
NJEDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Food Security Planning Grant



NJEDA

About NJEDA

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) serves as the State's principal agency for driving economic growth.

The NJEDA is committed to making New Jersey a national model for **inclusive and sustainable economic development** by focusing on key strategies to help build **strong and dynamic communities**, **create good jobs for New Jersey residents**, and **provide pathways to a stronger and fairer economy**. Through partnerships with a diverse range of stakeholders, the NJEDA creates and implements initiatives to **enhance the economic vitality and quality of life** in the State and **strengthen New Jersey's long-term economic competitiveness**.



HELPING TO BUILD A
STRONGER AND FAIRER
NEW JERSEY ECONOMY

Agenda

Housekeeping and Reminders

Welcome & Introduction – Economic Security Team

Background

Program Overview – Food Security Planning Grant

Additional Resources

Sample Application

Key Reminders

Economic Security Products

Food Security products focused on alleviating food insecurity and combating food deserts in NJ

- **Food Desert Relief Act**
- **Sustain & Serve NJ**
- **Food Security Planning Grant**

Child Care Facilities Improvement Program – a grant program to improve childcare facilities in NJ to ensure that high quality early childhood learning environments are available and accessible across the state

- Application for this program is currently under development

BACKGROUND

Food Security Products

NJEDA's Products to Alleviate Food Insecurity

Food Desert Relief Act

- ▶ Part of the New Jersey Economic Recovery Act, signed by Governor Murphy in January 2021, that creates a package of tax incentive, financing, and grant programs to build a stronger, fairer New Jersey economy
- ▶ The Food Desert Relief Act includes \$240 million in tax credits, grants, loans, and technical assistance to alleviate food deserts and support food security efforts across the state

Sustain & Serve NJ

- ▶ Provides grants to nonprofit organization to buy meals from NJ-based restaurants and distribute those meals for free to community members
- ▶ More than \$50M awarded to support the purchase and distribution of 5M meals

Food Security Planning Grant

- ▶ New grant program to provide up to \$1,500,000 in planning grants to improve food access and food security by leveraging distressed assets in designated NJ Food Desert Communities



THE FOOD DESERT RELIEF ACT

The Food Desert Relief Act is part of the **New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020 (ERA)**, a package of tax incentive, financing, and grant programs Governor Murphy signed into law in January 2021 to address the ongoing economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and build a stronger, fairer New Jersey economy.



Facilitate development, construction, and sustainable operations of new supermarkets and grocery stores



Strengthen existing community assets by equipping them with the necessary equipment and infrastructure to provide healthier food options



Help food retailers respond to the shift to e-commerce, including for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)



Identify and foster innovative solutions to alleviate food insecurity

What is a Food Desert Community?

The Food Desert Relief Act directed EDA to work with the Departments of Community Affairs and Agriculture to designate **up to 50 areas of the state as Food Desert Communities (FDCs)**

Designations were informed by a combination of **rigorous, data-driven analysis and community input.**

Food Retail Environment

- 2021 Limited Supermarket Area (NJDCA analysis)
- 2021 Low Access Score (NJDCA analysis)
- Food Swamp – unhealthy food access area (NJDCA analysis)
- CDC Modified Retail Food Environment Index

Demographics

- Single mother head % of households
- % non-Hispanic white
- % African-American
- % Hispanic
- % of adults with a HS diploma

Economic Factors

- Unemployment rate (block group)
- Poverty rate
- Per capita income
- % of households receiving public assistance
- % of households receiving SNAP benefits
- WIC participation rate

Health Factors

- % of pop. that is obese (Health Dept. area)
- % of adults rating health as poor or fair

Community Factors

- % of households with internet access
- % of housing non-seasonally vacant
- % of households that are housing cost burdened
- % of households with no vehicle
- DCA Walkability Score
- Municipal violent crime rate, 2016-18

New Jersey Food Desert Community Designation (#1 -25)

Rank	Food Desert Name	County	Composite Food Desert Factor Score	Food Desert Population (2020)
1	North, Central and South Camden/Woodlynne*	Camden	86.2	44,702
2	Atlantic City*/Ventnor	Atlantic	78.8	41,382
3	Newark South	Essex	74.2	42,713
4	Newark West	Essex	72.7	49,065
5	Camden East/Pennsauken	Camden	72.1	49,689
6	Trenton West	Mercer	71.8	27,151
7	Newark North and Central	Essex	70.6	50,855
8	Newark East	Essex	69.7	40,427
9	Salem City*	Salem	69.6	5,296
10	Passaic City	Passaic	68.4	39,336
11	Trenton East	Mercer	68.1	57,113
12	Bridgeton/Fairfield Twp/Lawrence Twp*	Cumberland	65.3	29,167
13	Paterson South	Passaic	64.5	35,825
14	New Brunswick City	Middlesex	64.1	49,408
15	Paterson North	Passaic	63.9	46,602
16	Irvington Township	Essex	61.2	31,393
17	Asbury Park City	Monmouth	60.8	14,547
18	Jersey City South	Hudson	60.5	68,636
19	East Orange City	Essex	59.9	65,254
20	Penns Grove/Carneys Point	Salem	59.9	13,474
21	Elizabeth City	Union	58.5	69,264
22	Orange/West Orange/Montclair	Essex	57.8	50,522
23	Jersey City Central	Hudson	57.6	58,929
24	Perth Amboy City	Middlesex	57.0	30,997
25	Lindenwold/Clementon*	Camden	56.8	19,469

New Jersey Food Desert Community Designation (#26 – 50)

Rank	Food Desert Name	County	Composite Food Desert Factor Score	Food Desert Population (2020)
26	Plainfield City	Union	56.4	37,829
27	Pleasantville/Absecon	Atlantic	56.0	9,874
28	Red Bank Borough	Monmouth	55.6	1,508
29	Lakewood North	Ocean	52.1	49,364
30	Jersey City North	Hudson	51.5	62,363
31	Woodbine Borough*	Cape May	51.2	2,128
32	Long Branch City	Monmouth	51.2	27,013
33	Millville/Commercial Twp*	Cumberland	49.9	25,634
34	Prospect Park/Haledon/Hawthorne	Passaic	49.4	11,846
35	Keansburg Borough*	Monmouth	49.1	9,755
36	Paulsboro Borough	Gloucester	48.8	2,282
37	Lakewood South	Ocean	48.5	49,831
38	North Bergen/West New York/Guttenberg	Hudson	48.4	48,711
39	Fairview Borough	Bergen	48.3	1,135
40	Egg Harbor City*	Atlantic	47.1	4,396
41	Burlington City	Burlington	46.1	6,101
42	Linden/Roselle	Union	45.7	36,659
43	Vineland City	Cumberland	45.2	13,273
44	Phillipsburg Town	Warren	44.4	13,823
45	Bayonne City	Hudson	42.7	28,718
46	Dover Town	Morris	42.5	10,478
47	Bound Brook Borough	Somerset	42.4	1,823
48	Union City	Hudson	34.9	23,926
49	High Bridge Borough	Hunterdon	26.5	1,221
50	Montague Township*	Sussex	25.1	3,792

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Food Security Planning Grants

Food Security Planning Grant Overview

The Food Security Planning Grant program is the Authority's first pilot program aimed at improving food access within New Jersey's designated Food Desert Communities (FDCs). It is a competitive **planning grant** program focusing on leveraging **distressed assets** to improve food access.

