

Dairy Farmer Engagement Grant Questions and Answers

1. On page 4 of the Dairy Farmer Engagement Grant Request for Applications, the third paragraph states:

Funding for the Dairy Research Grant is provided through Dairy Research and Promotion Program, also known as the Dairy Checkoff. CGS Sec. 22-137d authorizes the CTMPB to award grant funds from Connecticut's Dairy Checkoff funds. All projects should be conducted in accordance with the Dairy Research and Promotion Program, which can be found at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/rulesregulations/research-promotion/dairy>. How does the Dairy Research Grant apply to the farmer engagement RFA and should this be addressed in the narrative?

The name of the grant has been corrected and will be issued in an amended copy of the guidance available and published on all sites today. The edit will appear as a strikethrough.

2. On page 6, the applicants awarded contracts is responsible for "Working with the assigned soil scientist to develop the restoration plan and restoration report." How does this apply if the proposed project does not include a soil study? Would this responsibility be waved in such a case?

This requirement has been corrected and will be issued in an amended copy of the guidance available and published on all sites today. The edit will appear as a strikethrough. A soil scientist is not a requirement for this grant.

3. On the Budget Application Form:
 - a. Under Salary and Fringe, can all staff salary and fringe be combined into one number?

Yes, but detailing the staff entailed to the grant and the amounts of time they will spend should be identified in the budget justification.

- b. Is in-kind or cash matching required as part of a successful application?

No. It is not required.

- c. For Contractor/Consultant, would the category or type of vendor with an estimated cost suffice in lieu of a confirmed vendor, recognizing we cannot exceed the funded proposal? The document mentions attaching quotes to justify contractor/consultant expenses. Would estimates be considered acceptable quotes?

Yes.

- d. What typically is included under "Other Costs?" Would you provide examples of what has been included or approved previously?

Other costs could include specific purchases necessary for the project that are not suitable to other categories: some cost examples could be stipends for speakers or travel.

4. On the Project Timeline example provided, it states that vendors should account for three months for planning the project, 12 months for execution, and 30 days “past project completion” for reporting. Under the current grant award for 2022, contractors were asked to account for reporting time within the 12-month contract period. Will planning and reporting time be added to the standard 12-month contract (total of 16 months) per the example in the RFA?

No, this is a budget narrative and example from the Farm transition program. It is only for example purposes for use to set up as a template for your projects. Please follow the prescribed requirements of the RFA which states that projects must be completed within a year, including all planning and execution.