

## **FAQs for the Ag Grant Workshops**

Bayfield and Jackson Co registration closes on October 4<sup>th</sup>

Milwaukee and Dane Co registration closes on October 11<sup>th</sup>

### **1. What kind of farm or food business would benefit from the workshop?**

This workshop focuses on grants for farmers who are interested in trying something new, such as a different way to produce or sell a crop, or a way to add value to a farm product.

### **2. What will the workshop entail?**

In the morning we will talk about how to design a good project for a grant and about how to decide what kind of grant to apply for, if any. During lunch a farmer who has received a grant will talk about the experience of applying for the grant and doing the project. In the afternoon we will hear about some specific grant programs and other funding sources, and will learn about how reviewers evaluate grant proposals.

### **3. Which grant programs and other financial options will be covered?**

The workshop will cover grant programs such as SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Farmer-Rancher grants), VAPG (Value-Added Producer Grants), SCBG (Specialty Crop Block Grants), and the Buy Local Buy Wisconsin program in some detail, and will identify other grant and non-grant resources. Participants will also learn how to find information about other programs that may be relevant to their work in sustainable agriculture and community development.

### **4. What is a cost share program?**

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) encourages farmers to adopt certain practices to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and otherwise benefit the environment. A USDA agency called the NRCS will pay part of the cost of practices such as planting a grassed waterway, building a hoop house, or planting pollinator habitat. However, there is usually not enough cost-share money to cover all the requests, so it is important to have a good cost-share proposal.

### **5. If I am unable to pay the registration fee, how do I apply for a scholarship?**

Please send a written explanation of why you need scholarship support to attend the workshop to (local contact) at least one week before the workshop. Remember to include your contact information in your request.

### **6. What if English isn't my first language? Will there be an interpreter and translated materials available?**

If you register and tell us that you need an interpreter at least one week before the workshop we can arrange for either a Spanish or Hmong interpreter and translated handouts.

If you have other questions, please contact Erin Peot, 608-890-4606 or [erin.peot@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:erin.peot@ces.uwex.edu).