

#### Introduction

# **Growing Equity Funding Urban Agriculture in San Diego County**



Request for Funding Proposals
Opens February 3, 2025
Closes March 10, 2025 9pm PST

<u>Growing Equity</u> aims to promote community food sovereignty and health equity through urban agriculture. We will award a total of \$250,000 in 2025 to urban farmers in San Diego County, prioritizing <u>socially disadvantaged farmers</u> and work being done in <u>California Climate Investment Priority Population</u> communities.

### **Program Objectives**

- Promote community food sovereignty and health equity through urban agriculture.
- Increase equitable access to public funding for local urban agriculture.
- Invest in California Climate Priority Population communities through urban agriculture.
- Organize and amplify urban farmers as agents of change, land stewards, and community leaders.

### **Eligibility**

- Project site is within 25 miles of an "Urbanized Area" containing a population of 50,000 or more people within San Diego County. Cities in San Diego County that are 50,000+ include: San Diego, National City, Escondido, Encinitas, Chula Vista, Oceanside, San Marcos, Santee, Carlsbad, Vista, El Cajon, and La Mesa. \*Please note: Indigenous and Tribal organization applicants are exempt from the requirement to be in an "urbanized area" and can be located anywhere in San Diego County.
- Project site must be located in or directly serve a California Climate
   Investments Priority Population area. All areas <u>EXCEPT</u> for the light grey
   color are eligible. Must also still meet urban geographic eligibility described
   above.
- Eligible entities: Non-profit organizations, for-profit farms and agriculturerelated businesses, and Tribal organizations. Individuals without a business or non-profit entity are <u>not</u> eligible to apply. Fiscal sponsorship is allowed.
- Farms/organizations that received an <u>Urban Agriculture Track 2 Practitioner</u> <u>award</u> from the California Department of Food & Agriculture are <u>not</u> eligible to apply.

### **Funding Structure**

- We will grant 10 awards of \$10,000 each and 3 awards of \$50,000 each.
- You may apply for both levels but we advise applying for \$50,000 only if you have an established growing operation (5+ years) and land security.
- Funding can be used for
  - Infrastructure
  - Technical assistance
  - Community engagement & education
  - Supplies
  - Equipment (must inventory all equipment over \$5,000 value & financing of equipment is not allowed)
  - See <u>CDFA guidelines</u> for more information on allowable costs.

#### **Timeline**

- Applications are due Monday March 10, 2025 9pm PST.
- The anticipated grant period is one year, starting Summer 2025 and ending Summer 2026.

### **Funding Priorities**

- 100% of awards will fund projects located in or directly serving California Climate Investments Priority Populations.
- Minimum of 1 award set aside for eligible Indigenous and/or Tribal organization.
- Projects in alignment and support of the San Diego County Food Vision 2030 goals and objectives.
- Projects demonstrating capacity, experience, and impact. New projects will be considered, however we intend for this program to invest in urban

agriculture viability in the region.

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Do you need application	assistance in Spanish or another language?
¿Necesita asistencia con	la solicitud en español u otro idioma?

No	
es, Spanish (Sí, Español)	
es, another language. Please specify below.	

## **Applicant Information**

# **Applicant Information**

First and last name

referred pr	onouns? (select all that apply)
She/her	
He/him	
They/them	
Other - please	specify:
/hat is you	race or ethnicity? <i>(select all that apply)</i>
/hat is your	race or ethnicity? (select all that apply)
Asian / Asian A	
Asian / Asian / Black / African	American / African American
Asian / Asian / Black / African Native Americ	American
Asian / Asian A Black / African Native Americ Hispanic / Lati	American / African American an / Indigenous
Asian / Asian / Black / African Native Americ Hispanic / Lati Middle Easter	American  / African American  an / Indigenous  nx / Latin American
Asian / Asian / Black / African Native Americ Hispanic / Lati Middle Easter	American  / African American  an / Indigenous  nx / Latin American  n / North African  an / Pacific Islander

asexual)?
Yes
No San Carrier Hard
Prefer not to disclose
Would you consider yourself or your organization/business a "beginning farmer or beginning farm/garden"?
This means you have less than 5 years of experience in agriculture.
Vac
Yes No
NO
Email
Phone number
THORE HUMBEL

