

Weekly funding opportunity updates from Michael Fields Agricultural Institute.



Grants Advising for Farmers and Agricultural Organizations in the Midwest

Thanks for reading!

Please see below for a few new grant opportunities and deadline reminders for grants already available.

Happy Super Bowl Day!

Kitt

New opportunities:

- [Farmers] [Farmer Veteran Coalition Fellowship Funds](#)
- [Farmers] [FSA Direct Farm Operating Loans](#)
- [Deadline reminder] [Frontera Farmer Foundation Grant](#) due March 4
- [Deadline reminder] [Local Food and Farmers Market Promotion Program Grants](#) due March 27

Farmer Veteran Coalition Fellowship Funds

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Farmer Veteran Coalition Fellowship Fund

Deadline: Applications due **March 20th, 2017**

The 2017 Farmer Veteran Fellowship Fund has begun accepting applications as of Wednesday, February 1st! The Farmer Veteran Fellowship Fund is the largest grant program in the country that provides direct assistance to veterans in agriculture and has awarded more than \$1 million since it was established in 2011.

The application is posted to the FVC website at www.farmvetco.org. Applicants will have more than six weeks to complete and submit the application.

For more information about eligibility and the application process, please visit www.farmvetco.org/about-us/our-programs/farming-fellowship/

FSA Direct Operating Loans

This is not a new program, but I received the following update from the FSA, which may apply to some of you:

FSA offers direct farm ownership and direct farm operating Loans to producers who want to establish, maintain or strengthen their farm or ranch. FSA loan officers process, approve and service direct loans.

Direct farm operating loans can be used to purchase livestock and feed, farm equipment, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance and other costs including family living expenses. Operating loans can also be used to finance minor improvements or repairs to buildings and to refinance some farm-related debts, excluding real estate.

Direct farm ownership loans can be used to purchase farmland, enlarge an existing farm, construct and repair buildings, and to make farm improvements.

The maximum loan amount for both direct farm ownership and operating loans is \$300,000 and a down payment is not required. Repayment terms vary depending on the type of loan, collateral and the producer's ability to repay the loan. Operating loans are normally repaid within seven years and farm ownership loans are not to exceed 40 years.

Please contact your local FSA office for more information or to apply for a direct

farm ownership or operating loan.

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