TEXANS FEEDING TEXANS: SURPLUS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS GRANT PROGRAM Request for Grant Applications

Executive Summary

The Texans Feeding Texans: Surplus Agricultural Products Grant Program (Grant Program) was established to support collection and distribution of surplus agricultural products to food banks and other charitable organizations that serve needy or low-income individuals. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) awards grant funding to help offset the costs of harvesting, gleaning, and transporting agricultural products to Texas food banks.

Dates

Applications must be received by Wednesday, October 15, 2025, by 11:59 pm Central Time.

Agency Division

Rural Programs and Financial Assistance - <u>Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov</u>

Assistance Listing Number

Not applicable

Key Elements

Rey Elements		
Required Action	Timing to Obtain/Submit	
TDA Deadline to receive final application and all supporting materials through TDA-GO	October 15, 2025 - 11:59 p.m. Central Time	
Create your TDA-GO profile (if you do not already have one)*	48-72 hours ahead of the application submission deadline for TDA to approve account.	
Items needed to register for TDA-GO (see TDA-GO Access		
Instructions)		
Obtain Your Organization's UEI Number and establish an	Not required for this grant	
Active SAM.gov Account (if you do not already have one) *	S	
Obtain a TIN/EIN (if you do not already have one) *	up to 2 weeks	
Award Timeline		
Anticipated Award	October 2025 (or as soon thereafter as practical)	
Anticipated Start Date of Project/Grant	November 1, 2025	
End Date of Project	October 31, 2027	

^{*} Text hyperlinks will direct you to applicable websites

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Please read all materials before preparing and submitting the application. Failure to follow the instructions and requirements described in this Request for Grant Applications may result in the disqualification of the application.

Fraud Warning Disclaimer: Please be aware that certain individuals might approach you by falsely presenting themselves as representatives of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Under this false pretense, they might try to gain access to your personal information or to acquire money by claiming that they are contacting you on TDA's behalf. Such fraudulent offers and claims are usually received via email, text message, phone, etc. These claims and offers are fraudulent and invalid, and you are strongly advised to exercise great caution and disregard such offers and invitations. You will not be contacted by TDA or the government to request payment before you receive a grant. Please report any attempts to defraud you to TDA's Grants Office immediately. You may also report fraudulent activity to the Office of the Texas Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/consumer-protection/common-scams.

Statement of Purpose

This Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) is issued pursuant to Chapter 12 of the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 12, which provides that the Texas Department of Agriculture (Grantor) shall encourage the proper development of agriculture, as well as administer federal and state child nutrition programs within the State of Texas. Chapter 21 of the Texas Agriculture Code governs and establishes a grant program for the collection and distribution of surplus agricultural products to food banks and other charitable organizations that serve needy or low-income individuals, known as Texans Feeding Texans: Surplus Agricultural Products Grant Program (Grant Program) administered by TDA. Pursuant to Section 12.0011, Grantor may enter into cooperative agreements with private entities and local, state, federal and other governmental entities to carry out its duties under the Texas Agriculture Code.

Additionally, in the *General Appropriations Act for the State of Texas Biennium 2026-2027 (GAA)*, Senate Bill 1, article VI, Texas Department of Agriculture, rider 10(a) & (c), page VI-6, the 89th Texas Legislature (Regular Session), expressly appropriated funds for each Fiscal Year in the biennium to Grantor as part of Strategy C.1.2, Nutrition Assistance for at-Risk Children and Adults to be distributed for the purpose of the Grant Program. Of the total grant funds appropriated, the legislature further expressly required "no less than \$5,000,000 each fiscal year shall be used to provide food and may not be used for costs including facility expansion or renovation, increasing capacity, transportation, equipment, technology, personnel, administration, indirect administration, or to purchase generators."

Projected Timeline

Application Availability

Application Deadline

Anticipated Grant Start Date

Anticipated Grant End Date

September 2025

October 15, 2025

November 1, 2025

October 31, 2027

Eligibility

Grant applications will be accepted from non-profit organizations that have been determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to be exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. These non-profit organizations must be established and operate for religious, charitable, or educational purposes and not for financial gain. Additionally, these organizations must not distribute any of their income to their members, directors, or officers.

In accordance with Texas Agriculture Code, Section 21.002 and subject to available funds, a nonprofit organization is eligible to receive funds under the Grant Program "if the organization:

(1) has at least five years of experience coordinating a statewide network of food banks and charitable organizations that serve each county of this state; and

(2) operates a program that coordinates the collection and transportation of surplus agricultural products to a statewide network of food banks that provide food to needy or low-income individuals."

