USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program

Agenda

Part I: Overview

Part II: Contact Information

Part III: Application, Evaluation and Notification Process

Part IV: Helpful Tips

Part V: Questions

What is OUAIP?

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee

Pilot Projects: Urban and Suburban County Committees

Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

Pilot Projects: Increasing Community Compost and Reducing Food Waste

The Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program

What are UAIP Competitive Grants?

Purpose: UAIP supports the development of urban agriculture and innovative production activities by funding Planning Projects (PP) and Implementation Projects (IP) led by nonprofit organizations, local or Tribal governments, and schools that serve any of the grades K-12 in areas of the United States.

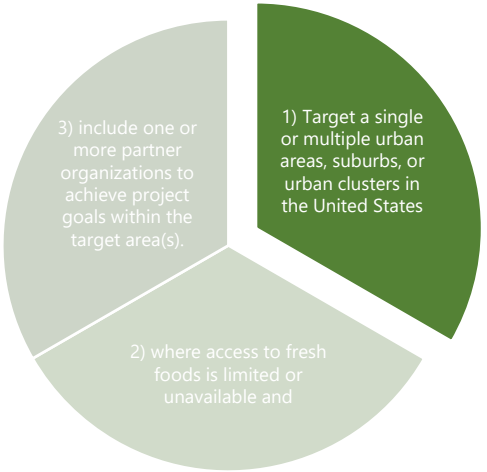
Program Priorities

Projects (whether PP or IP) should:

- Target a single or multiple urban areas, suburbs, or urban clusters in the United States where access to fresh foods is limited or unavailable and should include one or more partner organizations to achieve project goals within the target area(s).

Target Area(s)

- Projects should target a single or multiple urban areas, suburbs, or urban clusters in the United States.
- Projects that target a rural area (<2,500 residents) are **not eligible** for funding.
- Projects that target area(s) with 2,500 or greater residents are **eligible**.



Food Access

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- Access to fresh foods should be limited or unavailable in the project target area(s).
- Eligible applicants should have experience serving communities where access to fresh foods are limited or unavailable.
- USDA's Economic Research Service is a national leader in measuring people and places facing barriers to access healthy and affordable food.

www.ers.usda.gov

Measuring Food Access

- There are many ways to measure food access for individuals and for neighborhoods.
- Most measures and definitions take into account at least some of the following indicators of access:
  - Accessibility to sources of healthy food, as measured by distance to a store or by the number of stores in an area.
  - Individual-level resources that may affect accessibility, such as family income or vehicle availability.
  - Neighborhood-level indicators of resources, such as the average income of the neighborhood and the availability of public transportation.

Partnerships

- Eligible entities should collaborate with **one or more** partner organizations to achieve project goals within the target area(s).
- Non-eligible entities may be partners on a project to achieve its proposed objectives.
- The eligible entity that submits the application is responsible for receiving and managing the award.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

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- **Tribal governments**, **nonprofit organizations**, **local governments**, and **any school that serves any of the grades kindergarten through grade 12** are eligible to apply for UAIP.

- Applicants must be located within the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Islands Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

Who is Not Eligible to Apply?

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- Individuals such as a farmer or gardener, for-profit organizations and small businesses, and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) including extension programs are not eligible to apply for UAIP.

- Applicants not located within the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Islands Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) are not eligible.

UAIP Participation

- Applicants must choose between submitting a grant application for a **Planning Project** or **Implementation Project**.

- An eligible applicant can serve as the lead on **only one** Planning Project or Implementation Project grant application. You may be listed as a partner on more than one application.

- The proposed project should **not duplicate activities** from another Federal award and have specifically different objectives.

Project Types and Funding Amounts

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Type	Amount	Duration
Planning Project (PP) Grants	$200,000 - $500,000	1 – 3 years
Implementation Project (IP) Grants	$100,000 - $300,000	1 – 3 years

- There is no cost sharing or matching requirement.

Should I Apply for PP or IP?

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Planning Projects (PP)	Implementation Projects (IP)
• Support the development of projects that will either initiate, build upon or expand the efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools, and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs.	• Accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor, and other agricultural practices that serve multiple farmers or gardeners. • Improve access to local food in the target area(s).

What Does UAIP Fund?

- Activities that encourage and promote urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural practices, including community gardens and farms located in urban areas, suburbs, and urban clusters; rooftop farms, outdoor vertical production, and green walls; indoor farms, greenhouses, and high-tech vertical technology farms; hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponic farm facilities; and other innovations in agricultural production.

