

# Media Release

## Association of Food and Drug Officials

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **FDA, ISSC, NCIMS and AFDO Partner to offer Equipment Subawards to State and Territorial Milk and Shellfish Programs**

February 1, 2021 -- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC), the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS), and the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) are proud to announce details of the National Grade “A” Milk Safety and National Shellfish Sanitation Grant Program Equipment Subawards. The program provides funds in support of state and territorial (Puerto Rico) agencies that have the regulatory authority to implement the National Grade “A” Milk Safety Program and/or the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. Applicants to this program can expect a simple application process, up-front funding when required by the project, and simple reporting requirements.

#### **Maximum Award Limits:**

- **Maximum Award Limits Have Changed for Shellfish Equipment Grants:**
  - Each Producing state program can receive up to \$40,000 to purchase Shellfish Equipment
  - Each Non-Producing state program can receive up to \$5,000 to purchase Shellfish Equipment
  - For states that have multiple applications from different agencies with a role in implementing the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Program, the maximum limit will apply per state
  
- **Maximum Award Limits for Milk Equipment Grants:**
  - Each state and Puerto Rico can receive up to \$25,000 to purchase Milk Equipment
  - For states that have multiple applications from different agencies with a role in implementing the national Grade “A” Milk Program, the maximum limit will apply per state

## **Key dates for the Milk and Shellfish Equipment Grants:**

- **March 1 through April 2, 2021:** Open application period for Equipment grants for milk and shellfish regulatory programs. Please carefully review the Calendar Year 2021 Grant Guidance that will soon be posted on the AFDO Milk and Shellfish Grant Program website before filling out your application.
- **May 2021:** Award notices issue by May 14, 2021 for Equipment awards.
- **May 17 – December 31, 2021:** The project period for equipment purchases will be May 17 – December 31, 2021 with final reports due February 2022.

Agencies that applied for and/or were previously awarded funds are eligible to apply again for the new funding year.

### **How to Apply for Funding**

To stay informed of the latest developments on this funding opportunity and to find more information about it, visit the AFDO Milk and Shellfish Grants website at: <http://www.afdo.org/msggrants>. The website will have the most up-to-date information about this grant program, and the portal will open for CY 2021 equipment applications on March 1, 2021.

### **About the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)**

*Since 1886, AFDO unites high-level regulatory officials, industry representatives, trade associations, academia and consumer organizations. AFDO members strive to foster uniformity in the adoption and enforcement of science-based food, drug, medical products and cosmetic products safety laws and regulation for improved public health.*