

Montana Department of Agriculture



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AGRICULTURE

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What do I do

- Coordinate for the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center
- Manage Resilient Food System Infrastructure (RFSI) program



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What is the RFBC

- The Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center:
 - USDA-AMS funded 6-state center managed by CSU and OSU
 - Colorado
 - Idaho
 - Montana
 - Oregon
 - Washington
 - Wyoming
 - Four region-wide high-priority areas called for by USDA



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Coordination

We want to be able to give Montanans access to all the resources throughout the region by leveraging partnerships.

If you have a product you want developed or need some kind of education we can work to find that in the region.



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Capacity building

There will be several rounds of Business Builder grants

Grants will build off farm capacity to expand markets

Looking at markets and understanding barriers



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Technical assistance programs

Building a strong focus on meeting businesses where they are at

Not everything is a grant or funding

Trying to build on people's knowledge to support success



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Business Enhancement Program

If the thing stopping you from expanding your business is some kind of technical knowledge we want to provide that

Visit an FADC



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Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program

Investing in the middle of the supply chain

Building sustainability



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Forthcoming

RFBC Business Builder Grants

RFSI Equipment only grants

All focused on middle of the supply chain



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Other Things to Take a Look at

Rural Development programs currently posted

Value Added Producer Grant

- The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter value-added activities to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income.

REAP

- Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.

Reach out to a Food and Agriculture Development Center for support



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Links

- <https://nwrockymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com/>
- <https://agr.mt.gov/RFSI>
- <https://agr.mt.gov/Food-and-Ag-Development-Centers>
- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/value-added-producer-grants/mt>
- <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/energy-programs/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency-improvement-guaranteed-loans>



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