For purposes of the grant application, the term, "agricultural product," means an agricultural, apicultural, horticultural, or vegetable food product, either in its natural or processed state, for human consumption, including: (1) fish or other aquatic species; (2) livestock, a livestock product, or a livestock by-product; (3) poultry, a poultry product, or a poultry by-product; (4) wildlife processed for food or by-products; and (5) fruit, vegetables and grains. In addition to agricultural products grown in excess of a producer's needs, the term "surplus" includes any products not meeting that definition, which are made available by a producer for distribution to food banks and other charitable organizations that serve the needy or low-income individuals.

Funding Parameters

Grant awards, if any, are subject to the availability of funds. If no grant funds are appropriated or collected for this purpose, grant applicants will be informed accordingly. Selected applicants (Grant Recipient(s)), if any, under this RFGA will receive funding on a cost-reimbursement basis and must have the financial capacity to pay all costs up-front.

Based on a Grant Recipient's request and justification, TDA may advance funds to the Grant Recipient in a **one-time payment** at the beginning of the grant term to meet working capital needs. An advance payment, if approved, will be limited to 10% of the grant award.

Grant awards are limited to a total maximum aggregate award in an amount not to exceed Nine million eight hundred seventy-five thousand dollars and No/100 Dollars (\$9,875,000.00) in fiscal year 2026 and \$9,875,000.00in fiscal year 2027, which represents the amount appropriated for this purpose by the 89th Texas Legislature. Funding is limited to eligible grant applicants that operate a program, which coordinates the collection and transportation of surplus agricultural products to a statewide network of food banks or other charitable organizations that provide food to needy or low-income individuals.

In accordance with TDA's GAA rider 10(c), the following restriction applies to use of grant funds: "No less than \$5,000,000 each fiscal year shall be used to provide food and may not be used for costs including facility expansion or renovation, increasing capacity, transportation, equipment, technology, personnel, administration, indirect administration, or to purchase generators."

In the budget section of the online application, the total budget requested should not exceed \$19,750,000

Program Contacts

<u>Grant Program and Application Support</u> - Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (CT) TDA staff are available to answer questions regarding the Grant Program and to provide clarifying information concerning this RFGA. TDA staff will not review any grant proposals prior to the application deadline.

Primary Contact – Kat Neilson

Grants Specialist

Phone: (512) 463-6695

Email: Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov

Secondary Contact - Mindy Fryer

Director, Rural Programs and Financial Assistance

Email: Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov

Application Requirements

Applications will be accepted in TDA's online Grant Application/ Management system called TDA-GO and must be completed online at https://tda-go.intelligrants.com/. Applications must be submitted by the deadline in the Submission Instructions Section or the system will reject the grant application.

Form Requirements:

1. Application Contact Information

- a. Name of Authorized Official required
- b. Name of Primary Program Contact- required
- c. Name of Secondary Program Contact optional
- d. Congressional Districts

2. Project Narrative

- a. Project Title
- b. Project Summary
- c. Project Purpose
- d. Anticipated Project Results
- e. Project Oversight
- f. Workplan
- 3. Budget Details
- 4. Administrative Form Uploads
- 5. Certification

See section entitled **Application Form Guidance** below for detailed instructions on each section of the application.

Budget Information

1. Reimbursement Payments. To the extent funding has not been provided in advance, grant funds will be paid on a cost-reimbursement basis. Grant Recipients will be required to submit payment requests at least quarterly, but no more frequently than monthly, in order to show significant financial and programmatic progress. Payment requests must include sufficient documentation that details each expense. Acceptable documentation may include, but is not limited to, invoices, receipts, or detailed information regarding personnel costs, as determined by TDA, in its sole discretion. Payment requests shall only be submitted by Grant Recipient to TDA for reimbursement after Grant Recipient purchases approved budget items.

All requests for reimbursement and documentation of expenditures shall be reported no later than 60 days after the completion of the project or after the expiration or termination of the Agreement, whichever occurs first.

- 2. Matching. No in-kind donations or matching funds are required.
- **3. Advanced Funding Payments:** This Grant Program may advance an amount in working capital for Grant Recipients to ensure the necessary resources to carry out the grant project. These funds will require reporting to substantiate the advanced funds have been expended in compliance with eligibility requirements for reimbursement in Section 4 and shall include sufficient expenditure documentation as detailed in Section 1.
- **4. Eligible Expenses.** Generally, expenses that are necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient performance and administration of a grant project are eligible. Grant funds may not be used to supplant normal business costs but instead must be used to cover the costs incurred for the approved proposed activities. Examples of eligible expenditures are:
 - a. Contracts agreements made with third parties to perform a portion of the award;
 - b. Controlled assets defined as certain items valued \$500.00 \$4,999.99 which must also be inventoried, <u>link</u> to Controlled Property Listing;
 - c. Other direct expenses any expenses that do not fall into the other categories directly related to the proposed activities;
 - d. Personnel costs both salary and benefits directly related to project implementation;
 - e. Supplies and direct operating expenses items that cost less than \$5,000 per unit with a useful life of less than one year, office supplies, postage, telecommunications, printing, etc. that are directly related to the project activities;
 - f. Travel mileage reimbursement, transportation, and lodging;
 - g. Capital Expenditures the cost of the asset including the cost to put it in place. Capital expenditure for equipment means the net invoice price of the equipment,

including the cost of any modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatus necessary to make it usable for the purpose for which it is acquired. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL TO TDA PRIOR TO EXPENDITURE/PURCHASE. Failure to secure written approval from TDA will result in disallowance of the cost;