Do you identify as LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex,

Communication method preference (select all you prefer)
Email Phone Call Text message
Name of farm/organization/business
Address of project site (street, city, zip code)
If you propose to use funds to support multiple project sites, please list your primary address site location and/or the one that meets eligibility requirements for geographic location and priority community.
Street:
City:

Zip Code:
Mailing address (if different than project site)
Street:
City:
Zip Code:

Website and/or social media handles (if applicable)

Name of proposed project		

## **Eligibility Requirements**

# **Eligibility Requirements**

What type of agricultural entity are you applying for?

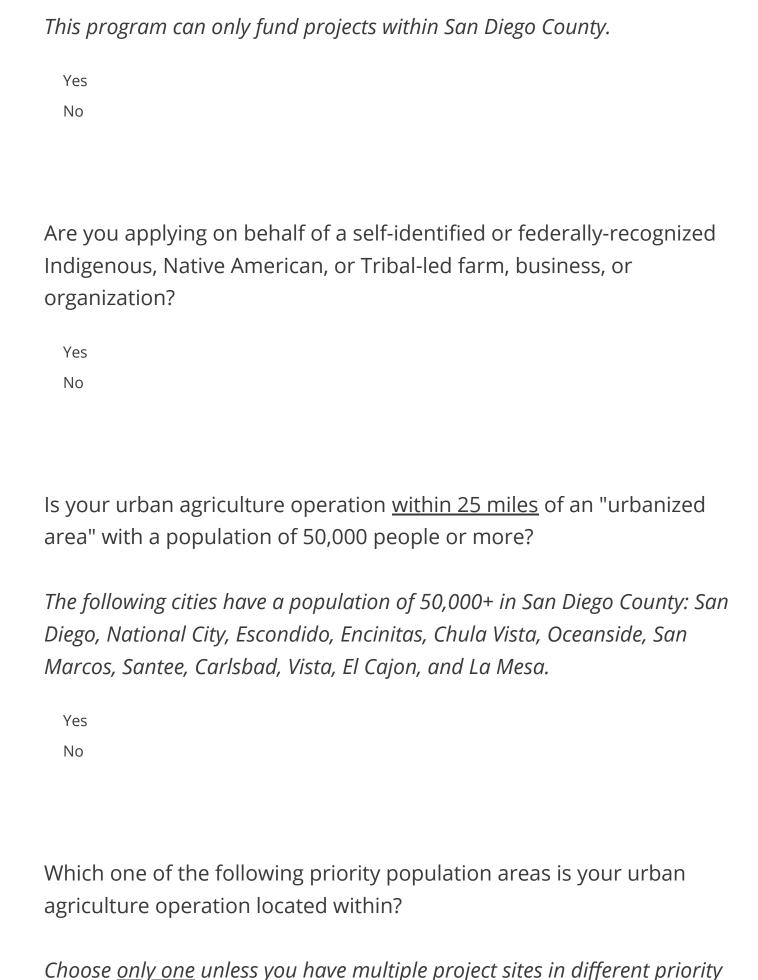
Eligible entities are listed below.

Non-profit organization

For-profit business/farm

Tribal organization

Is your urban agriculture operation located in San Diego County?



population areas.

Tip: Open a new browser tab to visit the <u>California Climate Investments</u> <u>Priority Populations</u> map. Type in your project site address in the map's search field to determine which population area it is in. All areas <u>except</u> the light grey color are eligible.

Low-income community

Disadvantaged Community: CES

Disadvantaged Community: Tribal Land

Disadvantaged Community: CES, Disadvantaged community: Tribal land, Low-

income community

Disadvantaged Community: CES, Low-income community

Disadvantaged Community: Tribal land, Low-income community

DAC 1/2 mile neighbor: low-income community

DAC 1/2 mile neighbor: low-income household eligible

None of the above

Which of the following communities within the <u>California Climate</u> <u>Investments Priority Populations</u> does your urban agriculture operation primarily serve? Check all that apply.

