

# Rhode Island Farm to School Collaborative Grants 2021

## **RI Farm to School Collaborative Mission:**



The [Rhode Island Farm to School Collaborative](#) engages partners across RI to develop, expand, and strengthen local procurement, education, and gardening initiatives to benefit children and youth throughout the state. These initiatives connect local agriculture to healthy eating habits, which improve public health and the local economy, support local farmers and food producers, and build community relationships.

The Rhode Island Farm to School Collaborative was established in 2019 to unify advocacy, funding and organizational capacities to address ongoing challenges and opportunities.

The Collaborative is represented by lead organizers from the RI Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs, RI Department of Environmental Management Division of Agriculture, Farm Fresh RI, RI Healthy Schools Coalition, and Green Circle Design/URI School Garden Initiative.

## **Grant Summary:**

Through generous support from the Henry P. Kendall Foundation and the Northeast Farm to School Collaborative, the Rhode Island Farm to School Collaborative is happy to announce mini grants to support schools looking to implement Farm to School projects in Summer-December 2021.

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools.

Students gain access to healthy, local foods in school meals, as well as education opportunities such as taste tests, school gardens, cooking lessons, and farm field trips. Farm to School empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities.

Do you have an idea that would bring Farm to School activities to your school? This could be anything from indoor or outdoor growing, improving an existing garden space, bringing Farm to School lessons in the classroom, doing taste tests with local food, connecting with parents around local food and school meals, or helping to build back your F2S activities that may have been interrupted by COVID.

The Collaborative has up to \$4,500 in grant money to allocate to three deserving projects of \$1,500 each that will bring farm to school activities to your school.

Proposals must be received through our [Application](#) no later than 11pm **Friday, May 28, 2021** to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

## Eligibility & Requirements:

### Eligibility:

**Eligible Applicants:** Public and Private K-12 schools are invited to apply.

**Eligible Projects:** Eligible projects are those that support Farm to School activities in education, serving and promoting local foods, and/or school gardens, are supported and approved by an administrator or other person with authority to do so, and that support the RI F2S Collaborative's mission and values,

Projects in high need districts, those that involve students in the process, and those that highlight and improve equity, food justice and/or food insecurity concepts will be prioritized. In addition, projects should demonstrate sustainability and impact on student learning and health.

## Process and Timeline:

All complete proposals turned in by May 28, 2021 will be reviewed by the RI F2S Collaborative and awardees will be notified June 7th, 2021. Recipients will submit a W9 for payment and will sign a reporting agreement. Funding timeline and activities will begin any time after June 7th, and will be completed by December 1, 2021. Reporting for projects will include a short survey on challenges, successes, and impacts of your project due by December 18, 2021.

## Application questions:

Here is an overview of the types of questions found in the [Grant Application](#)

1. Name, school/district
2. % of students free & reduced lunch
3. Summary of project (500 words or less)
4. Impact (500 words or less)
5. Sustainability (300 words or less)
6. Timeline
7. Budget
8. Agreement of admin or supervisor to implement project

## Application Documents needed:

Download the [Workplan & Budget document](#) as an Excel sheet and fill out to submit in the application.