What Does UAIP Fund?

Activities may include but are not limited to:

- Production-related expenses such as materials, supplies, and other costs related to rooftop farms, outdoor vertical production, green walls, indoor farms, greenhouses, high-tech vertical technology farms, hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponic farms, and other innovations in agricultural production;
- Construction;
- Building a non-permanent, temporary or moveable structure;
- Building a permanent structure;
- Contractual costs including labor;
- Personnel costs; and
- Lease or rental of special purpose equipment, vehicles, land, and building space.

Activities Not Eligible for Funding

Projects may not include but are not limited to:

- Production of hemp or marijuana;
- Purchase of general purpose equipment or lease agreements to own (i.e., lease-to-own or rent-to-own) such equipment;
- Contributions or donations, including cash, property, and services, from the recipient to other entities; and
- Organized fundraising, including financial campaigns, solicitation of gifts and bequests, and similar expenses incurred to raise capital or obtain contributions.

Higher Consideration

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Higher consideration will be given to applicants who meet these four criteria:

Experience in the area of: a. agriculture and/or innovative production for **three years or more**; and b. serving communities in urban areas, suburbs, or urban clusters where access to fresh foods are limited or unavailable.	Demonstrate competency to implement a project, provide fiscal accountability, collect data, and prepare reports and other necessary documentation.	Demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers, evaluators, practitioners, and other interested parties, including a plan for dissemination of results.	Collaborate with **one or more** partner organizations working in the project target area(s).
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Contact Us

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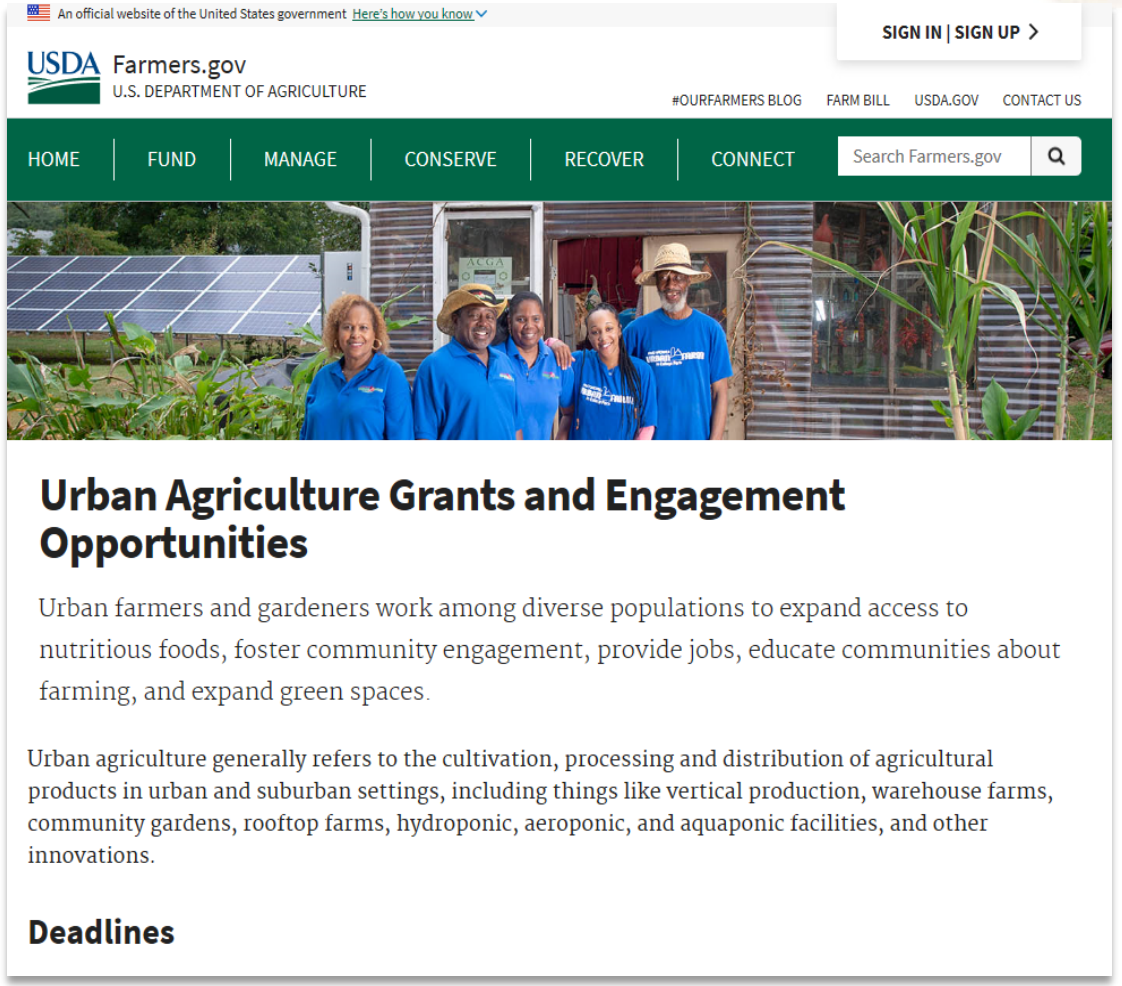
For more information, visit:

www.Farmers.gov/urban

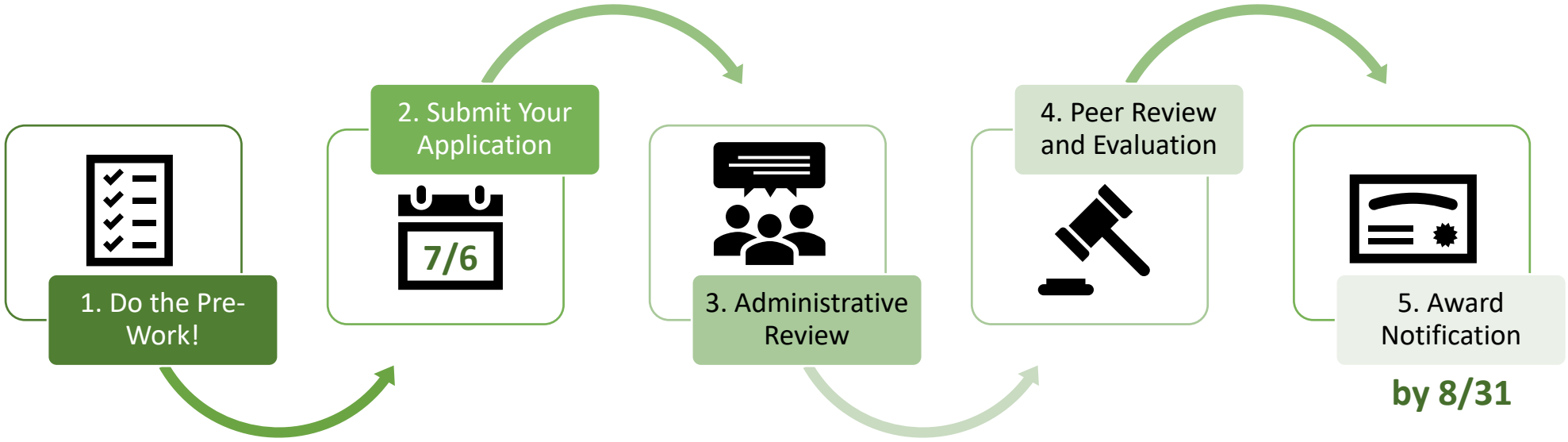
Have questions? Email:

