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MDA Launches New AGRI Works Grant Program

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The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting applications for theÂ Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Works Grant Program. This new grant opportunity supports organizations and institutions that help strengthen Minnesota agriculture, horticulture, and rural communities through development, education, research, or marketing.



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The MDA expects to award between five and 15 grants totaling about $485,625 through a competitive review process. Grant awards will range from $5,000 to $75,000 and require a 50% match from the grantee. Grantees must be in good standing with the State of Minnesota and may choose to apply in collaboration with other organizations. This grant program will prioritize legislatively created entities and organizations and projects that are not eligible for other MDA grant opportunities.

â??The AGRI Works Grant will help fund innovative projects that advance Minnesota agriculture through a thoughtful and transparent review process,â?• said MDA Commissioner Thom Petersen. â??Weâ??re excited to see how partners across the state use this funding to support farmers and rural communities. I want to thank the state legislature for funding this program and for their continued commitment to investing in our stateâ??s agricultural economy.â?•

Eligible expenses include, but are not limited to, employee salaries and fringe benefits, contracted services, and equipment and supplies necessary to complete project objectives. Full grant eligibility requirements and application details are available onÂ the AGRI Works Grant webpage. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. CT on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by mid-February 2026.

Funding for the AGRI Works Grant is made available through the MDAâ??sÂ AGRI Program, which administers grants to farmers, agribusinesses, schools, and more throughout Minnesota to advance the stateâ??s agricultural and renewable

energy sectors.Â