



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

July 28, 2021

ADDENDUM 2

TO: Applicants
FROM: Michelle Faircloth, Purchasing Director
RE: **Notice of Federal Financial Assistance
Funding Opportunity Number 21-DE-FOA-0000052-C**

This addendum is to provide all potential applicants with answers to questions received in reference to the above notice of funding opportunity.

Question / Answer

1. I'm writing an article for the Florida Food Policy Council and was wondering if you could tell me if the Florida Urban and Community Farming Pilot Program Grants through the Department of Agriculture Office of Energy were directly related to CS/SB 628: Urban Agriculture.

I assume that the grants followed from the bill passing, is this correct? Could you tell me anymore about the relationship between the two? Could you please explain the match requirement for the Florida Urban and Community?

The Specific Authorities for the Florida Urban and Community Farming Pilot Program are the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended (42 USC Subsection 6321), the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law III-5), 10 CFR 420, State Energy Program (SEP), and Section 377.703 (2)(b), Florida Statutes. The objectives of this program are tied to reducing the energy costs of food production, reducing CO₂ and the production of nutritious food, and identifying ways to grow fresh produce locally in urban and community farms for the benefit of those experiencing food insecurity.

The Urban Agriculture Pilot Project Act referenced in CS/SB 628 authorizes local governments to create urban agriculture pilot projects to determine their effectiveness and impact on the farming operations in the selected dense urbanized land areas of the state. While the two programs focus of urban farming, the Florida Urban and Community Farming Pilot Program is not directly related or funded from the bill.

2. I just purchased several acres of untouched agricultural land in south west Florida (sugarcane district) and would like to know how I can benefit from this Grant with use of my Property.

As provided in Section III. Eligibility Information of the Notice, qualified applications must come from local governments, Florida School Boards, and community-based non-profit organizations which offer community gardening and/or food pantry programs. The property may serve as a potential “community farm” as defined under the Notice and/or be used as cost share by an eligible applicant.

3. My background is social work. Can you please tell me if the Farming Pilot grant Program may of interest to me in regards to social work and case management?

The Florida Urban and Community Farming Pilot Program may be of interest to you as a social worker because it is targeted toward a population and community you may be working with such as, low income, communities with high levels of unemployment and inadequate access to transportation, or communities with a low number of food retailers providing fresh produce at affordable prices. According to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), urban farming has the potential to provide residents in a food desert with fruits and vegetables so they may enjoy a healthier diet and lifestyle. While the Department cannot recommend projects, as a social worker, you may consider how you can work with an applicant to meet one of the objectives of the Program.

All other terms, conditions and specifications of this Notice of Federal Financial Assistance will remain the same. If you have any questions regarding this addendum, please feel free to contact us at Bids@FDACS.gov.