What is a Planning Grant?

A well-supported action-plan proposing approaches that are likely to be effective in addressing a problem faced by the community.

- Planning Grants should be innovative and propose exciting projects;
- Incorporate the Authority's food security objectives in a well-organized manner;
- Show sufficient planning and understanding of community food needs;
- Demonstrate genuine collaboration among partners and involvement of the community;
- Contain a well-prepared, well-written narrative; and.
- Meet all the other requirement as outlined in the grant program

What is a Distressed Asset?

For the purpose of the Food Security Planning Grant program, a distressed asset is defined as a:

- Commercial building or series of buildings, its attachments, and appurtenances; **or**
- Vacant land that is fully or partially vacant for at least one year
- In deteriorated condition or appearance
- Can be leveraged to improve food access and food security



Applicant & Project Eligibility

- Applicant eligibility is limited to:
 - ✓ **Municipal Governments**
 - ✓ **County Governments**
 - ✓ **Redevelopment Agencies**
- Project eligibility is limited to proposals leveraging distressed assets within the borders of an FDC. To see if the property you are considering falls within an FDC, please consult the [NJ Department of Community Affairs Food Desert Community Map](#).



The following would not be eligible for award:

- x Proposals from non-governmental entities
- x Proposals for distressed assets outside of an FDC
- x Proposals for projects using state owned land

Eligible Grant Uses

The planning grant will support the development of an action plan focused on improving food access and strengthening food security within New Jersey's FDCs by leveraging a distressed asset within the FDC

Proposed plans may include strategies such as, but not limited to:

- Identification and development of a community-based initiative/program or resources that improves access to affordable, fresh and healthy produce and other food items
- Determining cost-benefits of retrofitting, redeveloping or regreening the distressed asset as it related to food access and food security
- Creating ways to grow, process and sell fresh produce
- Developing plan to drive economic growth for the locality by implementing innovations around food access and food security
- Feasibility study for supermarket or food retailer



Grant Awards

Grant amounts will range from \$75,000 and \$125,000 and will be solely determined based on the FDC's composite factor score where the distressed asset is located.

To ensure that the Authority's resources can be utilized as widely as possible across the state, the Authority intends to award a **maximum of one grant per FDC**.

Composite Food Desert Factor Score	FDC Rank	Award Amount
86.5 - 63.9	1 - 15	\$125,000
61.2 - 51.5	16 - 30	\$100,000
51.2 - 24.1	31 - 50	\$75,000

To access Composite Food Desert Factor Scores, please click [here](#)

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

Application

- Application was **launched on September 27**, and can be found on the NJEDA website at <https://www.njeda.com/food-security-planning-grant/>
- Application **closes on November 25**
- This is a competitive planning grant program.
- It is NOT first-come, first-served. Applications must be submitted within 60 days from the application launch date
- To ensure competitiveness of the grant, **a minimum score of 55 points**, out of a maximum total score of 100, will be required.
- Applications will be reviewed first for completeness and then reviewed further by an EDA scoring committee

Application Requirements

Distressed Asset Description

An overview on potential viable use of the distressed asset property in an FDC

Proposed Use

A proposal to utilize the distressed asset to improve food access/food security based on the community needs

Timeline

A detailed timeline of activities that will be completed along with resources need to accomplish the proposed plan

Budget

A budget that details the use of funds and demonstrates a 20% match from the applicant (which may be in-kind)

Letters of Support

1. From the Office of the Mayor or the Chief Executive of the municipality
2. From a community stakeholder located within the FDC
3. From the owner of the property

Application Scoring

Criteria	Point Value
Composite Food Desert Factor Score	Composite Food Desert Factor Score between: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 86.5 – 63.9 = 10 pts• 61.2 - 51.5 = 7 pts• 51.2 – 24.1 = 5 pts
Plan Description/ Specifications/ Statement of Work	Up to 20 points
Work Plan	Up to 20 points
Organizational Capacity	Up to 20 points
Community Engagement	Up to 20 points
Budget and Budget Justification	Up to 10 points

For detailed scoring criteria please click [here](#)

Application Fee

- A standard, **non-refundable application fee of \$1,000** must be submitted to complete the application, unless an applicant requests a fee waiver
- Fees can be paid either via a valid credit card or via check
- Please be advised that NJEDA must confirm receipt of check before any review of the application may begin
- Payment by credit card, if possible, is recommended as it will help expedite NJEDA's review process

Application Fee Waiver

An Application Hardship Fee Waiver may be requested at the time of application for proposals led by municipalities or municipal authorities, boards, commissions, or other municipal entities **ranked in the top 10 percent of the 2020 Municipal Revitalization Index (MRI)**.

To determine if your municipality qualifies for a fee waiver, please consult the 2020 MRI rankings at <https://www.nj.gov/dca/home/MuniRevitIndex.html> (municipality must have an MRI rank between 1-57).

