



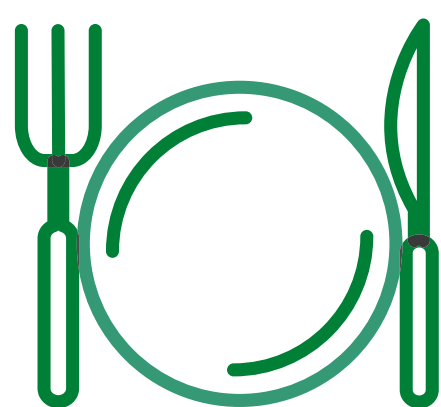
ARKANSAS FarmtoSchool

Farm to School Grants

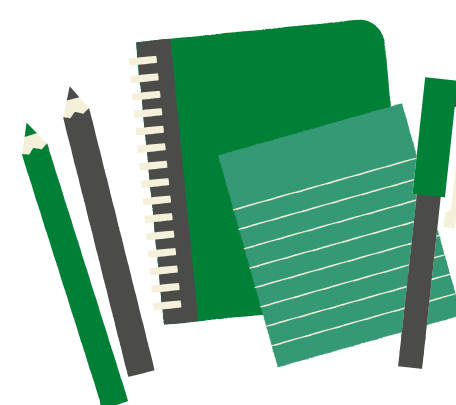
The grants opportunities listed below may help you start or expand farm to school efforts, such as gardens, local food procurement, food-based education, and more, at your school, early childhood education facility, or alternative learning environment. The grants are organized by the season in which the application is due, and the typical grant application timeline is provided, if known. Arkansas-specific grants are listed with a ☆ by the name of the grant. Grants vary in amount and intended focus; this handout categorizes the grants based on the most relevant farm to school focus area, as depicted by the symbols below:



School Gardens



Local Procurement



Education

For additional help and support, you may contact Cecilia Trotter, State School Garden Manager, at the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, cecilia.trotter@agriculture.arkansas.gov, (501) 295-8856.

FALL

☆**Arkansas Environmental Education Association (AEEA) Mini-Grant**

AEEA's Environmental Education Mini-Grant Program is designed to support, enhance, and expand the implementation of environmental education throughout the state of Arkansas by classroom teachers and non-formal educators and organizers. AEEA funds projects that include, but are not limited to, direct hands-on education programs, educator professional development, and community engagement events. NOTE: Applicants or their organization must be a current member of the AEEA.

Opens: September
Closes: October



Amount: Up to \$500

Teaching Gardens Network Grant Program

The American Heart Association funds schools and educational facilities that are working to connect children to gardens, supporting health, nutrition, and environmental stewardship. Through this grant program, they hope to build strong communities committed to growing healthy kids. Both new and established school garden programs are encouraged to apply.

Opens: Fall



Amount: \$2,500

☆Arkansas School Garden Grant Program

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture's school garden grant program was established to help public and private K-12 schools, early childhood education facilities, and alternative learning environments start or expand school gardens. The grant program was developed with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program to increase production of specialty crops in school gardens. Funds can be used to purchase soil, specialty crop seeds and plants, and gardening equipment to support their school garden.

Opens: Fall



Amount: \$500

☆Shade Trees on Playgrounds (STOP)

The Shade Trees on Playgrounds program is sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture Forestry Division's Urban & Community Forestry program. Applicants may be any K-12 school, or a non-traditional educational facility, such as a juvenile detention center, residential child care institution, or long-term care facility, that has a playground in need of shaded areas.

**Opens: September
Closes: October**



Amount: 5 Large Wood Trees

☆Arkansas Taste Test Grant Program

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture's taste test grant program was established to help public and private K-12 schools, early childhood education facilities, and alternative learning environments lead taste tests of locally grown food. The grant program was developed using funding from the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program to increase production and consumption of specialty crops in schools.. Funds can be used to purchase kitchen equipment and utensils, serving materials, and specialty crop seeds and plants to support taste tests.

