



2019 Mobile Markets Grant Program

Questions & Answers

- Q: Is there a reason this opportunity is only available in Brooklyn? We could certainly use support here in our region of the State.**
- A: The Mobile Markets grant program is part of Governor Cuomo’s Vital Brooklyn Initiative, therefore the Program is limited to the Central Brooklyn neighborhoods outlined on page 3, section 2.3 Eligible Projects of the RFP.
- Q: We saw that the mobile markets grant is open again – are we eligible to apply? We received a grant in the first round.**
- A: As cited on page 3, section 2.2 Ineligible Applicants of the RFP, Awardees from 2018 are not eligible to apply in this round of funding.
- Q: How many organizations is the Department of Agriculture & Markets planning to award with the 2019 Mobile Markets program?**
- A: As noted on page 2, section 1.2 “Funding Available” of the RFP, there is a total of \$500,000 available for the Mobile Markets Grant Program. The maximum grants award per project is \$150,000. Also noted on page 7, section 5 “Award Process” of the RFP, “... proposals deemed eligible by the Department will be evaluated by a Department panel according to the funding criteria; scores will be averaged and ranked in order from highest to lowest. Those proposals receiving the highest numerical scores above the threshold score (55), continuing until available funds are exhausted, or until all proposals are funded, whichever occurs first, will be funded.”
- Q: I am inquiring about the 2019 Mobile Market Grant – how do I go about applying for it?**
- A: You can access the Request for Proposals (RFP), and the accompanying guidance document on the Department’s website here: <https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/RFPS.html>. The RFP will give you details about the program itself, and the RFP and the guidance document will give you information on how to become registered in Grants Gateway. All applicants must apply for this grant through the State’s grants management program – Grants Gateway.

Q: We are a non-profit organization in Brooklyn serving the community with social-economic and cultural needs. We would be very grateful if you could enlarge on the opportunity – for example, is this only a one-year offer, what restrictions, if any, with regard to the fresh food being delivered, etc.

A: The 2019 Mobile Markets Grant Program has identified funding for this year only. While we are always hopeful funding will continue, we cannot guarantee that at this time that it will be funded after this year. Should you apply for and be awarded funding under this program, the project duration is 18 months from the contract start date.

Please refer to page 3 of the RFP, under section 2.4 and 2.5 for a description of eligible costs and ineligible costs. There is not one single model of a mobile market we are strictly conforming to, but all elements of the project should fit with eligible costs and overall program priorities as outlined in the RFP.

Q: Since current awardees were chosen via competitive bid process in recognition of effective program design, and given the ongoing need for sustainable, proven community solutions that are currently working to serve Central Brooklyn, as well as the Department and awardee investment in development of programming and partnerships for the 2018 grant cycle, is there opportunity for the Department to consider applications from 2018 awardees?

A: As stated in the RFP on page 3, section 2.2 “Ineligible Applicants,” awardees from 2018 are not eligible to apply in this round of funding.

Q: Organizations rely on continued investment for programmatic sustainability. As we leverage partnerships to execute a comprehensive sustainability plan, will the Department consider future applications from past awardees?

A: The Department does not know at this time whether the program will have future rounds of funding.

Q: Are there any specific minimum levels of service in the target communities we should anticipate for this grant program? And please confirm, does each community need to be served equally?

A: There is no set minimum level of service however, applications will be rated according to how well they plan to serve Central Brooklyn, as defined in the RFP on page 3, section 2.3 “Eligible Projects.”

Q: Are there different expectations for providers of free emergency food versus affordable locally sourced food markets?

A: No, both projects are being evaluated according to the same criteria outlined in the RFP on page 5, section 4.1 “Evaluation Factors.”

Q: Are there expectations for naming/recognition on capital purchases paid for through this grant?

A: The RFP does not require recognition of grant funding for capital purchases.