Additional Resources

- [Application Checklist](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Food Security Planning Grant Program Specifications](#) (includes detailed scoring criteria)
- [Food Desert Community Designations](#) (includes Composite Food Desert Factor Scores)
- [2020 Municipal Revitalization Index \(MRI\) Ranking](#) (for fee waiver eligibility determination)
- [New Jersey Food Desert Map](#)
- [Sample Application](#)
- [Religious Affiliation Form](#)
- [Legal Questionnaire Form](#)
- [Certificate of non-involvement in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus](#)

Sample Application

New Jersey Food Security Planning Grant



New Jersey Food Security Planning Grant

To advance the goals of the Food Desert Relief Act (FDRA), part of the Economic Recovery Act of 2020 that Governor Phil Murphy signed into law in 2021, the EDA will use up to \$1,500,000 to launch the [NJ Food Security Planning Grant \(FSPG\)](#) program. This competitive planning grant program is focused on leveraging distressed assets in designated [Food Desert Communities \(FDCs\)](#) in New Jersey to improve food access and food security. Proposed planning projects may include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Identification and development of a community-based initiative/program or resource that improves access to affordable, fresh, and healthy produce and other food items
- ▶ Determining cost-benefits of retrofitting, redeveloping or greening the distressed asset as it relates to food access and food security
- ▶ Developing a plan to drive economic growth for the locality by implementing innovations around food access and food security solutions
- ▶ Creating greater social, economic, and environmental sustainability by identifying ways to grow, process and sell fresh produce
- ▶ Stakeholder engagement and facilitation to identify community desires and needs pertaining to food access and food security
- ▶ The identification of appropriate additional funding sources to support community led re-use of one or more properties to support food access and food security
- ▶ Feasibility study for a supermarket or food retailer

New Jersey Food Security Planning Grant

Grant amounts will range from **\$75,000 and \$125,000** and will be determined based on the FDC's composite factor score where the distressed asset is located:

- ▶ Applicants with a distressed asset in an FDC with a **Composite Food Desert Factor Score between 86.5 – 63.9**
 - **Eligible to receive an award of \$125,000.**
- ▶ Applicants with a distressed asset in an FDC with a **Composite Food Desert Factor Score between 61.2 – 51.5**
 - **Eligible to receive an award of \$100,000.**
- ▶ Applicants with a distressed asset in an FDC with a **Composite Food Desert Score between 51.2 -24.1**
 - **Eligible to receive an award of \$75,000.**

Prospective applicants may find the list of FDCs with Composite Food Desert Factor Scores [here](#).

All questions must be answered. Attachments must be submitted as PDFs where indicated, and only respond to questions pertaining to that section of the application.

If you have any questions, please contact program administrators at FoodDesertRelief@njeda.com.

NJEDA Application Center Sign In Page

<https://programs.njeda.com/en-US/>

If this is the first time you are using this portal to apply for an NJEDA product, please click “Register” button on the top

NJEDA Application Center

Home | My Applications | English

Sign in Register Redeem invitation

If you are the first-time user, please click "Register" button on the top.

* User name

* Password

Remember me?

Sign in Forgot your password?

If you have forgotten your password, simply click on the “Forgot your password?” button and follow the instructions. An email will be sent enabling you to reset. Please note that your Username will be included in the email you receive, be sure to confirm that you are using the correct username when you sign in.

How to Register Your Email Address

1. Enter your email, username (can be the same as your email) and password.

Passwords must contain characters from at least three of the following four classes: uppercase, lowercase, digit, and non-alphanumeric (special).

2. Once information is filled in click “Register”

NJEDA Application Center [Home](#) | [My Applications](#) | [English](#) | [Sign in](#)

[Sign in](#) | **Register** | [Redeem invitation](#)

THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR NJEDA ASSISTANCE. THIS PAGE ALLOWS YOU TO CREATE A USER ACCOUNT THAT YOU WILL USE TO LOG IN TO NJEDA'S PRE-REGISTRATION AND/OR APPLICATION PORTAL.

Register for a new local account

* Email

* Username

* Password

* Confirm password

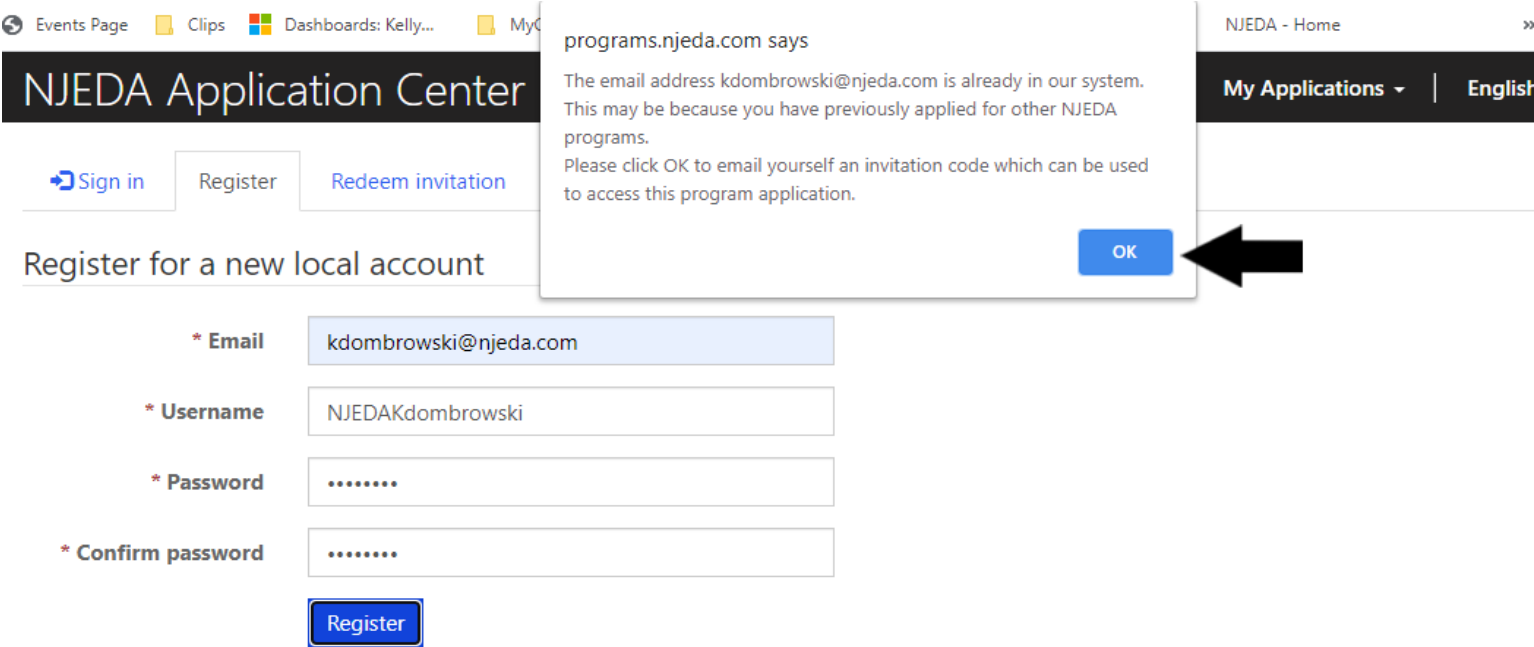
Register



PLEASE MAKE SURE TO WRITE-DOWN/ SAVE YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD

