



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

Reminder: Deadline Approaching For Support Through The New Farmers Grant Fund

JOHN FRIOT January 6, 2017



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From growing and producing the fresh foods we eat to making significant contributions to our state and local economies, farmers have a tremendous impact on all of our lives. If we want New York's leading industry—and the benefits it supports—to continue, we need to make sure there are people interested in pursuing careers in agriculture.

That's the aim of the "New Farmers Grant Fund," an initiative I created that provides grants to those who are just starting out in the agriculture industry. The New Farmers Grant Fund is now accepting applications, and the deadline for applying is January 27th. Through the New Farmers Grant Fund, \$1 million will help provide grants of up to \$50,000 to new and beginning farmers for the purchase of equipment, supplies and other necessities essential to an agricultural business.

This year, the New Farmers Grant Fund has eliminated the 150 acres or less requirement and is accepting applications from agricultural operations of all sizes. Full guidelines for applying [can be found here](#).

Now in its third year, the New Farmer's Grant Fund has allocated \$1.4 million in grants to 41 farms across the state, helping protect the future of New York's leading industry. I have been proud to advocate for funding of this program, which has provided vital support to those just starting out in the industry.

Across our state, the New Farmers Grant Fund is providing those new to agriculture with the support they need to "dig in" and be successful in their new venture. If you're just starting out in a farming career or have plans to pursue one in the future, I encourage you to apply for funding via the New Farmers Grant Fund before the January 27th deadline.