Opens: Fall



Amount: \$500

GroMoreGood Garden Grants

In collaboration with the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation, the National Head Start Association will award garden grants to supplement needs of existing garden projects and to help launch new garden or outdoor green space projects. The initiative will work with Head Start programs across the country to teach children, families, and communities how to grow their own produce. Garden grants, garden kits, educational curriculum, and garden training will be made available to all Head Start programs with the goal of creating more edible gardens for young children and their families.

Opens: Fall



Amount: \$2,500 - \$5,000

USDA Farm to School Grant

Annually, the USDA awards competitive Farm to School grants that support planning, developing, and implementing farm to school programs. The USDA's Farm to School grants are an important way to help state, regional, and local organizations as they initiate, expand, and institutionalize farm to school efforts, such as incorporating local products into school meal programs, integrating agricultural education into the classroom, and cultivating and expanding school gardens.

**Opens: October
Closes: January**



Amount: Up to \$500,000

Bee Grants

The Whole Kids Foundation and the Bee Cause Project have partnered to provide bee grants to allow for schools and nonprofit organizations to receive support for educational beehives and bee programming so students can observe bees up close and learn about the vital role these pollinators play in our food system. K-12 schools and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply to start a new or enhance an existing bee program hosting live bees on their campus. The Renewal Bee Grant Program is also available for previous grant recipients.

Opens: September
Closes: October



**Amount: up to \$1,500 or
bee hive equipment**

Budding Botanist

The Budding Botanist grant helps our youngest citizens learn about plants, explore their world, and inspire them to take care of the life they discover in their local ecosystems. Any public school, charter school, or private school serving students in grades K-12 that can demonstrate that at least 40% of their student population would qualify for free or reduced price meals is eligible to apply. Applicants must be planning a new or expanding an existing school garden program designed to teach students about environmental sustainability and the importance of biodiversity.

Opens: Fall



Amount: \$1,000

☆Game and Fish Wildlife Conservation Education Grant Program

The Arkansas Game and Fish Wildlife Conservation Education Grant Program is a partnership between the Division of Rural Services and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission that converts fine money assessed from infractions of state laws protecting Arkansas game and fish into grant funds for school conservation education programs. Any school or conservation district in Arkansas, regardless of size or population, is eligible. See website for conservation districts and available funds.

Closes: October



Amount: Varies by county

☆Cox Charities Education Grants

Applications will be considered for proposals that enhance the student experience, innovate the classroom, or assist in meeting essential classroom needs. Individual teacher applications or collaborative projects that may include multiple classrooms, grade levels or schools will be considered. Cox Charities Education Grants are open to pre-K through 12th grade public and private schools within Cox Communications Arkansas service areas.

Closes: October



Amount: Up to \$2,500

CHS Foundation Classroom Grant Program

CHS Foundation provides \$500 grants each year to K-12 teachers who have classroom projects that use agricultural concepts to teach reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and more. Eligible projects include classroom and schoolyard gardens, embryology projects, aquaculture projects, and agricultural literacy reading programs to name a few. Teachers have until June 1 the following year to complete the project and submit a final report. Only state-certified classroom teachers employed by a school district or private school teachers are eligible to apply.

Opens: August 1
Closes: September 15



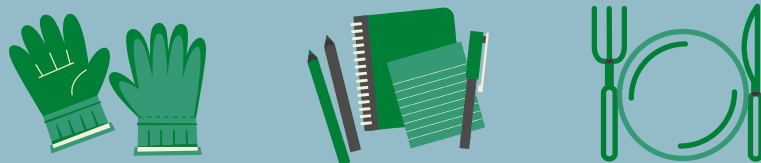
Amount: \$500

WINTER

☆**Blue & You Foundation Mini-Grant**

The Blue & You Foundation offers mini-grants that focus on food security, emergency response equipment, and health initiatives that will positively impact a school, college, or university. Grant awards are announced on March 15.

Opens: January 1
Closes: February 15



Amount: \$500 - \$2,000

☆**Arkansas Farm Bureau Outdoor Classroom Garden Mini-Grant Program**

The Outdoor Classroom Garden Mini-Grant Program is designed to show that agriculture is an integral part of our everyday environment. Farms, wildlife, forestry, people, and cities are all interrelated with agriculture. As most of Arkansas's wildlife resides on and feeds off of private property, including farms and timberlands, the gardens can demonstrate the connection between agriculture, food, fiber, conservation, wildlife, and the urban environment. Schools, FFA Chapters, and 4-H Clubs with a minimum of 100 students for average daily attendance are eligible to apply.

