

SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program

About the Program

The Salt Lake City Sustainability Department created the SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program in 2023 as a funding opportunity to support resident- and community-led projects that address food inequity and increase access to fresh, healthy, affordable, and culturally relevant food in Salt Lake City.

The purpose of the SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program is to build an inclusive community around healthy food choices where individuals living in Salt Lake City have many opportunities to shape, participate in, and enjoy a sustainable, equitable, and resilient local food environment.

Projects must be located in Salt Lake City. Only one application is accepted per household or organization. There are two categories of funding:

- *Home Food Production Grants*: \$250 for residents
- *Community Grants*: up to \$5,000 for community groups, organizations, or small businesses

Funding Priorities

Any food related projects that connect with the purpose and goals of this grant will be considered for funding. Projects that align with the key ideas and recommendations outlined in the [SLC Resident Food Equity Advisors' Final Report \(June 2021\)](#) will be prioritized for funding. The four main categories of prioritized projects include:

- *Growing Food* - projects that support opportunities and access to grow food locally
- *Inclusive Outreach & Communications* - projects that support accessibility of information about food resources to groups that experience challenges with or exclusion from traditional outlets
- *Dignified Food Access* - projects that support improving access to healthy and relevant food opportunities that center and respect the agency and choice of individuals
- *Healthy Food Environments* - projects that support the availability and accessibility of healthy, fresh foods and enhance the quality and character of food environments near where people live

Projects led by and serving those who identify as members of groups that have been most negatively impacted by the food system will be prioritized for funding. Priority peoples and communities include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) | • Adults 65+ |
| • Historically marginalized or under-resourced people and neighborhoods | • Youth |
| • People and households living in poverty or with low- or moderate-incomes | • Nontraditional students |
| • Unsheltered or informally sheltered people | • People of differing legal status |
| • LGBTQIA+ individuals and communities | • Immigrants and the newly arrived |
| • People with disabilities | • Formerly incarcerated |
| • People with specific health needs | • People with deep cultural food relationships |
| • Veterans | • Groups for whom other funding opportunities are or historically have been limited |

How to Apply

The 2024 SLC Food Equity Microgrant application period will be open until March 3rd, 11:59 PM. Awardees will be announced during the first week of April.

To apply for the grant, please respond to the questions contained in this document. Please note that questions marked with a * are required. All required questions must be addressed for an application to be complete and considered for funding. There are six parts to the application:

1. Confirming grant eligibility
2. Contact information
3. Project proposal
4. Additional Information (optional)
5. Demographic information (optional)
6. Acknowledging next steps

Application Format & Submission Options

Applications are available and accepted in multiple formats including:

- *Written options:* online form, digital form (Word document or fillable pdf), or paper form
 - Digital forms should be submitted by email to the Program Manager
 - Paper applications should be sent or delivered to the following address: Sustainability Department, Food Equity Microgrant Program, 415 South State Street, Room #404, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111
 - Paper applications may also be dropped off at any of the SLC Library branches
- *Recorded options:* an audio or video recording responding to the application questions
 - Recorded responses should be submitted by email to the Program Manager
- *Live exchange options:* phone call, video chat, or in-person meeting with the Program Manager
 - To schedule a live exchange application appointment, contact the Program Manager

Application Language Options

Applications are available and accepted in any language. To request an application form in a language other than Spanish or English, visit our website or contact the Program Manager. If you would like additional translation support with a live exchange or recorded response, contact the Program Manager.

Additional Information & Support

If you have questions, would like help with your idea or application, or would like to receive or complete the application in another format or language, contact the Program Manager. For general information about the program, including FAQs, application examples, and information on past funded projects, please visit our program website: <https://www.slc.gov/sustainability/food-equity-grant/>

Program Manager Contact Information

Maria Schwarz (she/her) | phone (calls or texts): (385) 271-7220 | email – maria.schwarz@slcgov.com

HOME FOOD PRODUCTION GRANT APPLICATION

Home Food Production Grants are intended to support individual residents, families, and neighbors in growing or raising their own food. Grants provide \$250 to Salt Lake City residents to help buy supplies or access education opportunities for starting, continuing, or expanding a food garden or other home food production project such as backyard chickens, home composting, fruit tree maintenance, or beekeeping.

