

School Garden Resources

Growing a garden is a great way to educate youth about food and farming. KCARD has compiled this list of funding sources to help provide access to funding that can make those gardens grow! If you need help applying, contact Maddie Grider at mgrider@kcard.info or 502-849-3082.



Program: USDA Turnkey Farm to School Edible Garden Program

Deadline: Fall/Winter 2022

Funding Amounts: Up to \$50,000

Eligible Entities: Schools, agriculture producers or groups of agriculture producers, nonprofits, state and local agencies.

Links: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/farm-school-grant-program>

Overview: This grant supports planning, developing, and implementing farm to school programs.

Program: USDA Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants (SPECA)

Deadline: Spring 2023

Funding Amounts: Varies, depends on grant written

Eligible Entities: Public schools and nonprofits

Links: <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/k-12-higher-education-programs>

Overview: NIFA offers a variety of grants that promote education in the food and agricultural sciences.

Program: EPA Environmental Education Local Grants Program

Deadline: Winter 2022

Funding Amounts: up to \$100,000; requires 25% non-federal cost share

Eligible Entities: Local education agencies, state education or environmental agency, college or university, nonprofits, and tribal education agencies

Links: [Environmental Education \(EE\) Grants | US EPA](#)

Overview: There were approximately 30-35 Environmental Education Local Grants awarded in 2021. The primary purpose of these grants is to promote locally focused, sound environmental stewardship through educational projects. Projects should provide educational and training activities to students enrolled in primary, secondary and/or post-secondary education. Community gardens fit within the criteria for this grant if education is the focus of the project, but it cannot fund construction.

Program: Captain Planet Foundation Grants

Deadline: Not currently open. Sign up for the email notification to be notified of grant opening.

Funding Amounts: Grants requests can be made from \$500 to \$2500.

Eligible Entities: Schools and nonprofits

Links: <http://captainplanetfoundation.org/>

Overview: Captain Planet Foundation grants are designed to support hands on, project based environmental education activities for youth, helping them understand and appreciate the environment. The projects must demonstrate real environmental outcomes and empower young people to be good stewards of the environment.

Program: The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation – Fruit Tree Orchard Grant

Deadline: On-going

Funding Amounts: Donation of high-quality fruit trees and shrubs, organic soil amendments, equipment, planting volunteers, orchard design work, horticultural workshops, and aftercare training

Eligible Entities: Schools and nonprofits

Links: [Apply | ftpf](#)

Download FTPF's application form at [Microsoft Word - FTPFApplicationPack.docx](#) and return via email only to info@ftpf.org

Overview: The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation is a nonprofit that provides Fruit Tree Orchard Grants to bring fruit orchards to community gardens, school gardens and low-income neighborhoods.

Program: Green Our Planet

Deadline: Was due June 10, 2022, but applications are accepted on a rolling basis

Funding Amounts: Grant allows schools to purchase hydroponic or GardenConnect programs at a discounted cost (Hydroponic at \$2,000 and GardenConnect at \$1,000), as well as training and guidance on how to use them.

Eligible Entities: Public, private, and charter schools

Links: [Green Our Planet | America's Largest School Garden Program](#)

Overview: This grant provides 200 grants to help fund the Hydroponics STEM Program and/or the GardenConnect STEM Program. Only schools that will have a garden ready by August 2022 are eligible.

Program: The Kroger Co.: Zero Hunger/Zero Waste Foundation

Deadline: On-going, reviewed on a quarterly basis

Funding Amounts: Various forms of awards: cash donations, sponsorships, gift cards, or product donation

Eligible Entities: 501c3 registered nonprofit organizations, confirmed through Guidestar Charity Check.

Mentions having a Kroger in your community.

Links: [Kroger Proposal Management System - Login \(versaic.com\)](#)

Overview: Projects must align with the mission of creating communities free of hunger and waste with an emphasis on improving nutrition education and access to healthier foods. *Kroger also has a donation platform tied to their shopper rewards program. Shoppers select an organization for Kroger to donate to and link the organization to their rewards card. Kroger then donates to the organization on an annual basis.*

Program: Whole Kids Foundation

Deadline: Spring 2023

Funding Amounts: \$3,000

Eligible Entities: Must be a charter or public school, or a nonprofit serving children in the K-12 range

Links: [Garden Grants](#)

Overview: The Garden Grant program provides a \$3,000 monetary grant to support a new or existing edible educational garden at either a: K–12 School, 501(c)(3) Non-profit working in partnership with a K–12 school, or a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Additional Resources:

Fiskars Project Orange Thumb: [Project Orange Thumb \(fiskars.com\)](http://fiskars.com)

Kid's Gardening: <http://grants.kidsgardening.org/>

Project Learning Tree: <https://www.plt.org/>

Kentucky Association for Environmental Education: <http://kaee.org/>

Food Hub, School Garden Resource Page: <https://food-hub.org/knowledgebase/browse/21>

Slow Food USA: [School Garden Program • Slow Food USA](http://slowfoodusa.org/school-garden-program)

Lowe's: <http://responsibility.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>

North American Association for Environmental Education: [NAAEE | North American Association for Environmental Education](http://naaee.org)

Green Schools National Network: <https://greenschoolsnationalnetwork.org/>

Center for Eco-literacy: <http://www.ecoliteracy.org/>

Food Connects: [Food Connects](http://foodconnects.org)

Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! Grants: <https://www.plt.org/apply-for-greenworks-environmental-education-grant>

Seed Money: [Home Page \(seedmoney.org\)](http://seedmoney.org)



The Agribusiness Grant Facilitation Program (AGFP) is funded by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board and is led by Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD). The AGFP mission is to help agricultural producers and rural businesses in Kentucky learn about, apply for, and receive funding available through numerous programs.