

NOFA-VT Resilience Grant Scoring Rubric



A successful applicant will have a project that contributes to resilience on their farm. Resilience will be clearly defined in terms of social, environmental, and economic impact.

To be eligible for this grant, farms must:

1. Be located in Vermont and in business for a minimum of one year;
2. Be able to complete the project by December 31, 2026;
3. Not have received a Vermont Family Farmer of the Month award two years prior to submitting the application;
4. Hold an active [NOFA-VT Membership](#) at any level, including our \$1/year Community Tier.

Total possible score is 44	
Has this applicant received a NOFA Farmer Resilience Grant in the last two cycles? [3 points if they have not]	max=3
Is your farm business owned or led by individuals who identify as BIPOC, LGBTQIA, or disabled? And/or is the farm majority women owned or led? [To combat historical inequities in accessing agricultural funding, applicants who respond yes will receive 2 points.]	yes=2
Does this farm utilize organic practices? [2 points if certified organic, 1 point if using organic practices, 0 points if conventional]	max=2
Is the funding request less than \$3,000?	max=1
Does this project improve the resilience of the farm? Our definition of 'resilience' is framed broadly around the mission of NOFA-VT: to promote organic practices to build an economically viable, ecologically sound and socially just Vermont agricultural system that benefits all living things. 0-6 points possible for each of the following six questions.	6 = Outstanding! 5 = Very Good! 4 = Good 3 = Adequate 2 = Limited 1 = Poor 0 = Not present 
Does this project contribute to the economic viability of the farm and/or to just economic systems on farm or in community? [Score 0-6]	max=6
Does this project contribute to social good and/or justice? [Score 0-6]	max=6
Is this project ecologically sound, and/or does it promote resilience to climate change? (The project must not be contrary to the organic standards.) [Score 0-6]	max=6

Please provide a project budget outline, clearly detailing how you will use the awarded funds. If your project costs more than you're requesting- do you have the total needed to complete the project and if so, what is the source? [0-6 points based on if the budget is thorough and realistic (equipment names & quantities, sources, etc.)]	max=6
What barriers do you face (or have faced) that have prevented you from accessing financial support in the past? <i>Some examples of barriers faced could be:</i> • Social, financial, education, geographic, land access, etc [0 - This person experiences no barrier 6 - This person experiences significant barriers]	max=6
What is the wider community impact of this project? [Score 0-6]	max=6
<u>Other comments</u> (feedback pertaining to scoring decisions, etc.)	n/a
Overall Score:	