

Professional Development Program Grants

USDA's National Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (USDA-SARE) Program offers grants and education programs that focus on the principles of sustainable agriculture. Grants for SARE funding from the National SARE Program are available to farmers/ranchers, researchers, extension personnel, agricultural educators, and graduate students within the United States only. More information can be found at: www.sare.org/grants/

The South Carolina SARE Program (SC SARE), sponsored by USDA-SARE, provides grant support for training and outreach activities through its Professional Development Program (PDP). These grants facilitate training for agricultural professionals who are in turn responsible for delivering educational programming to farmers, small business owners, homeowners, students, etc. SC SARE is co-coordinated through Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service and the SC State 1890 Extension Program.

Criteria for PDP funding from the South Carolina SARE Program:

- Maximum amount awarded \$1,000
- Funding is strictly limited to events related to sustainable agriculture with a target audience of other ag professionals or farmer mentors
- Events utilizing SC SARE PDP funds must be in South Carolina
- *with the exception of providing travel reimbursement to SC individuals attending a relevant conference in another state*
- Ag. professionals offering training events utilizing SC SARE PDP funds must make the event open to farmers, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), extension agents, and other ag. professionals
- SC SARE PDP funds can be used for training expenses such as travel/speaker fees, venue rental, lunch, educational materials, seed, electronics, small equipment, etc.

Examples of topic areas that SARE grants can address:

- On-farm renewable energy
- Pest and weed management
- Pastured livestock and rotational grazing
- No-till and conservation tillage
- Cover crops
- High tunnels and season extension
- Crop rotations
- Marketing
- Sustainable communities
- Integrated systems
- Pollinators
- Local and regional food systems
- Small ruminants
- and more

If your proposal meets the above criteria, proceed with the application below.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).

Professional Development Grant Application

This form is a fillable PDF

Event Title: _____

Institution(s): _____

Project Leader(s): _____

Co-leader(s): _____

Primary Contact Information:

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Funds Requested (Max \$1,000): \$ _____ Planned Event Date: _____

Event Location: _____

Expected attendance: _____ Have you received funding from SC SARE previously: _____

Sponsor or primary funding source for this event:

Event summary:

What issue(s) does this event address:

Objectives of the event relating to Sustainable Agriculture:

Is this event part of a larger project or body of research; please explain:

If previously funded, please summarize progress of the work: (Skip if not applicable)

Expected accomplishments/results:

What will indicate these results:

What products/materials will be created as a result of this event:

How will SC SARE funding enhance this event:

How will these funds be used (speaker travel/fees, venue rental, supplies, etc.):

Additional Information you would like to provide:

Please submit your application by email to:

kgilker@clermson.edu

Kelly Ann Flynn, SC SARE State Program Assistant