

SPARTANBURG COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Request for Proposals

Shape the Future of Farming.

*Agriculture impacts our economy and our communities.
We believe we're in a position to strengthen it.*

MISSION

The mission of the Spartanburg County Farm Bureau is to enhance the economy and the community through agricultural education, awareness, promotion, and outreach.

OVERVIEW

In 2020, The Spartanburg County Farm Bureau (SCFB) will offer grants and scholarship opportunities totaling up to \$20,000 annually during two funding cycles. The SCFB recognizes its role as a Grantmaker that responds to ongoing needs in the agricultural community that focus on education, awareness, promotion, and outreach.

Proposals must clearly provide innovative responses to address the goals of education, awareness, promotion, and outreach in the agriculture community. Projects/programs may benefit a single organization, a collaborative initiative, and/or a system of services that address agriculture issues.

GRANT GUIDELINES

SCFB awards two types of funding: organizational grants and scholarships. The grant cycles occur twice a year: spring and fall.

Type 1: Organizational Grants

One funding type prioritizes organizations and institutions such as schools, 501(c)(3) non-profits, 501(c)(5) non-profits, and/or tax-exempt entities providing services to the residents of Spartanburg County, South Carolina. Certain institutions and organizations located outside of Spartanburg County may be eligible for funding; however, funding is restricted to benefit Spartanburg County only. Organizations that serve multiple counties must clearly show that the funds will remain in Spartanburg County. Except in unusual circumstances, multi-year grants are not considered. Organizations that receive a grant through one of the SCFB grant cycles are not eligible to apply for a grant within 12 months.

The SCFB gives priority consideration to:

- Projects that clearly provide innovative responses to education, awareness, promotion, and outreach in the agriculture community.
- Projects that promote youth development.
- Projects that are collaborative in nature, involving two or more organizations.

- Projects likely to attract support from matching fund arrangements.
- Projects with a plan for continued funding from other sources.

The SCFB are inclined to favorably consider:

- Projects that affect broad segments of the agriculture community.
- Projects that demonstrate good planning in light of overall agriculture community needs.
- Projects for which partial funding is required rather than total funding by the SCFB.
- Projects with appropriate measurement and evaluation tools in place.
- Projects that promote volunteer participation.

The SCFB does not generally provide funding for:

- Annual fund campaigns.
- Annual operating support, other than for start-up purposes.
- Recurring requests from a grantee for the same purpose for which a SCFB grant has been previously awarded.
- Endowments.
- Film projects.
- Publication of books or reports.
- Fundraising events, celebrations, or dinners.

The SCFB does not provide funding for:

- Individual projects except those requesting scholarship and funding for continuing education.
- Research that is of a non-community nature or that does not have promise of near-term benefits to the citizens of Spartanburg County.
- Debt reductions, deficits, or previous obligations.
- Retroactive expenses/activities.

Type Two: Scholarships

The second type of grant offered awards scholarships to individuals seeking educational opportunities in agriculture related topics. These scholarships can be awarded to students pursuing a degree in agriculture or an agriculture related major at a two-year or four-year institution as well as funds to continue agriculture education at conferences, classes, and seminars. Scholarship recipients are allowed to receive one scholarship within a 12 month period. Spartanburg County Farm Bureau generally provides up to \$2000 for tuition assistance at two and four year institutions

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE PROPOSAL

SCFB uses an online grant submission process. Applications and all required supporting documents must be uploaded using the online system. The application will be available starting on August 1 at <https://www.scfb.org/about-us/county-offices/spartanburg-county>. Proposals submitted in any other manner will not be considered.

REPORTING

All grant and scholarship recipients will be required to submit a mid-year progress report and a final evaluation report online at the end of the one-year funding cycle. You may also be chosen to present your project at the SCFB Annual Meeting held in August.

The evaluation report will include: project status of activities accomplished, both ongoing and completed; evaluation of stated goals and actual results to date; total expenditures for the project; and a list of additional resources leveraged for the project as a result of the funding.

GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE

Spring Cycle

Applications Accepted Starting	January 1
Proposals for Spring Cycle Due	March 1
Awards Notification	April 15
Mid-Year Progress Report	October 15
Final Evaluation Report Due	May 15

Fall Cycle

Applications Accepted Starting	August 1
Proposals for Fall Cycle Due	October 1
Awards Notification	November 15
Mid-Year Progress Report	May 15
Final Evaluation Report Due	December 15