Low Income Community

Disadvantaged Community: CES

Disadvantaged Community: Tribal Land

Disadvantaged Community: CES, Disadvantaged community: Tribal land, Low-

income community

Disadvantaged Community: CES, Low-income community

Disadvantaged Community: Tribal land, Low-income community

DAC 1/2 mile neighbor: low-income community

DAC 1/2 mile neighbor: low-income household eligible None of the Above

Please describe how your urban agriculture operation serves the above indicated priority population(s) you selected. Please limit response to 250 words.

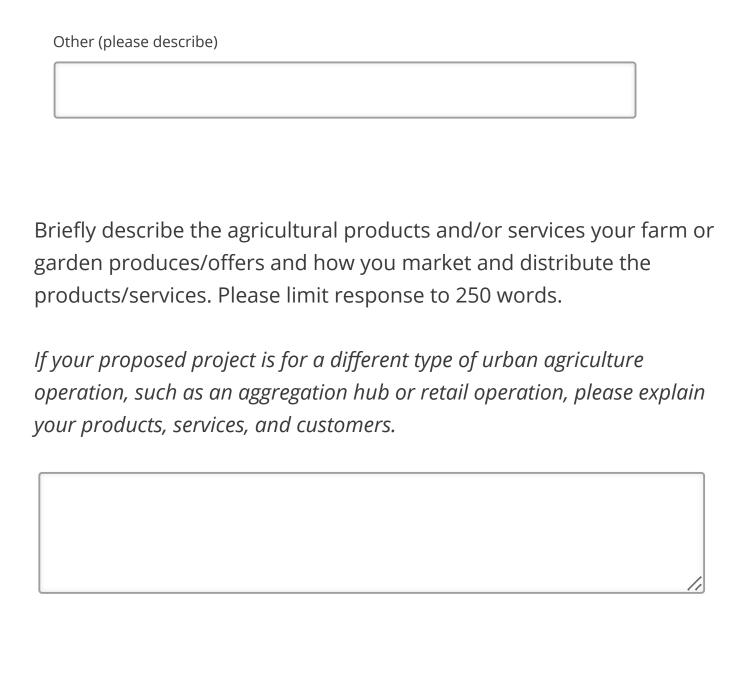
Example: "We operate a CSA and deliver to customers in a Disadvantage					
C	ommunity: Tribal Land".				
		Z			

### **Urban Agriculture Operation Information**

What type of land/space are you growing on and/or conducting other urban agriculture activities? Please describe your land/space agreement? Please limit response to 250 words.

For example, please tell us if you own or lease land, if you have a written lease and the length of the lease. What type of location is it (e.g. private residence, school, ag-zoned land, etc.)? We do not need to know who you lease from or the cost of your lease but we are interested to know if your urban agriculture operation happens on private or publicly-owned land. If

you intend to use these funds to support multiple growing spaces, please
explain each one.
Places describe any current or anticipated challenges to securing or
Please describe any current or anticipated challenges to securing or
maintaining land/space for your urban agriculture operation. Please
limit response to 250 words.
How many years has your urban agriculture site been in operation?
This is referring to the site where your proposed project will take place.
0-2 years
3-5 years
6-10 years
10+ years



Please describe the communities and specific populations your urban agriculture operation serves and estimate the number of people served either monthly or yearly. Please limit response to 250 words.

You might think of this as your "customer or client base" for your products/services.

Example: "We offer garden education and job training to at-risk youth

roject Info	ormation	, Goals, a	nd Outc	omes		
Proj Out	ect l	nforr es	nati	on, (	Goals	s, and
This section	on of the a	application	will be so	ored.		
urban ag	riculture (	nort summ operation. ate? Please	What ex	ists now	and what	

Which program goals will your project accomplish? Select all that apply.

Must accomplish at least 1 goal for \$10,000 eligibility and at least two goals for \$50,000 eligibility.

Build social capital and gather communities: Demonstrate community engagement practices.

Provide education and skills development: Provide employment development opportunities, especially youth employment and development opportunities.

Supplement access to fresh Food: Support the viability of urban food cultivation, processing, or distribution.

Cultivate agricultural literacy: Provide educational opportunities as it relates to growing or consuming locally grown seasonal produce.