Opens: November 1
Closes: February 15



Amount: Up to \$500

GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant

The GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant presented by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and KidsGardening is designed to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens and greenspaces to communities across the United States. Grants will be awarded to schools and nonprofit organizations across the country to start or expand their youth garden or greenspace.

Closes: February



Amount: \$500

KidsGardening Youth Garden Grant

The Youth Garden Grant supports school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities. Eligible applicants include any nonprofit organization, public or private school, or youth program in the United States or U.S. Territories planning a new garden program or expanding an established one. The garden program must serve at least 15 youth between the ages of 3 and 18. Grant packages are valued at \$1,050 and include gardening supplies, tools, and a \$250 check.

Opens: October
Closes: December

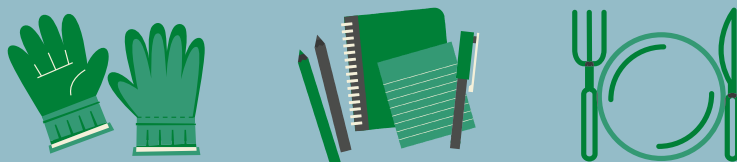


Amount: Value of \$1,050

Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Youth Grants

The Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation supports youth leaders ages 5-25 across the United States to turn their ideas into action and make an impact on the issue of childhood hunger. Grants fund youth-led community service or fundraising projects designed to address childhood hunger that take place in schools, colleges/universities, after-school programs, youth organizations, nonprofits, or faith-based organizations.

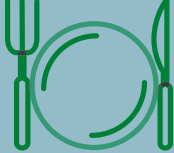
Opens: November
Closes: January



Amount: \$500

Whole Kids Foundation Get Schools Cooking Grant


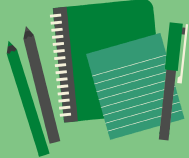
The Get Schools Cooking Grant was created to support medium-sized school districts who are eager to transform their school lunch programs from processed foods to scratch-cooked meals. The program works with selected districts through a technical assistance program that includes a workshop for food service directors, on-site assessment, and on-site assessment debrief and strategic planning, along with peer-to-peer collaboration and access to a food service program Assistance Grant. School districts in the U.S. must have at least 3,000 students. The grant is equivalent to the value of \$200,000.

Opens: Fall		Amount: Value of \$200,000
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SPRING


Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grant

Through the Garden Grant program, schools and nonprofit organizations turn outdoor spaces into powerful hands-on learning gardens that connect kids with food, spark their curiosity, and support classroom curriculum. The program provides funding to support a new or existing edible educational garden at K-12 schools and nonprofit organizations.

Opens: February Closes: March	 	Amount: Up to \$3,000
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☆**Arkansas Grown School Garden of the Year Contest**

The Arkansas Grown School Garden of the Year Contest was initiated by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Associations of Arkansas in 2014. The program provides the opportunity to promote the importance of involving young people in the process of fresh food production and cultivation. Farm Credit generously provides the funding for program award recipients.

Opens: Spring		Amount: \$500 - \$1,000
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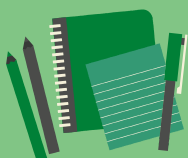
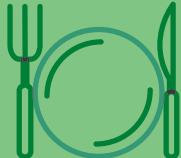
Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program

Bonnie Plants provides free mega-cabbage plants to interested 3rd grade teachers. Students grow the cabbages and submit pictures and measurements of their harvest to be considered for a \$1,000 scholarship.

Opens: March		Amount: \$1,000 Student Scholarship
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Sprouts Farmers Market Neighborhood Grant




Neighborhood Grants support organizations working at the community level, providing nutrition education and healthy food access to kids. Grants support organizations that help children develop healthy eating habits that last a lifetime. From school and community gardens to youth cooking classes, grantees provide programs that are interactive, educational, and fun! Organizations that have completed a Neighborhood Grant cycle are also invited to apply for the Healthy Communities Grant.