UrbanAgriculture@usda.gov



Application, Evaluation and Notification Process

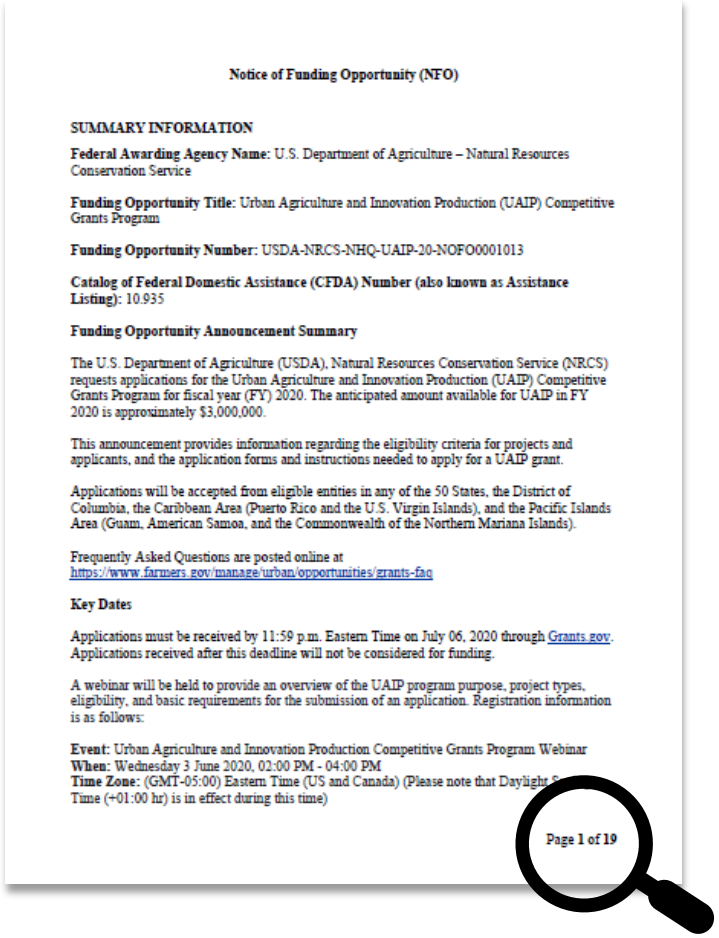
Process Overview



Read the NFO

1. Do the Pre-Work!

- Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO).
  - Download at **www.Farmers.gov/urban** and at **Grants.gov.**
- Make sure you are eligible to apply.
- Understand and follow the application instructions and submission requirements in the NFO.



Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO)

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Federal Awarding Agency Name: U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service

Funding Opportunity Title: Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NRCS-NHQ-UAIP-20-NOFO0001013

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number (also known as Assistance Listing): 10.935

Funding Opportunity Announcement Summary

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) requests applications for the Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program for fiscal year (FY) 2020. The anticipated amount available for UAIP in FY 2020 is approximately $3,000,000.

This announcement provides information regarding the eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and the application forms and instructions needed to apply for a UAIP grant.

Applications will be accepted from eligible entities in any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Islands Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).

Frequently Asked Questions are posted online at https://www.farmers.gov/manage/urban/opportunities/grants-faq

Key Dates

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 06, 2020 through Grants.gov. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered for funding.

A webinar will be held to provide an overview of the UAIP program purpose, project types, eligibility, and basic requirements for the submission of an application. Registration information is as follows:

Event: Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production Competitive Grants Program Webinar
When: Wednesday 3 June 2020, 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM
Time Zone: (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time (US and Canada) (Please note that Daylight S... Time (+01:00 hr) is in effect during this time)

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Prepare UAIP Application Forms

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Required:

- ❑ Proposal Narrative (PDF or MS Word Attachment)
- ❑ Form SF-424 – Application for Federal Assistance (on Grants.gov)
- ❑ Form SF-424A – Budget Information, Non-Construction (on Grants.gov)
- ❑ Budget Narrative
- ❑ Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

If Applicable:

- ❑ Form SF-424C – Budget Information, Construction (on Grants.gov)
- ❑ Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (PDF Attachment)

Complete Required Steps

Required Action	Timing
Obtain a TIN/EIN from the IRS (if your org does not have one)	Up to 35 days
Obtain a DUNS number (if your org does not have one)	1-2 business days
Register with SAM.gov (if your org does not have an active account)	7-10 business days
Register with Grants.gov, add a profile and authorize an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)	Up to 14 days
Submit UAIP Application in Grants.gov	11:59 p.m. EDT on July 6, 2020

Need Technical Assistance?

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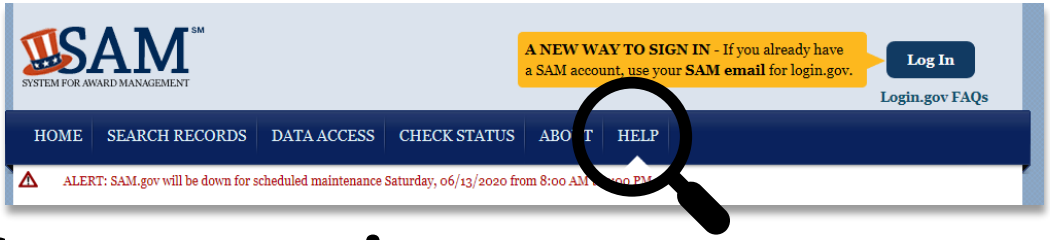
- **IRS TIN/EIN issues:**
  - Businesses: 1-800-829-4933
  - Non-profit taxes: 1-877-829-5500
- **DUNS issues:**
  - 1-866-705-5711 (US Only) or SAMHelp@dnb.com
- **SAM.gov issues:**