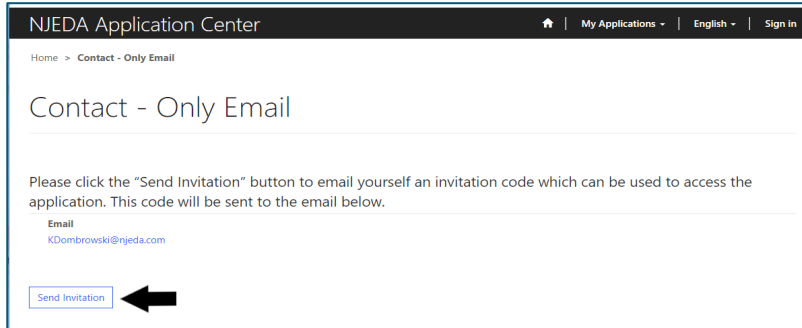
If Your Email is Recognized By the Application Portal

If after clicking on “Register” you receive the following pop-up, that indicates that your email address is already recognized in our system, and you need to request an Invitation Code. Begin by clicking on the blue “OK” button.

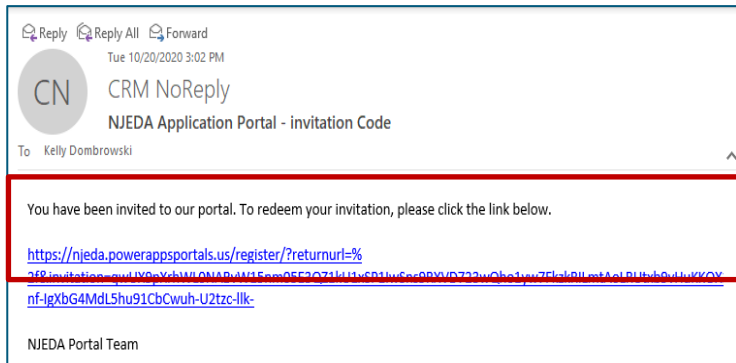


Redeeming An Invitation Code

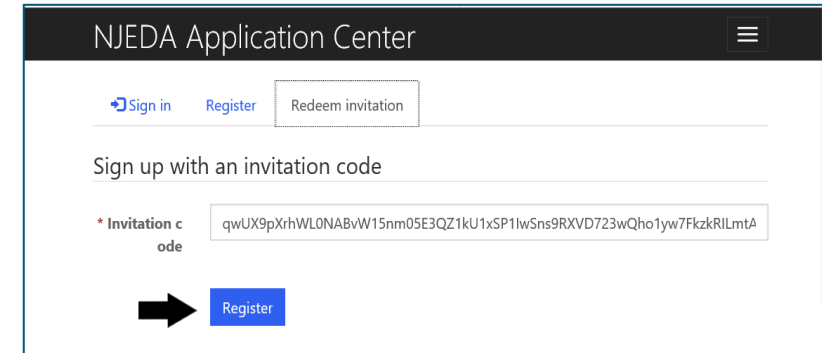
1. Click **SEND INVITATION** to email yourself an invitation code.



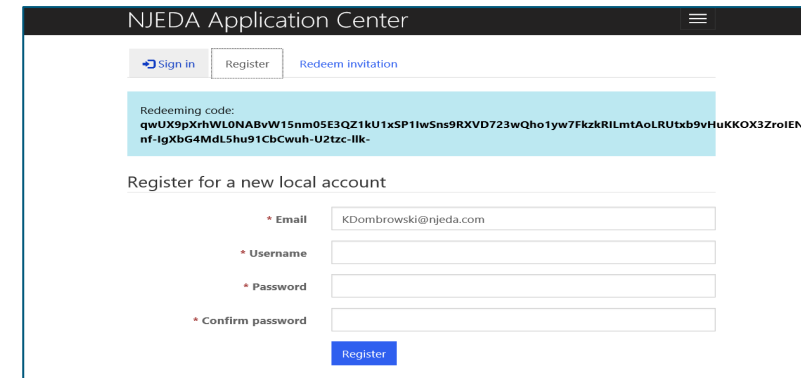
2. Check your email (including junk/spam) for an email from CRMNoReply. Click the link in that email.



3. The link from email should send you to this page on the portal. Make sure you are on the Redeem Information tab and Click **REGISTER**



4. Fill in the information requested and click **REGISTER** to complete the process. Remember this username and password – you will need it each time you access the application portal



Setting Up Applicant Profile

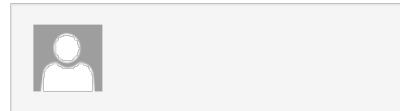
(If Your Email is New and Not Recognized by the Portal)

Setting up your Profile

1. Once you click Register, you must enter “Your Information”
2. First Name, Last Name and Phone Number is Required
3. Confirm your email address is correct (this will be the primary way the NJEDA contacts your business)
4. Once complete, click “Update”

Home > Profile

Profile



Profile

Security

Change password

Change email

Manage external authentication

Please provide some information about yourself.
If you need language assistance, please send NJEDA your name, spoken language and telephone number to languagehelp@njeda.com

You must complete your profile before using the features of this website.

Your information

First Name *	<input type="text"/>	Last Name *	<input type="text"/>
E-mail	<input type="text" value="sample@sample.com"/>	Phone *	<input type="text"/>
Organization Name	<input type="text"/>	Title	<input type="text"/>
Web Site	<input type="text"/>		

Update

Confirming Email

Confirming Your Email


1. Once “Your Information” is complete, you will need to confirm your email.
2. Within the blue box, click on “Confirm Email”
3. An email will be sent to the email address listed.
4. Go to your email and follow the instructions within the email.
5. You **MUST** confirm your email address




Once your email is confirmed please return to the portal to begin your application.

Home > Profile


Profile

 First Last

Profile


 Security

Change password


Change email 

Manage external authentication


You must complete the email confirmation below before using the features of this site!

 Your email requires confirmation.




 First Last

Profile


 Security

Change password

Change email 

Manage external authentication

Confirm E-mail

 A Confirmation Email has been sent to your below email account. Please follow the instructions in the email to complete the registration.

E-mail

Trouble Logging Into the Portal?



If you are having any issues creating a username or password, redeeming an invitation code, or generally logging into the portal, please call our **Customer Care line 609-858-6700** and a representative will assist you.

