



**UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FOOD**



# **UDAF Grants**

## **Urban and Small Farms Conference**

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# Our Mission

To support the development of Utah's agriculture and food industries, serve as a steward of our natural resources, safeguard public health, protect consumers, and ensure a quality food supply.





# UDAF Grant Programs

- Ag Stress Assistance Program (ASAP)
- AgVIP - Agricultural Voluntary Incentives Program
- Agricultural Water Optimization
- Invasive Species Mitigation Program (ISM)
- Grazing Improvement Program (GIP)
- LeRay McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund
- Salinity Offset Grant Program
- Soil Health Equipment Grant
- Specialty Crop Block Grant
- Utah Food Security Processing Grant
- Utah Pollinator Habitat Program
- Veterinary Education Loan Repayment Program

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# Other Services

- Agricultural Loan Programs
- Agriculture Mediation Program
- Soil Health Assessments
- Marketing Support - Utah's Own Program, Farm to School, International Trade / Trade Show Support
- General guidance, assistance, networking

**We are here to help!**

- Upcoming Listening Session Themes
  - [Farm to School Movement Building Nights](#)
  - Regulatory Challenges
  - Supply Chain Issues
  - Market/Industry Needs

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# AgVIP - Agricultural Voluntary Incentives Program

**Purpose** - Helps producers implement practices that can increase crop yields, improve soil health, and add value to operations while improving water quality. Open to dairies, feedlots, other CAFOs

## Notes:

- Operates in partnership with DWQ
- A one-time \$1,000 payment is issued to producers to develop a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- Once CNMP is implemented, \$12/acre payment will be issued for that year

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# Agricultural Water Optimization Grant

## Purpose:

- Helps producers optimize water use while maintaining or improving agricultural production; improves water quantification via metering of diverted water; improves surface and ground water quality

## Notes:

- \$200 million made available to UDAF in 2023 session
- Requires 50/50 cost-share
- Projects must be “shovel ready”

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# Ag Stress Assistance Program

## Purpose:

- Raise awareness of existing mental health resources for farmers, ranchers, and their family members. Provides \$2,000k vouchers per individual.

## Notes:

- Operates in partnership with USU AgWellness
- Made possible by a \$550k USDA NIFA FRSSAN grant
- Also provides workshops, community outreach events, and training for 988 crisis line operators
- Currently, all voucher funds have been expended

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# Invasive Species Mitigation Program (Plant Industry Division)

## Purpose:

- Provides funding for projects to manage noxious weeds.

## Notes:

- Eligible organizations: Universities, Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's), County Weed Boards, Federal or State agencies, tribal or private landowners, Conservation Districts, nonprofits, political subdivisions
- Ranking criteria: Early detection/rapid response, rehabilitation, wildfire reduction, economic benefit, wildlife impact.

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# GIP - Grazing Improvement Program

**Purpose** - Helps producers improve the productivity and sustainability of rangelands, watersheds, and wildlife habitat through livestock grazing management practices.

## Notes:

- Includes restoration work, seeding, water projects
- Grants of up to \$100k per producer
- **GIP Predatory Animal Control Grant** (reimburses 50% of contracted predator control costs, \$150k available)
- **GIP Small Producers Grant** - \$100k available, grants of up to \$10k for producers with 50 AMU or less

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# Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Grant (RFSI)

## Purpose:

- Improve middle of the food supply chain processing and strengthen regional food systems

## Notes:

- USDA AMS Cooperative Agreement issued to State Departments of Agriculture
- Technical Assistance Projects are also eligible

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# Salinity Offset Grant

## Purpose:

- Provides funds to salinity reduction projects

## Notes:

- In 2023 \$100k available for Lower Ashley Creek; \$700k available for Price & San Rafael Watersheds
- Future grant cycles tbd
- Projects will be solicited by UDAF in partnership with local Conservation Districts

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# Specialty Crop Block Grant (Marketing and Economic Development Division)

## Purpose:

- Provides grants that enhance the competitiveness of Utah's specialty crop industry

## Notes:

- This is a USDA AMS grant that UDAF administers
- Projects must benefit more than one producer or organization
- Open to farmers, schools, trade associations, nonprofits, co-ops, farmers markets, etc.

