

NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FY 2017-18 Annual Plan for Awarding Grants Under The Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act

The Department of Agriculture, under authority of section 8 (a) of the Act of July 8, 1986 (P.L. 437, No. 92), known as the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act, hereby announces that the Secretary of Agriculture, with the advice and assistance of the Agricultural Fair Advisory Committee at its meeting of November 8, 2017, adopted the FY 2017-18 Annual Plan on the awarding of grants to eligible organizations under the provisions of the act.

The act authorizes the Department to make grants to organizations conducting eligible agricultural fairs, statewide agricultural organizations which contribute to the development of agriculture and agribusiness and to eligible agricultural youth groups for support of their programs. The Secretary, with the advice and assistance of Advisory Committee created by the act, is to adopt an annual plan for awarding of grants subject to the limitations specified in section 5 of the act.

The Annual plan, as adopted by the Secretary, provides for the award of grants to each eligible organization subject to the availability of funds on the following basis:

1. For operating expenses, the maximum payment allowed for each Class Fair under section 5 (1) (i) (A) of the Act will be paid.
2. For premium reimbursement, the maximum payment allowed under Section 5 (1) (i) (B) of the act will be paid.
3. For reimbursement to each eligible organization conducting harness horse racing at its annual fair, other than races for 2- and 3-year-old colts and fillies, the maximum amount of reimbursement allowed under section 5 (1) (iii) of the act will be paid.
4. For reimbursement to each eligible organization conducting races for 2- and 3-year-old colts and fillies at its annual fair, the maximum amount of reimbursement allowed under section 5 (1) (iv) of the act will be paid.
5. For a statewide agricultural organization that conducts an agricultural fair and is otherwise eligible for grants under section 5 (2) of the act, the Department shall reimburse up to \$2,000 of the operating expenses (including premium payments) on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and shall reimburse 50% of all additional premium costs that are not included in that initial dollar-for-dollar reimbursement, up to a maximum amount of \$10,000. The total maximum payment hereunder shall not exceed \$12,000.

6. For actual expenses incurred for activities which contribute to the advancement of agriculture or agribusiness by 4-H Youth groups, a payment which will be calculated according to the following formula:

Tier 1: \$2,000 for total enrollment of up to 1,000 members plus \$1.50 for each traditional member and \$1.00 for each school enrichment/special interest member.

Tier 2: \$2,500 for total enrollment of 1,001 to 2,000 members plus \$1.50 for each traditional member and \$1.00 for each school enrichment/special interest member.

Tier 3: \$3,000 for total enrollment of 2,001 to 3,000 members plus \$1.50 for each traditional member and \$1.00 for each school enrichment/special interest member.

Tier 4: \$3,500 for total enrollment of 3,001+ members plus \$1.50 for each traditional member and \$1.00 for each school enrichment/special interest member, a maximum reimbursement of \$9,000.

7. For actual expenses incurred for activities which contribute to the advancement of agriculture or agribusiness by FFA Youth groups, a payment which will be calculated according to the following formula:

Tier I: County FFA Organizations with 100 members or less will receive base funding of \$1,000 with an additional \$4.00 per member.

Tier II: County FFA Organizations with 101 to 210 members inclusive will receive a \$2,000 base funding with an additional \$2.00 per member.

Tier III: County FFA Organizations with 211 members or more will receive funding of \$2,000 with an additional \$4.00 per member for every member over 210.

8. Any funds remaining after the above grants have been awarded shall be utilized for capital improvement as provided in section 5(1) (ii) of the act.

9. The Secretary will endeavor to disburse the above payments at the earliest date practicable:



Russell C. Redding, Secretary
Department of Agriculture