NJEDA Application Center Sign In Page

<https://programs.njeda.com/en-US/>

NJEDA Online Application Center

Welcome to the NJEDA's online application for the NJEDA Online Application Center. We look forward to helping you as you grow your business in New Jersey!
Please DO NOT use Internet Explorer as your browser to complete this application as it is unsupported and may cause delays to your application processing. Alternative browsers include "Microsoft Edge," "Chrome," or "Safari." [Close](#)

- Small Business Improvement Grant Program
- Small Business Lease Grant Program
- Henri/Ida Business Assistance Grant Program
- Main Street Micro Business Loan
- NJ ZIP Purchaser Application
- NJ ZIP Vendor Application
- Asset Activation Grant Application
- COVID Phase 4 Grant Application
- Food Security Planning Grant**

Click here to begin application



Start Application

Home > Food Security Planning Grant

Food Security Planning Grant

Welcome

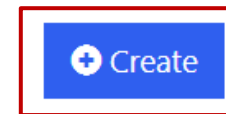
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Read the introduction information before starting your application.



Click **CREATE** button on the right side of the page to begin the application.



Applicant Information

Eligibility under the program is limited to

- **New Jersey Municipal Government,**
- **County Governments, and**
- **Redevelopment Agencies**



Applicant Information

Applicant *

Lead Municipality / County / Agency / Authority / Organization

Entity Type *

Applicant Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) *

The 9 digit Federal Tax ID number of your organization.

Mailing Address Street Address 1 *

Mailing Address Street Address 2

Mailing Address City *

Mailing Address State *

Mailing Address Zip *

Mailing Address Country *

Entities other than the ones listed above will not be considered for this grant program

Applicant Information - Authorized Representative

We will need information for the individual who is **legally authorized** to sign documents for the applicant company.

Only an individual legally authorized to sign documents for the applicant may fill out the Legal Questionnaire, Certification of Application and Electronic Signature at the end of the application

Authorized Representative

Salutation

First Name *

Middle Initial

Last Name *

Suffix

Title *

Email Address *

Email Address Confirmed *

Phone Number *

Next

Applicant Information (Continued)

Tax Clearance Certificate

The NJEDA will need to collect additional information from you regarding your tax clearance.

While this is not required at the time of application, we encourage all applicants to upload a copy at the time of application.

Government agencies (entities) will not be able to utilize Premier Business Services to obtain a tax clearance certificate.

Government entities will need to submit the paper application and no fee is required.

The completed application can be mailed to the address on the application or emailed to BusinessAssistanceTC.Taxation@treas.nj.gov for processing.

[Click here](#) to download the form.

NJEDA Application Center

Home > Food Security Planning Grant - Create

Food Security Planning Grant - Create

Applicant Information (continued)

Is the applicant, or any person who controls the applicant or owns or controls more than 1% of the stock of the applicant, an officer or employee or any agency, authority or other instrumentality of the State of New Jersey? *

Tax Clearance Certificate

Please upload the applicant organization's Tax Clearance Certificate from the NJ Division of Taxation. Certificates may be requested through the State of New Jersey's online Premier Business Services (PBS) portal. Under the Tax & Revenue Center, select Tax Services, then select Business Incentive Tax Clearance. If the applicant's account is in compliance with its tax obligations and no liabilities exist, the Business Incentive Tax Clearance can be printed directly through PBS. [CLICK HERE](#) for instructions on how to secure your tax clearance certificate.

Government entities may have to apply for a tax clearance certificate by mail. The application is available at <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/pdf/busasstaxclear.pdf>

Document	Files
Tax Clearance Certificate Document(s) *	Add Files

Is the applicant involved in religious activities or is religiously affiliated? *

Previous Next

Applicant Information (Continued)

Home > Food Security Planning Grant - Create

Food Security Planning Grant - Create

Applicant Information (continued)

Is the applicant, or any person who controls the applicant or owns or controls more than 1% of the stock of the applicant, an officer or employee or any agency, authority or other instrumentality of the State of New Jersey? *

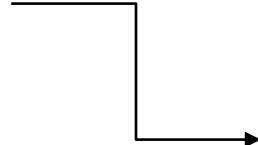
Tax Clearance Certificate
Please upload the applicant organization's Tax Clearance Certificate from the NJ Division of Taxation. Certificates may be requested through the State of New Jersey's online Premier Business Services (PBS) portal. Under the Tax & Revenue Center, select Tax Services, then select Business Incentive Tax Clearance. If the applicant's account is in compliance with its tax obligations and no liabilities exist, the Business Incentive Tax Clearance can be printed directly through PBS. [CLICK HERE](#) for instructions on how to secure your tax clearance certificate.
Government entities may have to apply for a tax clearance certificate by mail. The application is available at <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/pdf/busasstaxclear.pdf>

Document	Files
Tax Clearance Certificate Document(s) *	<input type="button" value="Add Files"/>

Is the applicant involved in religious activities or is religiously affiliated? *

Religious Affiliation Form
The NJEDA will need to collect additional information from you if your entity is involved in religious activities or is religiously affiliated.

[Click here](#) to download the form.



Project Details

Enter in the Project Title

Click the **ADD LOCATION** button to identify the Project Site Address.

Click the magnifying glass icon to look up the Food Desert Community where your project is located.

The corresponding Composite Food Desert Factor Score will populate in this field

Project Details

Project Title *

Project Site Address

Click on the "Add Location" to enter the address of the distressed asset.

Add Location

Address Line 1 ↑ Address Line 2 ↑ City State Zip Code Block Lot

There are no records to display.

Please identify the Food Desert Community where your project is located *

You can find which Food Desert Community the distressed asset is located in by typing the address in on the [Food Desert Community Map](#)

Bridgeton/Fairfield Twp/Lawrence Twp*



Composite Food Desert Factor Score

65.30

To learn more about the Composite Food Desert Factor score please [click here](#)

List all entities (municipalities, counties or agencies, nonprofits or other organizations) supporting the development of this proposal *

If not applicable, please write N/A in the box below.

List any other partners participating on this proposal *

If not applicable, please write N/A in the box below.

