

# Solid Ground Stipend Program 2023

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The following opportunity is intended for new and beginning farmers with less than 10 years of experience operating their own business. These funds are intended to help farmers purchase better tools and make upgrades to their operation instead of relying on low cost/low quality inputs. (Note that stipends are not eligible to be used toward land purchases, pay employees, reimburse for past expenditures, or purchase equipment over \$2000).

UConn Extension and its partners are eager to see these funds have a meaningful impact on farm businesses and farmer well-being. **APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 5:00 PM ON MARCH 3rd, 2023.** If you need assistance completing this application online, please contact [jiff.martin@uconn.edu](mailto:jiff.martin@uconn.edu)

Full name

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Address

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Email

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Name of your business

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How many years of experience do you have growing food/agricultural products for sale/market/donation?

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How many years of experience do you have operating your own business that grows food/agricultural products for sale/market/donation?

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Which of the following best describes your relationship to farming:

- I am a full time farmer (1)
- I have a part-time job that provides some income and I farm/grow part time (2)
- I have a full time job, so I farm/grow when I can (3)

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Funding request (minimum request allowed is \$500, maximum request allowed is \$2000):

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Please explain exactly how you intend to spend these stipend funds. Provide an itemized list of planned purchases for the entire amount of funds you are requesting.

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Why does this stipend program in particular help meet your funding needs? Have you sought out other funding opportunities to cover these same costs?

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In less than 500 words, tell us about yourself, your growing experience, and where you sell/market/donate your food and agricultural products.

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In less than 500 words, please describe how this stipend will make a difference in your business operation, growth, efficiency, or personal wellbeing.

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If applicable, in 3-5 sentences, please describe how this stipend will contribute to conservation of natural resources, climate resilience, climate adaptation, or climate mitigation strategies.

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Are you an 'early phase' beginning farmer (someone that has been farming their own operation for 3 years or less)?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Not sure (3)

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Do you identify as Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Prefer not to say (3)

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Did you receive a Solid Ground Stipend in 2022?

- Yes (1)
  - No (2)
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If you answered yes, please provide a brief statement that we can use for progress reporting to USDA about the impact of the 2022 Solid Ground stipend on your operation.

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