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# Utah Pollinator Habitat Program (Conservation Division)

## Purpose:

- Created by HB224 in 2021 to establish a 3 year pilot program to improve pollinator habitat in Utah.

## Notes:

- Provides up to 25% of the cost of planting pollinator-friendly native plants in Utah on private or public lands.
- This is not a cash award grant. Native plants and seed are distributed as ready-to-plant kits for awardees.
- Watersheds and pollinator corridors are priority areas.

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# Utah Food Security Processing Grant (UFSPG)

## Purpose:

- Provides grants to increase in-state processing capacity for Utah-grown or raised food products.

## Notes:

- Reimburses applicants for a portion of expenses to expand existing processing facilities
- Expenses may include cold storage, contractor costs, processing and harvest equipment, livestock holding equipment, packaging equipment, etc.
- Currently under consideration by the legislature

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# Veterinary Education Loan Repayment Program

## Purpose:

- Provides up to \$100k towards student loans for veterinarians who work for 5 years in underserved areas

## Notes:

- Made possible by HB 184 - \$2.5m in funding available
- Vets may become eligible if they work in USDA designated veterinary shortage areas, Indian Country, for UDAF, for IRS exempt organizations, or for animal shelters
- New bill may make any vet practicing at least 30% livestock medicine eligible

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# Stay Up to Date

- UDAF Website: <http://ag.utah.gov>
  - Grants Subpage: <http://ag.utah.gov/grants>
  - UDAF Newsletter (1-2/month): <https://ag.utah.gov/newsletters/>
- Follow us on social media
  - Instagram: [@utagandfood](https://www.instagram.com/utagandfood)
  - Facebook: [@utahagriculture](https://www.facebook.com/utahagriculture)
- Join Utah's Own: <https://utahsown.org/membership>
- Contact us: [agriculture@utah.gov](mailto:agriculture@utah.gov)
  - Grant guidance, public comment, funding request, general assistance
  - We want to know you and know how we can help you!





# UDAF Grant Programs

- Ag Stress Assistance Program (ASAP)
  - **Program Manager:** Allison Ross- [aross@utah.gov](mailto:aross@utah.gov)
- AgVIP - Agricultural Voluntary Incentives Program
  - **Program Manager:** Katie Slebodnik- [kslebodnik@utah.gov](mailto:kslebodnik@utah.gov)
- Agricultural Water Optimization
  - **Program Manager:** Hannah Freeze- [hfreeze@utah.gov](mailto:hfreeze@utah.gov)
- Invasive Species Mitigation Program (ISM)
  - **Program Manager:** Aaron eager- [aeager@utah.gov](mailto:aeager@utah.gov)
- Grazing Improvement Program (GIP)
  - **Program Manager:** Troy Forrest- [tforrest@utah.gov](mailto:tforrest@utah.gov)
- Leray McAllister Working Farm and Ranch Fund
  - **Program Contacts:** Jeremy Christensen- [jeremyc@utah.gov](mailto:jeremyc@utah.gov), Roberta Valdez- [robertavaldez@utah.gov](mailto:robertavaldez@utah.gov)

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# UDAF Grant Programs

- Salinity Offset Grant Program
  - **Program Manager:** Market Quilter- [mquilter@utah.gov](mailto:mquilter@utah.gov)
- Soil Health Equipment Grant
  - **Program Manager:** Tony richards- [trichards@utah.gov](mailto:trichards@utah.gov)
- Specialty Crop Block Grant, Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Grant, Utah Food Security Processing Grant
  - **Program Manager:** Allison Ross- [aross@utah.gov](mailto:aross@utah.gov)
- Utah Pollinator Habitat Program
  - **Program Contact:** Jim Bowcutt- [jdbowcutt@utah.gov](mailto:jdbowcutt@utah.gov)
- Veterinary Education Loan Repayment Program
  - **Program Contact:** Dr. Amanda Price- [amandaprice@utah.gov](mailto:amandaprice@utah.gov)

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