

# **FY 2027 State Food Purchase Program Gleaning and Seafood Recovery Support Grant Information Sheet**

**Grant Award Period:** July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

The Department of Agriculture is soliciting applications for both Gleaning and Seafood Recovery Support from interested eligible entities. Completed applications must be submitted via email to [NJDA.Grants@ag.nj.gov](mailto:NJDA.Grants@ag.nj.gov) no later than 12:00 pm on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Incomplete and/or late submissions will be determined ineligible.

## **Categories of Eligible Applicants:**

### **1. Gleaning Organizations:**

- Must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit actively involved in the hands-on work of harvesting surplus produce from farms, orchards, and gardens.
- Must demonstrate capacity to:
  - Mobilize volunteers.
  - Coordinate with local farmers.
  - Ensure safe and efficient gleaning of produce.
  - Handle logistics of transporting goods to distribution centers or food banks.
  - Ensure donated produce reaches those in need.
  - Adhere to food safety standards.

### **2. Seafood Recovery Organizations:**

- Must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit actively involved in the hands-on work of recovering surplus seafood from fisheries, docks, or seafood markets.
- Must demonstrate capacity to:
  - Mobilize volunteers.
  - Coordinate with local fisheries or seafood suppliers.
  - Ensure safe and efficient recovery of seafood.
  - Handle logistics of transporting goods to packaging facilities, distribution centers or food banks.
  - Ensure donated seafood reaches those in need.
  - Adhere to food safety standards specific to seafood handling.

## **General Eligibility Requirements:**

- The applicant must be a non-profit, 501(c)(3) entity owned and operated in New Jersey.
- A Letter of Determination from the IRS documenting non-profit status is required.
- Organizations currently receiving State Food Purchase Program funding are **not** eligible to apply for this grant.

## **Application Requirements:**

- Provide an implementation plan stating how this grant will support the organization's activities.
- Include detailed costs associated with the program.
- Funding may be requested for expenses in categories such as vehicle expenses, scales for tracking, salaries of staff involved in activities, and miscellaneous expenses related to immediate transportation and distribution.
  - Vehicle Expenses: **Only** mileage will be reimbursed at the prevailing federal rate which is intended to cover all vehicle expenses.
  - The cost of a scale for the tracking and verification of gleaned items received and distributed.
  - Salaries: Staff directly involved in gleaning activities, including supervision, transportation, and distribution of gleaned food.
  - Miscellaneous expenses: Miscellaneous expenses directly associated with the immediate transportation and distribution of produce grown by New Jersey farmers will be considered on a case-by-case basis. (i.e.: utilities, containers, communication equipment, ice, small refrigerator, coolers, scales, forklift, to assist with the immediate distribution of gleaned foods).
  - Examples of un-allowable costs may include but are not limited to freezers, infrastructure improvements, storage facilities, etc.

## **Note:**

- NJDA reserves the right to modify the amount of funds requested or eliminate line items if they do not meet the requirements set forth in the Public Notice and this Information Sheet.
- NJDA reserves the right to request a visit with an organization prior to a grant award.

## **Record Keeping:**

- Audits of recipients are required; therefore, record keeping must distinguish activities related to the grant from other activities performed by the applicant organization or group. Records must be maintained for seven years.