

**Request for Applications
Maine Agriculture in the Classroom
2020 Agriculture Education Grant Program**

The Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Council will award grants in 5 categories, totaling up to \$60,000 in support of Maine agriculture education in grade levels pre-kindergarten through 12 as a direct result of the Maine Agricultural Specialty License Plate. Suitable projects will promote an understanding of the food and fiber system in the state and the nation through the infusion of agricultural concepts into Pre K – 12th grade level curricula.

Grant Category 4

Agricultural Leadership Grant – Up to \$1,000

Eligibility

Funding will be available to nonprofit organizations within the state of Maine or serving students within the state of Maine. These grants are in support of leadership development activities for students already enrolled in agriculture courses at the Middle or High School level, in formal and informal education settings, providing these students with the skills to become future leaders in the agriculture and natural resources field. Grants are intended to support organized leadership programs rather than an individual student. Matching contributions are encouraged and may consist of; use of facilities, volunteer time, in-kind contributions, community involvement, salaries, etc.

Application Process

- The revolving deadline for submission for current applications is 4:00 PM on: June 12, August 21, and December 14, 2020.
- Four paper copies of the grant application and attachments shall be submitted to Willie Sawyer Grenier at Maine Agriculture in the Classroom, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333
- The maximum duration of the grants will be one year.
- Final reports are due one year from the application deadline chosen above, but can be submitted sooner.
- Funding awarded may not be consistent with the funding request.

Maine Agriculture in the Classroom reserves the right to reproduce projects and materials resulting from this funding. All pictures submitted must be accompanied by a waiver release for their use in MAITC printed materials, online, and other media. The form is posted on the website www.MaineAgintheClassroom.org with grant applications.

Required Application Components

- Completed Cover Page Form – Posted on the website www.MaineAgintheClassroom.org
- Project overview – 1 short paragraph for media use – 50 words or less
- Short description of the project, including date(s), estimated attendance, and target audience – 1 page maximum
- Timeline & Budget (include matching funds if possible)
- Impact and objectives
- Up to 3 letters of support (optional)

Review Process

Proposals will be assessed for eligibility and scored based on a rubric of 115 total possible points. Winners will be announced within 1 month of submission deadline and funds disbursed at that time, pending availability. The following scoring rubric will be applied:

- 20 points – Leadership Development Opportunities
- 20 points – Increased student effectiveness in leadership areas
- 20 points – Exploration of areas of potential career interest
- 20 points – Opportunities such as competitions and scholarships
- 20 points – Increased student awareness and connections to students from similar programs
- 15 points – Extra credit for Letters of Support

Reporting

A final report is due 1 year from the submission deadline (may be submitted sooner). Report may be submitted by mail or as an attachment to email at maitc@maine.gov

Must Include:

- Short written report up to 2 pages including outcomes, assessment results, and numbers of students, teachers and volunteers involved directly or impacted indirectly, and the duration.
- 2 – 6 photographs with releases for printed and online use,
- A copy of materials developed (if applicable),
- Copies or records of any media coverage.

*Applicants will not be eligible for additional funding before the final report is submitted for their previous award. Applicants that do not submit a final report for funding will not be eligible for future funding from this program.

Grant winners will all receive posters to be used during events, and bookmarks for students involved in the project. In an attempt to credit the real funders, Maine Ag Specialty License Plate owners, please be sure to use these and distribute them during the funding year as part of your agreement when you accept this grant funding.

For more information contact Willie Sawyer Grenier at maitc@maine.gov or 207.287.5522