Previous

Next

Project Documentation

1. Distressed Asset Details


Project Documentation

1. Distressed Asset Details

1.1 Upload a narrative that describes the existing conditions of the subject property, specifically:

1. *Prior use and ownership of the property*
2. *Number of years property has been considered distressed*
3. *Total square footage*
4. *Current site/facility owner and any known encumbrances on the site*
5. *A detailed explanation as to why the subject property became distressed (if known)*
6. *How the subject property may be impending growth or expansion of the local economy*
7. *Additional information relevant to the application about the status and condition of the subject property.*

Applicants are encouraged to upload pictures of the subject property

Document	Files
Conditions of Subject Property *	

For all sections, please answer the questions in a separate word document, convert the word document to pdf document and then upload the pdf document by clicking **Add Files**

Project Documentation

2. Plan Description/ Specifications/Statement of Work

- ▶ 2.1 Upload a narrative detailing how the subject property can help improve food access and food security in the FDC
- ▶ 2.2: Upload documentation describing the intended use of the grant funding and the proposed plan. Plan must clearly communicate how the grant funding and the identified distressed asset will be used by the applicant to address food access and food security.
- ▶ 2.3: Upload a detailed explanation as to how this proposed plan meets the needs of the local community as it relates to improved food access and food security.
- ▶ 2.4 Please explain how the proposed plan will advance any existing state, regional and/or local food security initiatives.

2. Plan Description/Specifications/Statement of Work

2.1 Upload a narrative detailing how the subject property can help improve food access and food security in the FDC.

Document	Files
Plan - Specifications - SOW *	Add Files

2.2 Upload documentation describing the intended use of the grant funding and the proposed plan. Plan must clearly communicate how the grant funding and the identified distressed asset will be used by the applicant to address food access and food security. Potential uses may include, but are not limited to:

- i. Determining cost-benefits of retrofitting, redeveloping or greening the property or properties
- ii. Driving economic growth for the locality and region
- iii. Creating greater social, economic, and environmental sustainability
- iv. Stakeholder engagement and facilitation to identify community desires and needs
- v. The identification of appropriate additional funding sources to support community led re-use of one or more properties
- vi. Economic analysis relating to the feasibility of various redevelopment and/or reuse scenarios

Document	Files
Intended use of Grant Funding *	Add Files

2.3 Upload a detailed explanation as to how this proposed plan meets the needs of the local community as it relates to improved food access and food security. Responses must include explanation of:

- i. Ability to address local, community-specific needs and challenges
- ii. Long term viability and adaptability of a given concept
- iii. Ability to consider and mitigate any past difficulties that created challenges for a given asset/grouping of assets.

Document	Files
Meeting Community Needs *	Add Files

2.4 Please explain how the proposed plan will advance any existing state, regional and/or local food security initiatives.

For example, the relationship of the plan to a local development strategy, including other major projects undertaken within the municipality to improve access to food and food security.

Document	Files
Advance of Food Security Initiatives *	Add Files


Project Documentation

3. Work Plan

3. Work Plan

3.1 Upload information demonstrating the ability of the applicant to execute the plan.

1. Description of the project's milestones and how they will be measurable and achievable. Applicant must provide Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Time-bound (SMART) goals in the work plan.
2. Must provide staffing details (names, roles, and responsibilities) of individuals contributing to development of the plan. This can include in-kind support from other partnering entities.

Document	Files
Work Plan *	

Project Documentation

4. Organizational Capacity

4. Organizational Capacity (Applicant Background & Viability)

4.1 Upload a narrative that describes the following:

1. Explanation of any inherent challenges the municipality, county or redevelopment agency faces in developing a plan focused on improving food access and food security leveraging the subject property.

2. If the applicant has entered a partnership for the purposes of this application, please describe the nature of this partnership including the roles that the partners will serve in the proposed plan. If there are multiple partners, please be specific about the role of each individual partner. Please provide a letter of support from each partner.

3. If the applicant has identified funding sources to help support the completion of the proposed plan.

Document	Files
Organizational Capacity *	Add Files

4.2 Upload information demonstrating the ability of the applicant to execute the planning project. This may include, but is not limited to:

- i. Experience in successful completion of planning projects similar in size and scope
- ii. Description of experience, capacity, and skills of planning team
- iii. Description of any existing redevelopment plans impacting the proposed planning project area.
- iv. Description of any existing market and/or feasibility studies related to the application.
- v. Description of current partnerships with entities addressing food security

Document	Files
Ability of the Applicant to Execute the Planning Project *	Add Files

Project Documentation

5. Community Engagement

5. Community Engagement

5.1 Upload a narrative describing how the proposed project will engage with the community.

- 1. How will you engage and partner with local community in the development of this plan?
- 2. How will you ensure the proposed plan is built to/designed to promote equity?
- 3. Ability to consider and mitigate any past difficulties that created challenges for the given asset

Document	Files
Community Engagement *	Add Files

Project Documentation

6. Letters of Support

6. Letters of Support

All applicants must upload the required documents listed below:

Applicants must submit all required documents. Failing to submit the required documents will lead to the application being disqualified.

Please note: Proposals for directly owned New Jersey state land will not be considered.

6.1 Letter of support from Office of the Mayor or the Chief Executive of the municipality where the asset is located

Document	Files
Letter from Office of Mayor or CEO *	Add Files

6.2 Letter of support from at least one stakeholder located within the boundaries of the Food Desert Community

Document	Files
Letter of Support from Stakeholder *	Add Files

6.3 In addition to the above two required letters of support, applicants must provide additional documents (as applicable) listed below:

For property owned by a New Jersey County, the applicant must upload a letter of support from the property owner or their designee. This letter must be signed by the Chief Executive of the government entity, independent agency or authority or their designee.

For property owned by a private individual or by a non-governmental for-profit or non-profit entity, the applicant must upload a letter of support signed by the owner, co-owner, corporate officer or their designee.

Document	Files
Letter from Property Owner *	Add Files

Project Documentation

6. Plan Budget and 20% Matching Contribution

7. Plan Budget and 20% Matching Contribution

7.1 Upload a detailed budget including a narrative describing the budget.

Provide a breakdown of how the grant funds will be used and a narrative for every line item with the budget.

Document	Files
Plan Budget and Narrative *	Add Files

7.2 20% Matching Contribution

To be considered eligible for a grant award, proposals must demonstrate ability to provide a 20 percent matching contribution of the total grant amount, to be reinvested back into the planning project. The 20 percent match can be in the form of a financial contribution, or a contribution of in-kind resources. In-kind resources are defined as non-monetary resources that will add value and help advance the planning project.

- I acknowledge that a requirement of this program is that if approved I, the applicant, will be required to make a 20 percent matching contribution of the total grant amount, to be reinvested back into the planning project. *

Provide a narrative indicating how the 20% match will be contributed, broken down among financial and in-kind resources (i.e. 20/0, 15/5, 10/10, etc.). Any combination necessary to meet the 20% is acceptable, but the total below must equal 20%.

