

PROPOSED RULE
Agency 209.00

Arkansas Agriculture Department
Livestock and Poultry Commission
1 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205

Arkansas Festival Grant
Rules for Program Administration and Grant Applications

A. Purpose

To make grants for the operating and program expenses for annual Arkansas festivals.

B. Authority

Act 1476 of the Regular Session of the 86th General Assembly appropriated funds for the Arkansas Agriculture Department – Livestock and Poultry Commission for grants for operating and program expenses for annual festivals.

C. Definitions

1. An annual festival means a festival held on an annual basis or proposed to be held on an annual basis.
2. Eligible annual festival means an annual festival featuring an agricultural or forestry product, commerce, or theme.
3. Applicant means the fiscal agent of the festival applicant and must be incorporated in the State of Arkansas.

D. Annual Festival Grant

The Arkansas Agriculture Department – Livestock and Poultry Commission will solicit written funding request proposals for grant monies made available by Act 1476 of the 86th General Assembly.

Funds may be requested by Arkansas annual festivals for the purpose of operating and program expenses, excluding expenses for travel, salary, or the purchase of alcoholic beverages.

Applications may be made for a minimum of \$1,000 or up to a maximum of \$5,000.

Funds granted may be used for matching purposes for other state and/or federal grants.

Request for proposals will be evaluated by the Festival Grant Advisory Committee, and funding recommendations will be submitted to the Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture for approval.

Warrants for approved projects will be mailed within 30 days of the announcement of grant awards.

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified within 10 working days following the announcements of grant awards by the Arkansas Agriculture Department.

Funds must be expended and any related project completed within one year from the date of receipt of the grant funding.

Grantees will be required to complete a General Improvement Fund Expenditure Report and sign it certifying the accurate expenditure of funds. The expenditure report is due to the Arkansas Agriculture Department within 10 working days after the end of the calendar year. A final expenditure report is due 30 days after the final expenditure of Arkansas Agriculture Department grant funding is made.

Proposals for funds must include:

1. A summary of the festival history and activities.
2. A detailed explanation of the proposed use of the funds.