Graduate Student Grant

- **Open** February / **Due** May / **Awarded** August
- **Amount** $22,000 for 2 years
- Intended for <u>Master's and PhD students</u> to conduct sustainable agriculture research projects and to work together with other scientists, educators, and farmers to test sustainable ag theories in real-world, on-farm situations.

Research and Education Grant

- **Open** March / **Due** June / **Awarded** February
- **Amount** $400,000 for 3 years
- Competitive research grants for <u>teams of interdisciplinary researchers</u> that encourage a systems approach in sustainable agriculture.
    - Topics: Production/Postharvest/Food Systems Research
    - Priority Areas: Minority and limited resource farmers; organic farming systems; environmentally sound practices/agriculture ecosystems; marketing/economic development; policy, project evaluation and quality of life; and women in sustainable agriculture.

Education Grant

- **Open** May / **Due** August / **Awarded** February
- **Amount:** $50,000 for 2 years
- Education Grants are open to <u>academic institutions and organizations, such as non-profits and non-governmental organizations</u>, who are interested in conducting education and outreach activities for the benefit of the greater sustainable ag community, and promote efforts in farmer innovations, community resilience, business success, agricultural diversification, and best management practices. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and 1890 land-grant university faculty/extension cooperators are especially encouraged to apply.

Professional Development Grant

- **Open** July / **Due** August / **Awarded** February
- **Amount** There is no funding cap for projects. Priority is given to those less than $80,000. For 1 or 2 years.
- Known as train-the-trainer grants, Professional Development Grants are available to help further education and outreach strategies <u>for ag professionals and ag educators</u> who work directly with farmers and ranchers.

Producer Grant

- **Open** September / **Due** December / **Awarded** March
- **Amount** $20,000 (individual)-25,000 (farmer organization) 2 years
- The competitive research grants program is intended to help <u>farmers and ranchers</u> develop sustainable production and marketing practices. The goal of the grant program is for farmers/ranchers to conduct projects to solve challenges and problems they face, and develop information on what works and doesn't work so that other farmers and ranchers facing those same problems can benefit from the results of the funded project.

On-Farm Research Grant

- **Open** September / **Due** November / **Awarded** March
- **Amount** $30,000 2 years
- <u>Agricultural professionals who currently and regularly work with farmers and ranchers are eligible to apply for On-Farm Research Grants</u>. These can be extension specialists; university researchers; government agencies, such as NRCS; NGOs; community organizations; or other groups or individuals, such as ag consultants. **On-Farm Research Grants are not open to farmers.**

Additional Information

- **This is a reimbursement grant**. Farmers must pay for materials up front and will be paid back as they submit invoices.

- **Farmer must have $1000 in documented income** from farm to qualify for the grant.

- **SARE will fund any size farm** and a farmer with any length of time farming.

- **SARE Grants cannot be used to start a farm.** SARE grants are intended for projects involving research and education only, not to defray the costs associated with starting a farm.

Allowable expenses: SARE will fund labor, materials, travel, outreach, refreshments, miscellaneous items.

Non-allowable expenses: SARE will not "pay a farmer to farm." SARE funding cannot be used to make large purchases for land, equipment or capital investment) or for full meals.

Tip: Make sure the budget reflects the size of the project (not too much of any amount, i.e. do not order more seed than the size of the test area).

For more information, contact Virginia SARE State Program Assistants:

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