- If 20 percent match is financial, the Total Plan Budget in Attachment B should include the 20% match. The application should also detail approximately when and how the 20% contribution will be made.
- If 20 percent match is in-kind, please submit, as an attachment to this application, documentation evidencing that the value of the in-kind resources is equivalent to 20 percent of the contract award.

For example, timesheets or documentation reflecting hours/hourly wages of staff associated with the project that are not being paid for using the Food Security Planning Grant funding, or documentation demonstrating value of goods or services being contributed to the project that are not being purchased under the Food Security Planning Grant funding.

Document	Files
20 Percent Matching Contribution Narrative *	Add Files

Ownership of Material and Event Participation

Ownership of Material and Event Participation

Applicants that are approved for grant funding must agree to share ownership of deliverables with the Authority for the purpose of making results publicly available to foster a dynamic discussion about activating assets and other similar planning assistance.

I understand and agree to sharing ownership of deliverables and participating in the EDA hosted events, subject to award of grant funding. *

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Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The information provided in this section will be used for tracking purposes only.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

With which of the following does the majority owner of the applicant organization self-identify (if applicable)?

- Minority
- Women
- Veteran
- LGBTQ
- Disabled
- None of the above
- Prefer not to answer

Please select which of the following State of New Jersey certifications the applicant organization currently holds:

- Small Business Enterprise (SBE)
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)
- Minority-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE)
- Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE)
- Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise (VOB)
- Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise (DVOB)
- None of the above
- Prefer not to answer

Additional DE&I Information

In this section, we would like more information about any actions your organization has taken or is taking with respect to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Please describe whether your company's leadership team is made up of a diverse group of individuals. Please provide as much detail as possible about the composition of your leadership team as it relates to groups that have been historically underrepresented (minority, woman, veteran, LGBTQ, disabled).

Question is not applicable

Legal Questionnaire

Legal Questionnaire

Persons (entities or individuals) applying for NJEDA programs are subject to the Authority's Disqualification/Debarment Regulations (the "Regulations"), which are set forth in [N.J.A.C. 19:30-2.1](#), et seq. Applicants are required to answer the following background questions ("Legal Questionnaire") pertaining to causes that may lead to debarment, disqualification, or suspension from eligibility under the Regulations and Executive Orders 34 (Byrne 1976) and 189 (Kean 1988) after consideration of all relevant mitigating factors. Governmental entities are not required to submit this Legal Questionnaire and may leave it empty.

DEFINITIONS

Notwithstanding any terms defined elsewhere or otherwise herein, the following definitions shall govern in responding to this Legal Questionnaire:

"Affiliates" means any entities or persons having an overt or covert relationship such that any one of them directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control another. For the purposes of application for, or ongoing compliance with, Authority-administered programs, this includes:

- any entities or persons having an ownership interest in Applicant of 10% or greater;
- any entities in which Applicant holds an ownership interest of 10% or greater; and
- any entities that are named in the application and/or agreement, or that will receive a direct benefit from the financing, incentive, or other agreement with the Authority.

Note that any entities or persons fitting these definitions will need to be listed in Part C below.

"Legal Proceedings" means any civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in a State or Federal court or administrative tribunal in the United States or any territories thereof.

The Legal Questionnaire will need to be completed in order to proceed.

10. Violation of any State or Federal law that may bear upon a lack of responsibility or moral integrity, or that may provide other compelling reasons for disqualification. Your responses to the foregoing question should include, but not be limited to, the violation of the following laws, without regard to whether there was any monetary award, damages, verdict, assessment or penalty, except that any violation of any environmental law in category (v) below need not be reported where the monetary award, damages, etc. amounted to less than \$1 million.

- Laws banning or prohibiting discrimination or harassment in the workplace.
- Laws prohibiting or banning any form of forced, slave, or compulsory labor.
- The New Jersey Conscientious Employee Protection Act, N. J. Stat. Ann. § 34:19-1 et seq., or other "Whistleblower Laws" that protect employees from retaliation for disclosing, or threatening to disclose, to a supervisor or to a public body an activity, policy or practice of the employer, that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of a law, or a rule or regulation issued under the law.
- Securities or tax laws resulting in a finding of fraud or fraudulent conduct.
- Environmental laws, where the monetary award, penalties, damages, etc. amounted to more than \$1 million.
- Laws banning anti-competitive dumping of goods.
- Anti-terrorist laws.
- Criminal laws involving commission of any felony or indictable offense under State or Federal law.
- Laws banning human rights abuses.
- Laws banning the trade of goods or services to enemies of the United States.

Part B. Pending Proceedings

11. To the best of your knowledge, after reasonable inquiry, are Applicant, or any officers or directors of Applicant, or any Affiliates, a party to pending Legal Proceedings wherein any of the offenses or violations described in questions 1-10 above are alleged or asserted against such entity or person? With respect to laws banning or prohibiting discrimination or harassment in the workplace, please provide only information pertaining to any class action lawsuits.

If the answer to any of the foregoing questions is affirmative, you must provide the following information as an attachment to the application: (i) the case name and court/administrative agency (including jurisdiction and venue) in which such matters were tried or are pending; (ii) the charges or claims adjudicated or alleged; and (iii) a brief explanation of the circumstances giving rise to such matters. Also, for affirmative answers to question 1-10, please attach copies of document(s) reflecting the final resolution (e.g., final judgments, verdicts, plea bargains, consent orders, administrative findings, or settlement agreements).

Note that an Applicant may refer to or attach specific provisions of a 10-K/Q or other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC); however, the Applicant should be aware that different laws apply to disclosures to the Authority. This means that the Authority does not have the same types of materiality thresholds as the SEC. The Applicant is expected to supplement its SEC filings to ensure that all relevant matters are disclosed to the Authority, including any matters that were below the SEC's materiality threshold and any matters that may have occurred after its most recent filing.

Document	Files
Legal Questionnaire Addendum	Add Files

Certification of Non-involvement in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus pursuant to P.L. 2022, C.3

If you are not able to complete this certification of non-involvement because you, your entity or one of its parents, subsidiaries, or affiliates may have engaged in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus, you will need to provide the NJEDA with a detailed, accurate and precise description of the activities. Please email the NJEDA point of contact on your matter or certifications@njeda.com immediately to commence this process.

