

Application Assistance for Projects that Support Underserved Entities in Critical Conservation Areas

NRCS will offer assistance with completing proposal applications for projects that support underserved entities representing agricultural producers and communities in critical conservation areas (CCA), to address priority resource concerns identified by the Secretary. The purpose of this assistance is to increase the number of eligible partners in critical conservation areas applying for RCPP.

This service can help applicants improve their RCPP proposal, including help with:

1. Projects Details
2. Capability to Perform Technical Assistance
3. Executive Summary (Project Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes)
4. Partner & Contributions
5. Funding Request
6. Project Area delineation
7. Narratives

How to Get Assistance

Applicants should use the [RCPP Notice of Funding Opportunity Proposal Support Questionnaire](#) to submit an application. When submitting the application, please use “RCPP Proposal Support Request” in the email subject line. Applications for proposal assistance will be accepted until May 18, 2024. Email RCPP@usda.gov for more information.

Eligibility

This service is available to the following:

A. Community-based organization, network, or coalition of community-based organizations that (i) has demonstrated experience in providing agricultural education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and veteran farmers or ranchers; (ii) has provided to the [Secretary](#) documentary evidence of work with, and on behalf of, socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers and veteran farmers or ranchers during the 3-year period preceding the submission of an application for assistance under this subsection; and (iii) does not engage in activities prohibited under U.S. Code, Title 26, Section 501 (c) (3). ([section 501\(c\)\(3\) of title 26](#))

B. 1890 institution or 1994 institution, including West Virginia State College,

C. Indian tribal community college or an Alaska Native cooperative college,

D. Hispanic-Serving Institutions, any other institution of higher education that has demonstrated experience in providing agriculture education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a region,

E. Indian Tribe or a national tribal organization that has demonstrated experience in providing agriculture education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in a region,

F. Organization or institution that received funding under subsection (a) before January 1, 1996, but only with respect to projects that the Secretary considers are similar to projects previously carried out by the organization or institution under such subsection.