Confirming Grant Eligibility

Please note that this grant is unavailable for projects located outside of Salt Lake City. You can see a map of the Salt Lake City boundaries here: <https://maps.slcgov.com/mws/residentrepresentation-lg.htm>

If you have a question about your eligibility to apply for this grant, please contact the Program Manager, Maria Schwarz, by email – maria.schwarz@slcgov.com or by phone/text – (385) 271-7220.

- *Will the proposed project be located in Salt Lake City?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ I'm not sure

Contact Information

Please complete the following information so our team can communicate with you about your project application.

- *Name of applicant or primary contact person for the project:

- *Email address:

- *Phone number:

- What communication method(s) would you prefer to use when communicating with us? (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Email
 - ☐ Phone call
 - ☐ Text message
 - ☐ Other: (specify)
- What language would you prefer to use when communicating with us?

- If you would like to list an additional contact person, please provide their name and contact information here:

Project Proposal

Please answer the following questions about your proposed project. The questions in this section will be reviewed by our grant selection committee and used to prioritize projects for funding. Your answers will be kept confidential throughout the review and scoring process.

- *Please describe your proposed project and how this grant will support you in producing food.
- *Why is this project important to you? What impact will this grant have?
- *How would your project incorporate sustainable or environmentally beneficial practices?
- *Please provide a brief budget or general estimate of how you will spend the \$250 grant on your proposed project.
- *Please provide the address of the proposed project, including the zip code.
- *Do you own or have permission from the owner to use the space where you are proposing to locate your project? You may be asked to provide proof of ownership or permission from the owner prior to receiving funding for your project.
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ I'm not sure
 - ☐ Not applicable to my project

- *How many people live in your household?

- *What is your household income level?

- ☐ \$0-\$14,999
- ☐ \$15,000-\$24,999
- ☐ \$25,000-\$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000-\$74,999
- ☐ \$75,000 - \$100,000
- ☐ \$100,000- \$150,000
- ☐ \$150,000+
- ☐ Prefer not to say

This grant aims to benefit specific people and communities that have been negatively impacted by the food system, including:

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
 - Historically marginalized or under-resourced people and neighborhoods
 - People and households living in poverty or with low- or moderate-incomes
 - Unsheltered or informally sheltered people
 - LGBTQIA+ individuals and communities
 - People with disabilities
 - People with specific health needs
 - Veterans
 - Adults 65+
 - Youth
 - Nontraditional students
 - People of differing legal status
 - Immigrants and the newly arrived
 - Formerly incarcerated
 - People with deep cultural food relationships
 - Groups for whom other funding opportunities are or historically have been limited
- *Do you identify as a member of one or more of the listed priority groups?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Prefer not to say

- If desired, please use this space to share anything else you would like the Selection Committee to know or consider about your project that the application questions did not address.

Please note: The information you provide for this question will be used to better understand what your project is trying to achieve and has no impact on whether your project is awarded a grant. The information provided could increase points awarded on other questions if it provides more clarity or context to those responses. This question is optional.

- Do you have any questions about the grant program, application, or process?

Additional Information

The City is interested in understanding more about who is applying for the SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program and what kinds of projects they are interested in so we can continue to adapt our program, reach diverse applicants, support a variety of project types, and better serve the SLC community.

The answers to the following questions will not be used to score your application and have no impact on whether your project is awarded a grant. These questions are optional.

- Have you ever applied for a grant before?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

- Will this grant be used to start a new project or support/expand an existing project?
 - ☐ Start a new project
 - ☐ Support/expand an existing project
 - ☐ Other: (specify)

- How much experience, if any, do you have producing food?
 - ☐ None or less than 1 year
 - ☐ 1-3 years
 - ☐ 4-10 years
 - ☐ 10+ years
 - ☐ Not applicable

- Would the proposed project do one or more of the following? (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Replace all or part of a grass lawn
 - ☐ Replace all or part of a paved or rock/gravel area with plants
 - ☐ Install a water efficient irrigation system
 - ☐ Plant one or more trees
 - ☐ Change the landscaping in a park strip
 - ☐ None of the above

- How long have you lived in Salt Lake City?

- At what kind of location would the proposed project be located?
 - ☐ Single family home
 - ☐ Duplex or multifamily building
 - ☐ Apartment or condo building
 - ☐ Shared community or neighborhood space
 - ☐ School
 - ☐ Church
 - ☐ Business
 - ☐ Not applicable to project
 - ☐ Other: (specify)

- Do you own or rent the space where your proposed project would be located?
 - ☐ Own
 - ☐ Rent
 - ☐ Not applicable to project
 - ☐ Other: (specify)
- How did you hear about this grant program?
- Do you have any helpful information you'd like to share with other applicants? This could include local food resources, organizations, or funding opportunities. If yes, please list the names of the organizations or resources.
- Is there anything else you think would be helpful for the City to know as we seek to support residents and communities in promoting food equity through this grant or other City programs?