If you provide a detailed, accurate and precise description of the activities, you will be given 90 days to cease engaging in any prohibited activities and will be required to provide a completed certification of non-involvement on or before the 90th day. If you do not provide a completed certification of noninvolvement on or before the 90th day, the NJEDA shall not approve you for an economic development subsidy from the NJEDA.

It is highly recommended that you do not submit this application for financial assistance until you can complete this certification.

Certification of non-involvement in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus pursuant to P.L. 2022, C. 3

I, **Annie D'Agostino, Manager**, am authorized to certify that **Test ABC Company** is not "engaged in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus" (as such term is defined in P.L.2022, c. 3., sec. (1)(e)) except as permitted by federal law. I understand that if this statement is willfully false, I may be subject to penalty, as set forth in P.L. 2022, c. 3, section (1)(d).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of Sep 26th 2022.

I am Authorized Signer and I accept the terms and conditions. *

Electronic Signature for Russia / Belarus Certification

I agree to be bound by electronic signatures *

Full Name *

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Certification of Application

All information presented in the application must be certified as being true and accurate.

Applicants that submit willfully false information are subject to criminal prosecution.

Certification of Application

Eligibility of financial assistance by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) is determined by the information presented in this application. Any changes in the status of the proposed project from the facts presented herein could disqualify the project. Only Board Members of the governing board of the particular program for which you are applying, by resolution, may take action to determine project eligibility and to authorize the issuance of funds.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING DULY SWORN UPON MY OATH SAY:

I affirm, represent, and warrant that the information contained in this application and in all associated attachments submitted herewith is to the best of my knowledge true and complete and that the funding applied for herein is not for personal, family, or household purposes. *

I understand that if such information is willfully false, I am subject to criminal prosecution under N.J.S.A. 2C:28-2 and civil action by the NJEDA which may at its option terminate its financial assistance. *

I authorize the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety to verify any answer(s) contained herein through a search of its records, or records to which it has access, and to release the results of said research to the NJEDA. *

I authorize the NJEDA to provide information submitted to it by or on behalf of the applicant to any bank or State agency which might participate in the requested financing with the NJEDA. *

I certify my understanding that an electronic signature of this Application and any Approval Letter or Agreement shall be a binding on the parties. *

I certify that the firm is not in default with any other program administered by the State of New Jersey. *

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Fee Acknowledgement

Fee Acknowledgement

- I acknowledge that there is a \$1,000 non-refundable application fee that shall accompany this application for Authority assistance. Payment can be made by Credit Card or Check on the following page.

Hardship Waiver Option

- Under this product, government entities representing a municipality listed in the top 10% of the 2020 Municipal Revitalization Index (MRI) may request a hardship fee waiver. Please check this box to request a fee waiver. Note that fee waivers are only open to municipalities ranked between 1-57 on the 2020 MRI, with an MRI distress score at or above 45.5. You can view your municipality's 2020 MRI distress score [here](#).

NJEDA will review the request and notify the applicant on approval or denial of the request.

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Government Entities representing a municipality listed in the top 10% of the [2020 Municipal Revitalization Index](#) (MRI) may request a hardship fee waiver.

Payment Method(s)

If you do not qualify for the Hardship Waiver you will be prompted to pay the application fee

Payment Method

Select form of payment:

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IF MAIL CHECK

Payment Method

Select form of payment:

Please be advised that NJEDA must confirm receipt of check before any review of the application may begin. Payment by credit card, if possible, is recommended as it will help expedite NJEDA's review process.

Payment Details:

Amount Due: \$1000
Make check payable to: New Jersey Economic Development Authority
Reference the Application ID number below in the note field.
Mailing Address:
New Jersey Economic Development Authority
36 West State St
PO Box 990
Trenton, NJ 08625-0990

Common Application ID
CAPP-00012690

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IF CREDIT CARD

Payment Details

Application Fee Request ID
There is a \$1000.00 non-refundable application fee.
FREQ-0006627
Fee Amount
\$1,000.00

[Previous](#) [Go To Payment Page](#)

This will take you out of the application to the payment processing page. Once the fee is submitted you will be sent back to finish the application.

Electronic Signature

After the fee is submitted you will be sent to finish the last page of the application, the Electronic Signature page.

Please be advised NJEDA must confirm receipt of application fee before any review of application begins.

Electronic Signature

- I agree to be bound by electronic signatures *
- I am an Authorized Signer for this organization and I accept the above terms and conditions *

Full Name *



[Generate a new image](#)

[Play the audio code](#)

Enter the code from the image

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Submit

← Click SUBMIT to submit your application

Confirmation Page

Full Application Submitted Page

Thank you for submitting your grant application for the Food Security Planning Grant Program.

Your confirmation number is: **CAPP-00020243**

Any communications on the status of your application will be sent to: [REDACTED]

Applications will be reviewed for completeness once the application window closes on November 25th, 2022. Applicants will be contacted by the program administrator for any cures. All cures must be submitted within 10 business days. Applicants failing to meet the initial qualification criteria after the cure period ends will be automatically disqualified.

If you have any questions, please email FoodDesertRelief@njeda.com or call NJEDA at 1-844-965-1125.

To learn about other NJEDA programs, visit njeda.com

Thank You,
NJEDA

[Return to homepage](#)

In addition to today's webinar, there are many ways to ask questions and find more information



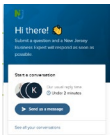
Visit <https://www.njeda.com/food-security-planning-grant/> which has lots of resources, including an FAQs that will be regularly updated



Email NJEDA at CustomerCare@njeda.com



Call NJEDA at (844) 965-1125



Use NJEDA's Customer Care Chat at www.njeda.com



A second webinar will be held on 10/13 at 11 AM. Register at <https://www.njeda.com/events/>



Recording of the webinar will be posted at <https://www.njeda.com/food-security-planning-grant/> after 10/13/22



This PowerPoint presentation will be posted on our website at <https://www.njeda.com/food-security-planning-grant/>

Questions following the webinar



CustomerCare@njeda.com



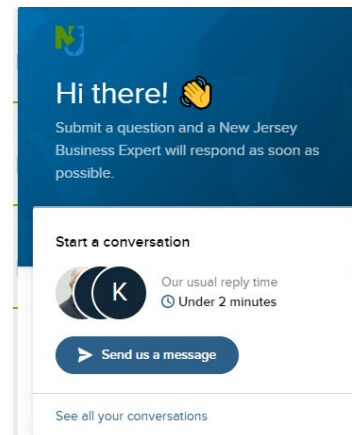
fooddesertrelief@njeda.com



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THANK YOU