

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

The application period is open for the 2019 N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission grant cycle, with the key goals of funding projects that support the agricultural industry, impact rural communities and stimulate economic development. The deadline to submit an application is March 8. Funds will be awarded in the fall of 2019 for selected innovative projects.

Applications information is available online at www.tobaccotrustfund.org for qualifying organizations.

“This year the NCTTFC is specifically interested in job creation in current or former tobacco-dependent regions and funding projects that have the potential to generate additional income for farmers and those in the industry,” said William H. “Bill” Teague, NCTTFC Chairman. “Online applications will be accepted for innovative projects within North Carolina. Applicants can plan to start the projects in November of 2019.”

The NCTTFC was established in 2000 by the N.C. General Assembly to help members of the tobacco community including farmers, tobacco workers and related businesses. Its original funding was established through tobacco industry annual payments as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement. Funding is now appropriated to the NCTTFC which then reviews, selects and disperses the funds to grant projects.

Past projects include farmers market improvements, cost-share grant programs for farmers, training for qualified farm family members in community colleges and support of more than 30 high school agricultural education programs.

More information can be found at www.tobaccotrustfund.org, or by calling 919-733-2160.