

RFA0184 - New York State Grown & Certified Marketing Program for Agricultural Producers

RFA0185 - New York State Grown & Certified Marketing Program for Retail Participants

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 1) Under 3.3 #2 - We have no employees - thus no worker's comp. Is that a problem?**
 - a. If you are not required to maintain Workers Compensation Insurance you will need fill out a CE-200 (Exemption/Waiver) per the instructions at the bottom of the attached document. The link to the actual form is here:
http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/ebiz/wc_db_exemptions/wc_db_exemptions.jsp

- 2) 3.3 #4 - I don't wish to open all my books, if they just need to see items listed in 3.2 Reimbursement for Expenses.**
 - a. Section 8 of the State Finance Law authorizes the State Comptroller to inspect a State contractor's books, records, documents, accounts and other evidence directly pertinent to performance under State contract.

- 3) What is meant by performance of project?**
 - a. a. Performance of the project means carrying out the work under the State contract.

- 4) I would like to revise by brochures, adding the NYS grown & Certified logos to it. I would put the small stickers on my labels/packageing. Would this be applicable to the Grant?**
 - a. In the application, please indicate where the brochures would be distributed. Adding stickers to packaging is very applicable to the grant.

- 5) If my costs are over \$5,000 should I put the full cost of the project or just the \$5,000?**
 - a. All actual project costs should be detailed in the Proposed Workplan and Budget section of the application. The total project cost line may exceed \$5,000.00, but the Requested Funding line may not exceed \$5,000.00.

- 6) Would the grant pay for clothing, such as jackets with the farm name and the G&C seal?**
 - a. No, clothing with the Grown & Certified Seal is not eligible for funding. Grant funds may only be used for "consumer facing packaging and point of sale materials."

- 7) Can I apply as a honey producer even though honey isn't part of the program yet?**
 - a. No, only NYS Grown & Certified producers can apply. Honey is not yet a commodity included in the program.

- 8) Are you able to advance any of the grant money?**
 - a. No, advances of grant money are not available to for-profit businesses.

- 9) Our farm is divided into two separate businesses, can both apply separately?**
 - a. Yes, if each business has a separate Tax ID Number.

- 10) Could we buy boxes for our vegetables with the funds?**
 - a. Boxes will be considered for funding, but must have the Grown & Certified seal imprinted on them. Box labels will be considered a more cost effective item for funding.

- 11) Can the grant money go towards a piece of equipment that would help us efficiently apply the NYS G&C stickers to our existing packaging?**
- Yes, but be sure to include details in your workplan and budget about the equipment as well as the full purchase price beyond what the grant will cover.
- 12) We're Grown and Certified for Maple. Can we now apply for our New York State Farm winery?**
- Yes, applications for Farm Wineries to join the Grown and Certified program are available on the website certified.ny.gov
- 13) I wanted to know if it is possible to apply for this program even if I may be getting a federal USDA grant.**
- Yes, you may apply for this grant if you are receiving Federal grant funds. There are no restrictions regarding applying for funding if you are receiving Federal funding.
- 14) I was a part of the program last year. Do I need to reapply?**
- No, you do not need to reapply for the Grown & Certified Program. You may need to periodically update necessary documentation, depending on what commodity you are certified for.
- 15) We don't have to apply every season do we?**
- No, you do not need to reapply for the Grown & Certified Program. You may need to periodically update necessary documentation, depending on what commodity you are certified for.
- 16) Are these grant funds solely for expenditures in the Capital Region & Hudson Valley? No Ny Metro area or Long Island?**
- No. Funds may be used all over the state.
- 17) The paperwork indicated one must have workman's compensation. For a sole proprietorship, LLC with business insurance, my understanding is that the Jones Act covers aquaculture farming, not workman's comp. Can you please clarify?**
- If you are not required to maintain Workers Compensation Insurance you will need fill out a CE-200 (Exemption/Waiver) per the instructions at the bottom of the attached document. The link to the actual form is here:
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- 18) Do you have an idea of an updated deadline? We're working on this as fast as possible but have to get several people involved in the paperwork, and a few would like to know the constraints.**
- The deadline will not be extended, but additional rounds of funding may be announced through the Contract Reporter and website.
- 19) Also, we've noticed a request for hand-delivery in Albany. Is there any wiggle room here – either mail, fax, email, etc?**
- Applications may be submitted by mail or hand delivered; original signatures are required.