Opens: Spring	  	Amount: \$5,000 - \$10,000
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SUMMER


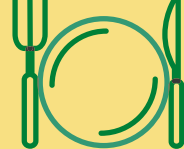
The Power of Food in School Grants

Newman’s Own Foundation, with equity and strategic support from FoodCorps, launched the Power of Food in School grant program. Grants up to \$50,000 will be offered to state and district-reaching organizations working to increase access to food education and nourishing meals in school. Funding can be used for general operations or program support.

Opens: June	  	Amount: \$10,000-\$50,000
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Action for Healthy Kids NourishEd District Partnership Grants

School district staff may apply for support for district-level policy and professional development. School district staff may also apply to receive funding for schools that support professional development. This includes support for curricula/programs, best practices and policy implementation, family-school partnerships to address food access and nutrition education, and provide a learning environment where students are healthy in body and mind. All grants include monetary and in-kind support from Action for Healthy Kids. Applications are typically due in July but will be reviewed until all funds have been awarded.

Rolling Application	 	Amount: Varies
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Little Seeds Pollinator Pals Grant


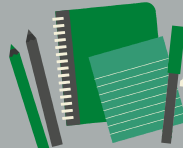
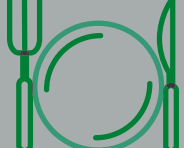
The Little Seeds Pollinator Pals Grant, brought to you by Little Seeds and KidsGardening, will award a total of 20 programs \$500 in funding to develop new or expand existing pollinator gardens. Any nonprofit organization, school district, university, government entity, or tax-exempt organization, like religious organizations and Tribal governments, in the United States and U.S. Territories serving at least 15 youths is eligible to apply. Programs must be planning a new or expanding an existing youth garden designed to teach about the importance of pollinators.

Opens: June		Amount: \$500
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YEAR ROUND

☆Apple Seeds, Inc. Growing My Plate Stipends

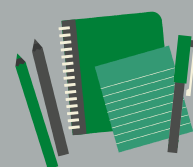
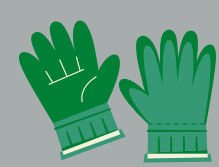
Growing My Plate is a collaboration between Apple Seeds, the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, and Arkansas Children’s Research Institute. Stipends are available to facilitators interested in leading a Growing My Plate course. This program empowers students with cooking skills, nutrition knowledge, and a desire to prepare healthy food. Students harvest produce from the gardens and prepare a simple, nutrition- and garden-based recipe each week. Training is provided to facilitators.

Rolling Application	  	Amount: \$500
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☆**Arkansas Community Foundation Giving Tree Grants**

Arkansas Community Foundation has 29 affiliates throughout the state that offer Giving Tree grants through a competitive process aimed at supporting a wide variety of causes. Giving Tree grants are place-based, and committees of local leaders in each community determine the best use of their funds. Some affiliate offices have initiatives specifically focused on food security and early childhood literacy. Any nonprofit organization, school, hospital, or government agency serving the counties where grants are available is eligible to apply.

Varies by grant making affiliates

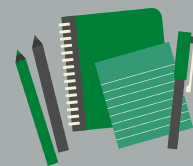
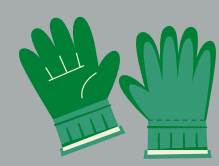


Amount: Varies by county

Entergy's Open Grants

Entergy's Open Grants Program focuses on improving communities as a whole. Entergy looks for giving opportunities in the areas of arts and culture, education and workforce development, poverty solutions and social services, healthy families, and community improvement. Open Grant applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. Applications should be submitted at least three months prior to the time the funding is needed.

Rolling Application

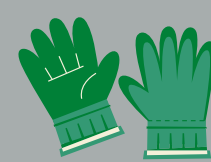


Amount: Varies

☆**North Little Rock Fit 2 Live Grant**

The City of North Little Rock supports community gardens through the Fit 2 Live Community Garden Program, which makes \$40,000 per year available to support the establishment or improvement of community gardens and urban farms, with the goal of increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables, physical activity, and neighborhood connections. Community groups, faith-based organizations, and schools may request up to \$5,000 for garden construction materials, tools, and certain other expenses.