- **Grants.gov issues:**
  - 1-800-518-4726 or support@Grants.gov

2. Submit Your Application

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Find on Grants.gov

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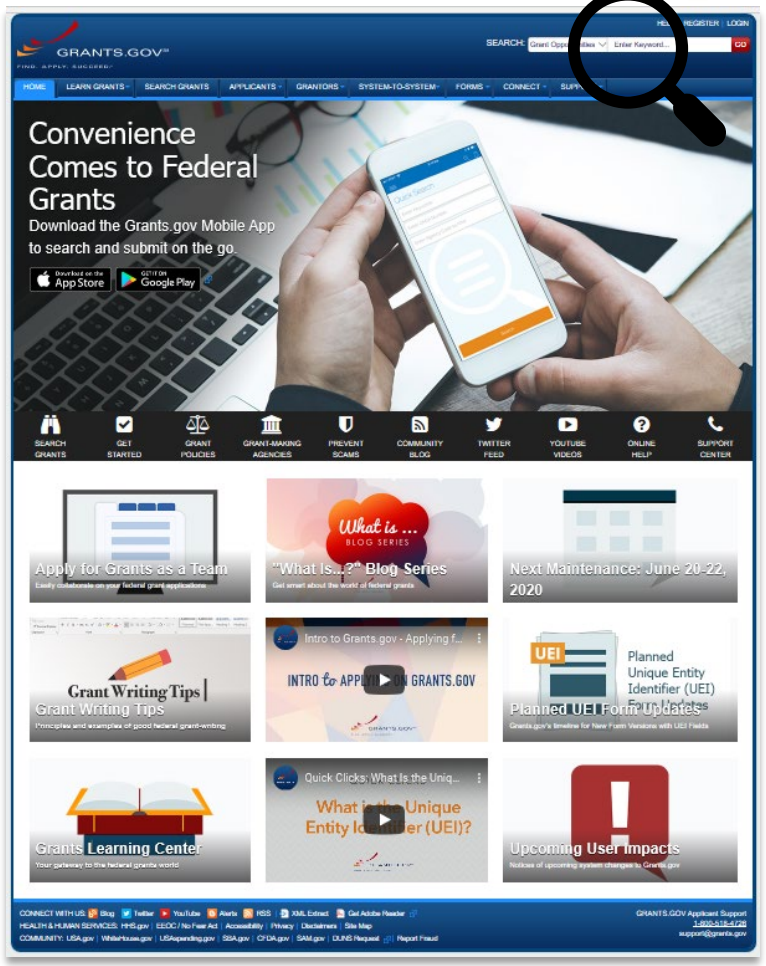
Find the UAIP grant opportunity and related documents on Grants.gov by searching:

Program:	CFDA Number:
UAIP	10.935
Funding Opportunity Number:	
USDA-NRCS-NHQ-UAIP-20-NOFO0001013	



