



# Strategies to Capitalize the Farm: Lessons from the Field



## Speakers:

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## Funding Opportunities

The farmer presenters discussed using the following grants and loans to fund their businesses:

- [Matching Enterprise Grants for Agriculture \(MEGA\)](#)
- [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service \(NRCS\) programs](#)
- [USDA Farm Service Agency \(FSA\) loans](#)
- [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education \(SARE\) grants](#)
- [Farm Credit East loans](#)
- [Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program](#)
- [Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grant](#)
- [Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture \(CISA\) Emergency Farm Fund](#)
- [Berkshire Agricultural Ventures loans and financing](#)
- [American Farmland Trust New England Farmer Microgrants](#)

## Financing Tips from Farmers Like You

- Since many grants are paid as a reimbursement and/or require matching, **ensure you have sufficient up-front capital for your project.** Farmers suggest seeking private or federal loans or pursuing kickstarter campaigns for these initial funds.
- **Keep a bucket list or wish list** of farm infrastructure investments and improvements and seek funding accordingly.
- **Tailor grant/loan applications to the funder's objectives** and mission and emphasize your project's expected impact.
- **Review requirements and request letters of support well in advance.**

Find more information on farm grants and loans in the [resource library](#).

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