

VFAIF Grant Pre-Proposal Application

I. Before completing this pre-proposal, please read the Equitable Food-Oriented Development (EFOD) brown paper.

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/EFOD-Criteria.pdf>

The core values of the VFAIF grant program are informed by this EFOD framework. Grant applications will be evaluated based on their ability to demonstrate implementation of the EFOD framework.

Project Title:
Project location(s):
Anticipated Start Date:
Current Project Stage (circle one): not yet begun, newly implemented, existing
Anticipated End Date:
Requested Amount:
Primary Contact Name:
Primary Contact Title:
Organization or Business:
Telephone:
Email Address:
Mailing Address:
Project Address:

City, State, Zip:

II. The main objectives of this program are to:

- a. improve access to fresh foods and reduce food deserts across the Commonwealth.
- b. create wealth and leadership in low-income and low access communities;
- c. improve access to private capital in low-income, low-access communities, including for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.
- d. assess, support, and transform existing or potential businesses into sustainable community-informed businesses.
- e. foster innovative solutions that uplift and share successful food business models; and
- f. reduce food insecurity, strengthen food systems, and improve health outcomes for low-income and low-access communities.

III. Is my project eligible for VFAIF funding?

Check the following boxes as they relate to your project. These represent the **six mandatory requirements** of the VFAIF program, per the program guidelines:

My project:

- € has or will have a food retail component; and
- € accepts or will accept SNAP/EBT; and
- € is informed by the community (this may be demonstrated through letters of support, interviews, etc.); and
- € improves food access in low-income/low access communities.
- € has leadership made up of members of the community which the project itself is serving; and
- € sources or will source at least 25% of its fresh retail food from Virginia producers.

If you have read the EFOD brown paper and checked all eligibility boxes above, then VFAIF may be right for you. Please continue to the next section to briefly describe your project.

IV. Provide a concise summary of your project in 500 words or less. Describe in detail:

- a. how your project improves access to fresh food in a low-income/low access community.
- b. how your project satisfies the six mandatory requirements from Section III.
- c. your business or organization's history engaging local community residents in the interest of building health and wealth equity; and
- d. anticipated total project budget.

Add space on the next page as needed.

- V. Please submit your pre-proposal to email address vfair@vdacs.virginia.gov Please list your project name in the subject line.**