Perform ccosystem services: Provide urban greening, habitat restoration and environmentally beneficial services such as but not limited to planting hedgerows, native plant gardens or food forests. Help mitigate climate risks.

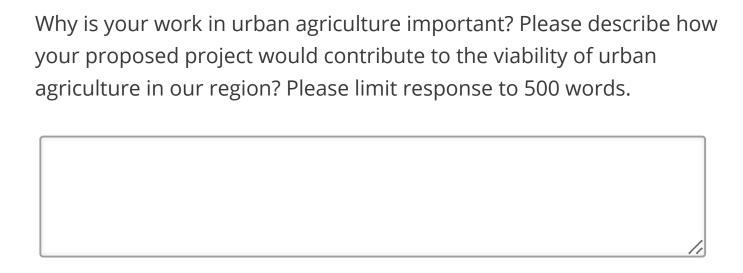
Support economic development: Create new market opportunities and spur entrepreneurial activity.

Increase food sovereignty: Create or support spaces for community members to provide themselves with healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods.

Pilot an innovation in production: Such as but not limited to mushroom propagation, aquaponics, aeroponics, hydroponics, rooftop gardens, or warehouse farms.

Use this <u>workplan template</u> to briefly describe how you will achieve the above indicated goals. Bullet points preferred. Upload here when complete.

Tip: Open a new browser tab to download the workplan template (word doc).



Please indicate which <u>San Diego County Food Vision 2030</u> objectives your project is aligned with and supports? *Select all that apply.* 

Tip: Open a new browser tab to view the Food Vision.

Objective 1: Preserve Agricultural Land and Soils, and Commit to Long-term Food Production

Objective 2: Increase the Viability of Local Farms, Fisheries, and Food Businesses

Objective 3: Scale Up Local, Sustainable, and Equitable Food Value Chains

Objective 4: Expand and Improve Career Opportunities Within the Food System

Objective 5: Expand Integrated Nutrition and Food Security

Objective 6: Improve Community Food Environments

Objective 7: Scale Up Food Waste Prevention, Recovery, and Recycling Initiatives

Objective 8: Increase BIPOC Leadership Across the Food System

Objective 9: Build a Movement that Uplifts a Local, Sustainable, and Equitable Food System

Objective 10: Plan for a Resilient Food System

Please briefly explain how your proposed project supports the Food Vision 2030 objectives you indicated above. Please limit response to 500 words. Bullet points encouraged.

kample: Objective 1: Preserve ag land and soil by implementing clima	te
mart ag practices like no till, compost application, and pollinator	
lanting.	
	/

## **Budget and Allowable Costs**

# **Budget and Allowable Costs**

Please indicate how you intend to use funds if awarded. This list represents allowable cost categories. Select all that apply.

Tip: Open a new browser tab to view more details on allowable costs.

Infrastructure

Technical assistance

Workforce development

Community engagement and education

Supplies

Equipment \*must inventory equipment \$5,000+

Please download and complete this **budget template**. Instructions: Use Sheet 1 if applying for a \$10,000 award. Use Sheet 2 if applying for a \$50,000 award. You may complete both sheets if you wish to apply for both amounts. We will only grant one level of award.

You may include indirect costs (IDC) in your budget up to 30%. Indirect costs are costs incurred for common or joint objectives that cannot be identified specifically with a particular project, program, or organizational activity. Typical indirect costs include but are not limited to rent, utilities and internet service, telephone service, general office supplies, and insurance.

Tip: Open a new browser tab to download the budget template (excel).

### **Timeline**

### Please review the anticipated timeline:

• Application due: Monday March 10th 9pm PST

- Awards announced: May 2025
- Contract development period: June August 2025
- Funds available for disbursement: Aug/Sept 2025
- Technical assistance, public engagement, and evaluation activities:
   Sept 2025 July 2026
- Final project invoices and report due: August 31st, 2026

Please note: UC San Diego uses <u>PaymentWorks</u>, a self-service online payee management tool to conduct business. If notified of a grant award, you will be invited to register for this system and we request a timely response to initiate the contracting process.

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