View on Grants.gov

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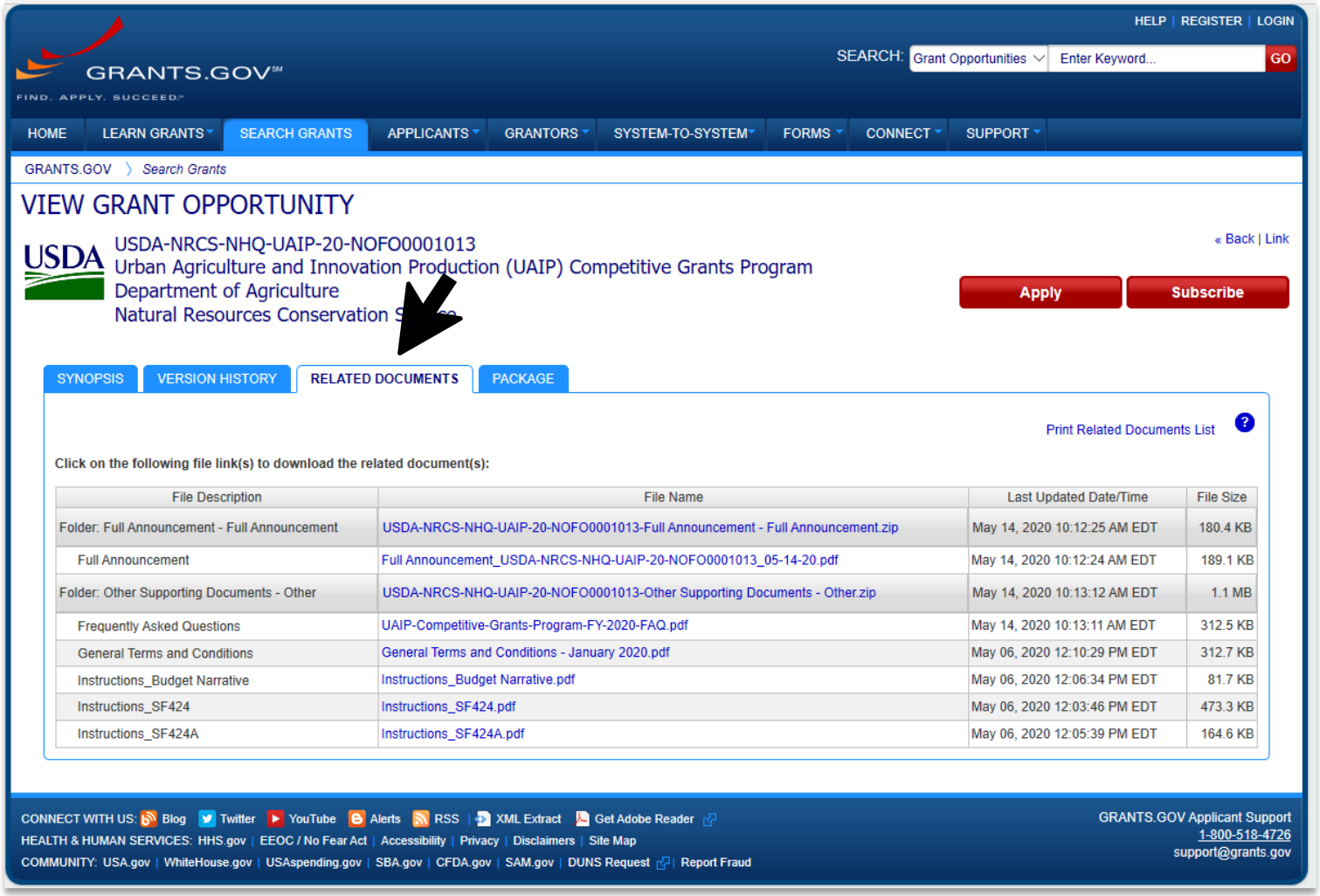
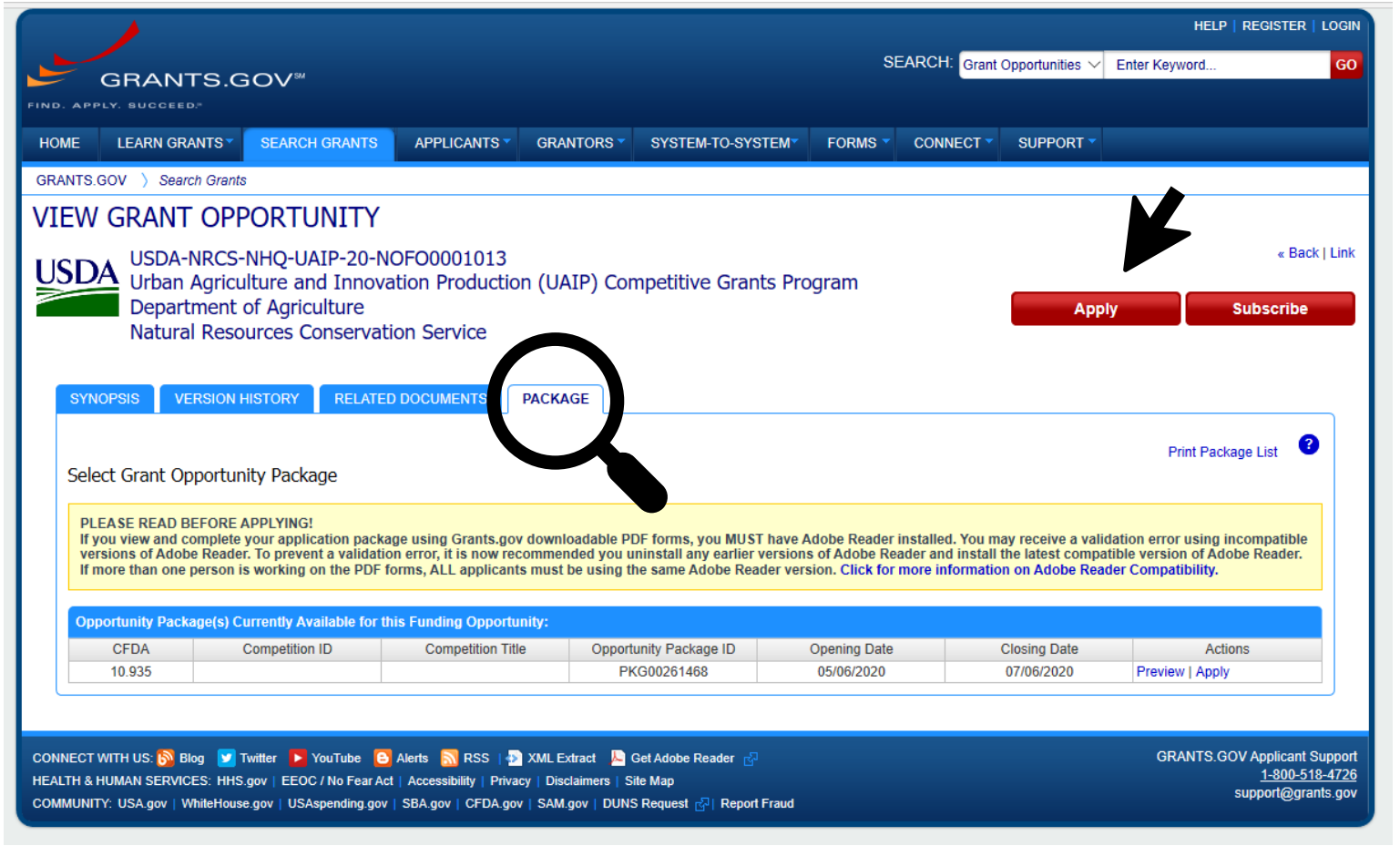


