



Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

VERMONT FARM & FOREST VIABILITY PROGRAM

The Vermont Housing & Conservation Board's Viability Program has two types of grant funding available for Vermont farmers: Dairy Improvement Grants and Water Quality Grants. Both grant programs allow Vermont farmers to apply for \$5,000 to \$40,000. Both require a minimum 1:1 match from the grantee. Financial statements are required for both grant programs. Dairy Improvement Grant applications require an up-to-date business plan.

	Dairy Improvement Grants	Water Quality Grants
<i>Description</i>	Grants to help dairy farmers make improvements to farm infrastructure that result in increased farm viability and/or milk production and quality.	Grants to help farmers make water quality-related capital improvements in on-farm infrastructure.
<i>Funding Source</i>	Ehrmann Commonwealth Dairy, LLC	State of Vermont
<i>Eligible Applicants</i>	Vermont dairy farm members of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), or • St. Albans Cooperative 	Any Vermont farm with a gross farm income of \$15,000 or more that is required to comply with VT's Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs)
<i>Eligible Projects</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction, renovation, or upgrades to farm infrastructure • Equipment that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Will be used frequently o Is essential to the business o Cannot be rented o Leads to innovative farm practices 	All projects must have a direct, positive impact on water quality. Grant can pay for capital expenditures similar to those eligible for a Dairy Improvement Grant.
<i>Application Deadlines</i>	Round 1: August 13, 2018 Round 2: November 7, 2018 Round 3: February 6, 2019	Round 1: August 13, 2018 Round 2: November 7, 2018 Round 3: February 6, 2019

Applications for both grant programs will be available on our website by June 25, 2018. Please contact Viability Program Assistant Katie Michels at Katie@vhcb.org or 802-828-5587 with questions.

www.vhcb.org/viability