**Closes: February 15 and
August 15**

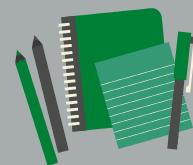


Amount: Up to \$5,000

Regions Community Investments

Regions Bank makes strategic and disciplined community investments in programs that seek to achieve three target outcomes: economic and community development, education and workforce readiness, and financial wellness. Eligible organizations focused on at least one of three strategic priorities are invited to submit a proposal.

Rolling Application

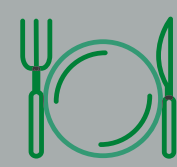


Amount: Varies

Salad Bar to Schools Grant

The Salad Bars to Schools grant program was developed by the Chef Ann Foundation with the mission of donating salad bars to United States schools. The purpose of this grant is to allow kids daily access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Applications are accepted year round and reviewed in the order they are received. Any school participating in the National School Lunch Program is eligible to apply. The grant funds a mobile salad bar valued at \$3,800.


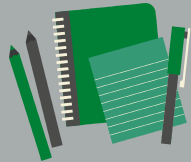
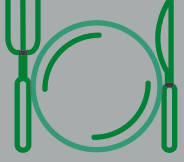
Rolling Application



Amount: Value of \$3,800


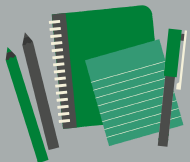
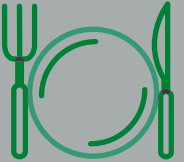
Living to Serve Grants

Available for Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapters, these grants offer funding to schools that are starting or expanding agricultural service-learning projects. The grant provides middle/high school FFA chapters with opportunities ranging from \$400-\$3,000 to conduct a service-learning project. All grants are available for projects based on duration and scope. Application dates for grants vary based on the time in which the service-learning project occurs. Mini-Grants are open year-round.

Year-Round Opportunities	  	Amount: Up to \$3,000
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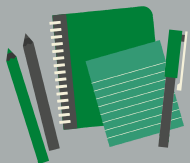
Walmart Local Community Grants

Walmart’s local community grants are awarded through an open application process and provide funding directly from Walmart and Sam’s Club facilities to local organizations in the United States. K-12 public or non-profit private schools, charter schools, non-profit organizations, government entities, and more are eligible to apply under eight different areas of funding including education, environmental sustainability, and hunger relief and healthy eating.

Rolling Application	  	Amount: \$250 - \$5,000
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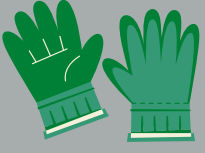
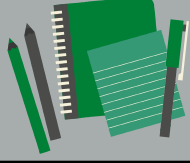
Christina Sue Lilja Resource Grants

The Christina Sue Lilja (CSL) Resource Grants (formerly White-Reinhardt Resource Grants) are made possible by the CSL Foundation, which was established to carry on the advocacy of Christina Lilja, the late Director of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, for educating teachers and students about the importance of agriculture. The purpose of the grants is to provide funds to educators to purchase accurate agricultural literacy materials for use in their classrooms.

Closes: October 15 and April 15		Amount: Up to \$1,000
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Green Our Planet's GardenConnect STEM Program

This is an application for Green Our Planet’s GardenConnect STEM Program. The full cost of this program is \$3,500. If a school is awarded a grant, Green Our Planet will cover \$2,500 of the program cost and the school is responsible for covering the additional \$1,000 needed to fully fund the program. This grant opportunity is open to public, private, and charter schools located in the United States.

Rolling Application	 	Amount: \$2,500
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Clif Bar Family Foundation Operational Support Grants

Applications for the Small Grants program are reviewed three times a year; the deadlines are the 1st of February, June, and October. The program funds organizations and projects that protect Earth’s beauty and bounty, create a robust, healthy food system, increase opportunities for outdoor activity, reduce environmental health hazards, and build stronger communities.

Closes: February 1, June 1, and October 1	 	Amount: Varies
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For more information and to sign up for the newsletter, visit arfarmtoschool.org.