Submit on Grants.gov



- Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 6, 2020.

Part I of Review Process

3. Administrative Review

Applications will not be reviewed or considered if:

- Application is not submitted through Grants.gov.
- Application is submitted late.
- Proposal does not comply with the required content, format and formatting structure including page length.
- Application is incomplete or noncompliant.
- Application does not fit the purpose of UAIP.

Part I of Review Process Cont'd

Applications will not be reviewed or considered if:

- Proposal includes activities funded by another Federal award.
- Applicants and applications do not meet eligibility criteria including eligible applicant type.
- Applicant is identified in the SAM.gov exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or excluded from receiving Federal funding.
- Applicant has committed fraud, including materially misleading or incorrect information in the application.

Part II of Review Process

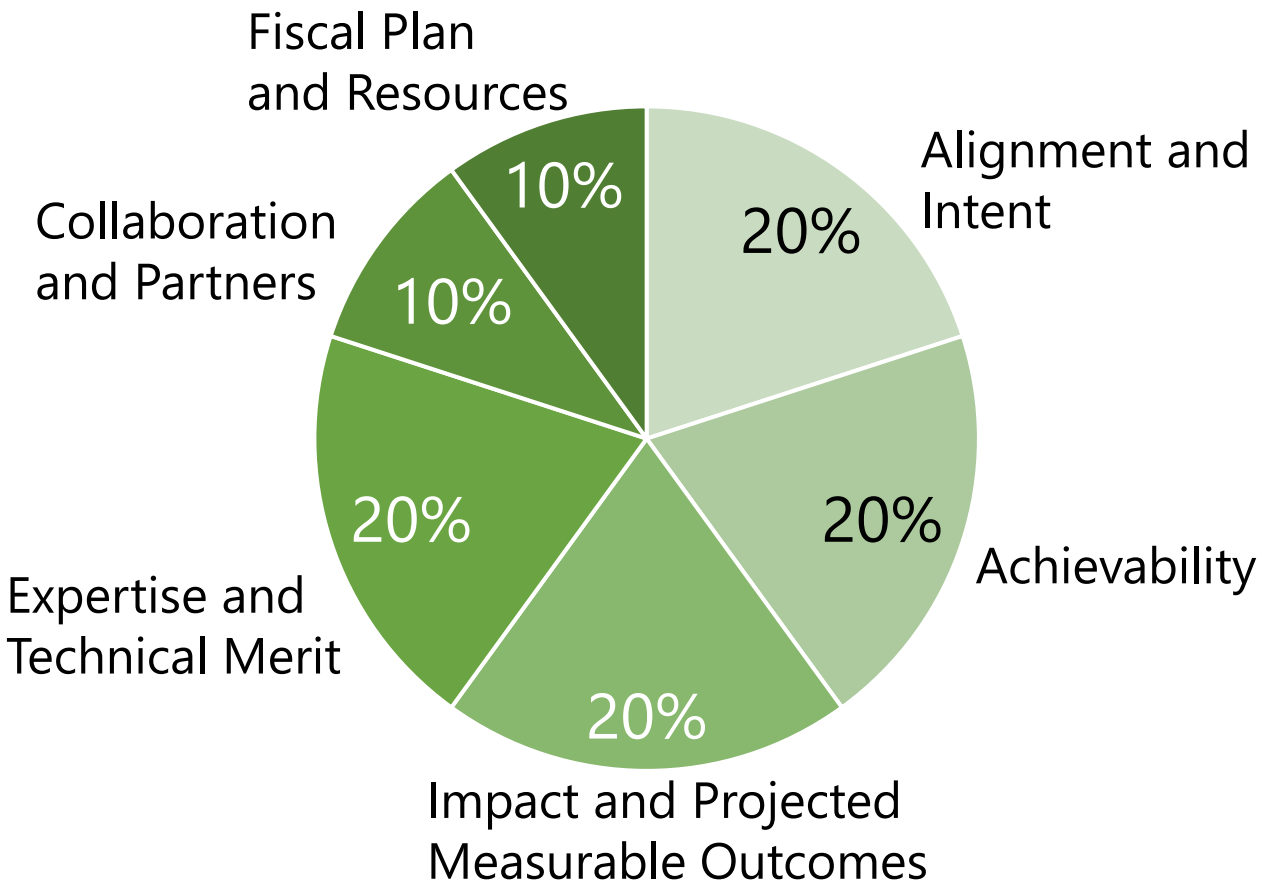
4. Peer Review and Evaluation

- Reviewers are USDA employees who bring expertise from across USDA to the evaluation process.
- Reviewers must sign a Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Statement to serve as a reviewer.
- Reviewers will review approximately 10 proposals.
- Reviewers are assigned to teams of three.
- Reviewers commit approximately 50 hours over four to six weeks to the review process.

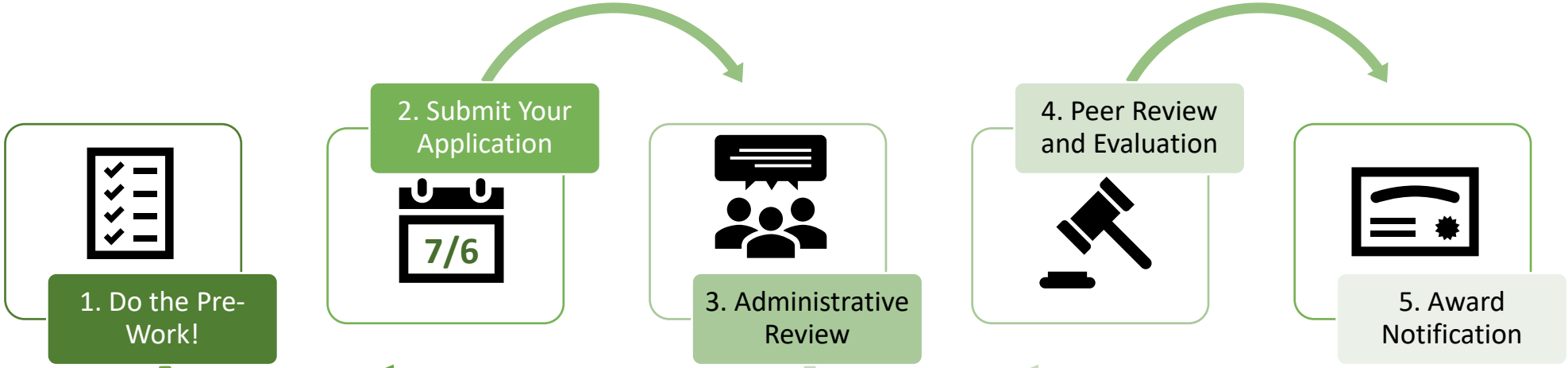
Part II of Review Process

4. Peer Review and Evaluation

Evaluation Criteria



Recap: Tentative UAIP Timeline



- Application due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 6, 2020 through Grants.gov.
- Application Review July 13 to July 31.
- Announce or notify successful and unsuccessful applicants by August 31, 2020.
- Federal awards in place by September 30, 2020.

Helpful Tips

- Don’t wait until the last minute!
- Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO).
  - **USDA-NRCS-NHQ-UAIP-20-NOFO0001013**
- Align your Project Proposal Narrative and Budget Narrative.
- Make sure your proposal complies with the required content and format including page limits.
  - Proposal headings are different for PPs and IPs.
- Get input from partners.

Questions

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.