Demographic Information

Salt Lake City strives to reach all our residents with the SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program. These demographic questions help us determine if we have connected with a proper representation of our City's residents. The demographic information we collect here will be reported only in aggregate, meaning we look at totals rather than connecting data to a specific individual. Collecting this information helps us understand who we are serving and helps us better design, implement, and assess the impact and equity of our program.

Your answers to these questions will be separated from your application and kept strictly confidential. Your responses will not be used to score your application and have no impact on whether you are awarded a grant. These questions are optional.

- Do you rent or own the place where you live?
 - ☐ Rent
 - ☐ Own
 - ☐ Other: (please specify)

- What is your current employment status? (select all that apply)
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Employed full-time
 - ☐ Employed part-time
 - ☐ Unemployed
 - ☐ Unable to work
 - ☐ Homemaker
 - ☐ Caregiver
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Other: (please specify)

- What is your age?
 - ☐ Younger than 18
 - ☐ 18-21
 - ☐ 22-30
 - ☐ 31-40
 - ☐ 41-50
 - ☐ 51-60
 - ☐ 61 or older

- How do you describe your gender?
 - ☐ Man
 - ☐ Woman
 - ☐ Non-binary/Third gender
 - ☐ Prefer to self-describe
 - ☐ Prefer not to say

- If you prefer to self-describe your gender, please do so here:

- How do you describe your race or ethnicity? (select all that apply)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White or Caucasian
- ☐ Prefer to self-describe
- ☐ Prefer not to say

- If you prefer to self-describe your race or ethnicity, please do so here:

- What is the primary language spoken in your household?

- What, if any, is your religious preference?

- This grant aims to benefit specific people and communities that have been negatively impacted by the food system. Please indicate which of these priority groups, if any, you identify with (select all that apply)

- ☐ Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color (BIPOC)
- ☐ Person living in a historically marginalized or under-resourced communities and neighborhoods
- ☐ Person/household living in poverty or with low- or moderate-income
- ☐ Unsheltered or informally sheltered person
- ☐ Member of the LGBTQIA+ community
- ☐ Person with a disability
- ☐ Person with specific health needs
- ☐ Veteran
- ☐ Adult 65+
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Nontraditional student
- ☐ Person with differing legal status
- ☐ Immigrant or newly arrived person
- ☐ Formerly incarcerated person
- ☐ Person with deep cultural food relationships
- ☐ Member of a group for whom other funding opportunities are or historically have been limited
- ☐ None of the above

Acknowledging Next Steps

- *I acknowledge that if I am selected for a grant, I will have to sign an agreement with the City outlining the responsibilities, expectations, and requirements of receiving funding.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.
- *I acknowledge that if I am selected for a grant, I may have to attend an orientation prior to receiving the funding.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.
- *I acknowledge that if I am selected for a grant, I will have to register with Salt Lake City to receive the funding. Receiving this funding may have tax reporting implications.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.
- *I acknowledge that if I am selected for a grant, I will be responsible for reporting outcomes of the funded project to Salt Lake City's Sustainability Department.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.
- *I acknowledge that if I am selected for a grant, I will be responsible for ensuring that the project complies with any relevant City, County, or State regulations.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.
- *I acknowledge that I may be asked to provide information about and/or photos of my project to help with the publicity of the SLC Food Equity Microgrant Program. There will be an opportunity for me to opt out of the publicity request. Choosing not to participate in the publicity of this program will have no impact on whether my project is awarded a grant.
☐ I understand this statement and agree to its terms.

END OF APPLICATION

Thank you for applying for a Home Food Production Grant through the Salt Lake City Food Equity Microgrant Program!

If the Selection Committee has any questions about your application or proposed project, you will be contacted via the preferred communication method and language you have indicated. Chosen applicants will be notified of selection decisions during the first week of April.

For more information about the grant program, please visit the program website:

<https://www.slc.gov/sustainability/food-equity-grant/>

If you have any questions about your application, please contact the Program Manager, Maria Schwarz, by email – maria.schwarz@slcgov.com or by phone/text – (385) 271-7220.