

PURPOSE:

“To solely enhance the competitiveness of North Dakota’s specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets.”



The North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) administers the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP). NDDA conducts an annual competitive solicitation process to award SCBGP funds to projects that enhance the competitiveness of North Dakota specialty crops.



Agriculture Commissioner
Doug Goehring

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Administrator

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SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM



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What is SCBGP?

Specialty crops are defined as “fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).” For a list of eligible and ineligible commodities, visit www.nd.gov/ndda/scbgp. Please note that hemp is not considered a “specialty crop.”

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for a grant, the project(s) must “solely enhance the competitiveness of U.S. or U.S. territory grown specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets.” Projects must also benefit more than one commercial product (e.g., ABC Company brand), organization, or individual. Additional information can be found at www.nd.gov/ndda/scbgp.



Application Process

Proposals will be accepted from non-profit organizations, producer organizations, government agencies, universities, and other organizations related to North Dakota’s specialty crop industry. Individuals, individual producers, for-profit businesses, or commercial entities may submit proposals. However, the project must focus on research, education, or demonstration and must benefit the specialty crop industry in a manner that can be replicated by other organizations. These projects are 2 years in length.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Application Timeline:

Timelines/Deadlines	Description
December	Open Request for Applications
January	Application Deadline
March	Review Panel Meets
May	NDDA Notifies Applicants of ND Awards
May	State Plan Submitted to USDA
October	Anticipated Project Start Date
September (2 years later)	Projects Conclude No Later Than

Project proposals will be reviewed by a panel of NDDA staff and experts in agriculture and business. Panelists must be free of any conflict of interest that would prevent them from performing impartial reviews.