ☐ **Small Grains (e.g., wheat)**
- ☐ **Vegetables**
- ☐ **Other** _____

Please describe any current sustainability practices. How does your farm's mission or practices care for ecosystems, conserve resources, or seek healthy communities? Examples might include certifications, products, location, growing methods, social structures, or educational opportunities.

_____

_____

_____

_____

My Demographic Information

What is your role on the farm?

- ☐ Sole owner/operator
- ☐ Joint owner/operator
- ☐ Intern/apprentice
- ☐ Member-owner of cooperative farm
- ☐ Farm worker
- ☐ Other: _____

Years of Professional Farming: ☐ 0 - 2 ☐ 3 - 5 ☐ 6 - 9 ☐ 10+

Is your total household income LESS than $50,000 per year? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know

Veteran Status: ☐ Active Duty Military or Military Veteran ☐ Not a Veteran

Age: ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-40 ☐ 41-60 ☐ 61+

Gender: _____

Race:

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White

Ethnicity

- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Is there anything else about you that you think makes you a good candidate for funding aimed at supporting diverse farms?

_____

_____

How You Plan to Use the Money

Please let us know what updates you'd like to make to your farm. Funds can be used towards anything that would enhance your farm and help you be a good steward of the land and local community.

What change would you make to the farm?

_____

_____

_____

How would this improve your farm's sustainability? Our definition of farm sustainability is the ability of the farm to sustain itself economically *and* to protect local natural resources.

_____

_____

_____

How much money do you need for this project? _____

How are you planning to gain education for this project? (examples: workshops, field days, or training to help you with this project? If so what? Are there other resources you'll use to learn about making this project a success?

_____

_____

_____

Additional Information

(This will not affect decision making during application review)

What *influenced* your decision to pursue this change on your farm? (examples: other farm friends or neighbors, reading/listening/watching content, etc.)

_____

_____

Do you have a plan to seek *technical assistance* for this project? If so, where? (farm mentor, county office staff, USDA staff, sustainability-focused organizations, etc.)

_____

_____

I may need help implementing this project ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know

Are you connected to any farm/food groups or networks already?

_____

_____

Please share where you learned about this stipend or who encouraged you:

_____

_____

Thank You!

Thank you for completing this application! Our review committee will consider applications each quarter and you will be notified within 30 days of the deadline closest to receipt of your application.

Application due dates:
November 1st, 2025
February 1st, 2026
May 1st, 2026
August 1st, 2026

Please note - if awarded this stipend, you will be required to fill out paperwork agreeing to **share your project story,** as well as provide proof that you performed the planned project.

<u>To submit this application, mail to:</u>
Wisconsin Farmers Union
128 W River St., Suite 201, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
or email **elenninger@wisconsinfarmersunion.com**