- Special Purpose Equipment

 an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and a cost of more than \$5,000.
- ii. Other capital assets –buildings and improvements to buildings or land that materially increase their value or useful life; and
- h. Indirect Costs-limited to (ten) 10 percent.
- **5. Ineligible Expenses.** Expenses may be prohibited by state or federal law or determined to be ineligible by Grant Program guidelines. Ineligible expenses must be reimbursed to Grantor within 30 days of notice of ineligibility from TDA. Examples of these expenditures include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Alcoholic beverages;
 - b. Contributions, charitable or political;
 - c. Entertainment;
 - d. Expenses falling outside of the contract period (expenses incurred before the grant approved start date or after end date of agreement);
 - e. Expenses not listed in the project budget or that fail to meet the intent and purpose of the program;
 - f. Expenses that are not adequately documented which would otherwise be eligible if properly documented;
 - g. Gift Card/Certificates;
 - Land (except for lease expenses);
 - i. Tips/gratuity; and
 - j. Travel meals, or any food items related to business travel.

Submission Instructions

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE TDA-GO SYSTEM.

Applicants must submit one complete, electronically-signed grant application. The online grant application and all other required backup documents must be submitted by **Wednesday**, **October 15**, **2025**, **by 11:59 pm Central Time**. It is the grant applicant's responsibility to ensure the timely delivery of all required materials. The grant application must be submitted online through TDA-GO. Mailed, emailed, or faxed grant applications will not be accepted.

For questions regarding submission of the grant application and/or TDA requirements, please contact TDA's Grants Office by email at Grants@TexasAgriculture.gov.

The online system will date and time stamp the submission for receipt documentation purposes. Click the following for the submission link or copy and paste the following in your browser: https://tda-go.intelligrants.com/.

An automated receipt email will be sent from the TDA-GO system indicating the grant application has been received.

Late or Ineligible Applications

- TDA will only consider grant applications received by the published due date, unless the deadline has been extended for all grant applicants.
- Applications submitted by ineligible grant applicants will not receive funding consideration.
- Applications that are not fully responsive to the request for grant applications will not be considered during the competitive review process.
- Determinations of late or ineligible grant applications are final and not subject to an appeal process.
- Problems with computer systems at the applicant organization, Adobe compatibility settings issues, failure to follow instructions in the RFGA, or failure to complete required registrations (e.g., Grants.gov, Sams.gov, UEI Number, etc.) by the submission deadline are NOT considered government system issues and do not constitute grounds for an appeal.
- The RFGA explains the time required to complete these registration requirements. It is the grant applicant's responsibility to ensure that enough time is committed to meet all registration and submission deadlines.
- All required letters and attachments must be appropriately attached to the TDA-GO application. Any supplemental information/files submitted outside TDA-GO (email, mail, hand delivered) will not be considered as eligible submissions.
- Failure to attach documents to the grant application package correctly are not considered system issues.

Evaluation and Selection Information

Following the grant application deadline, an administrative review will be conducted by TDA program staff to determine whether a grant applicant has adequately responded to this Request for Grant Applications.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevance and Effectiveness: Do the objectives and goals of the Surplus Agricultural Products Grant Program match the needs or problems addressed in the application? How will success of the applicant's proposed project be evaluated?
- **Feasibility and Efficiency:** Is the approach described in the application practical; has the approach been tried elsewhere? Are the applicant's grant project objectives clear? Are the budget and timeframe realistic? Are there measurable goals?
- **Impact:** What will happen as a result of the project? How does the applicant's grant project make a difference in serving needy or low-income persons?

Grant Recipient Responsibilities and Accountability

Selected applicants (Grant Recipients), if any, will be responsible for the conduct of the grant project supported by the Grant Program and for the results achieved. Each Grant Recipient shall monitor the day-to-day performance of the grant project to ensure adherence to statutes, regulations, and grant terms and conditions. Grant Recipients must carry out the grant activities described in the approved scope of work.

Grant Recipients will be accountable for documenting the use of grant funds and must ensure funds are used solely for authorized purposes. Grant Recipients must ensure:

- Funds are used only for activities covered by the approved grant project,
- Funds are not used in violation of the restrictions and prohibitions of applicable statutes, and
- All budget and performance reports are completed in a timely manner.

Each Grant Recipient must ensure it has an adequate accounting system in place and sufficient internal controls to ensure expenditures and reimbursements are reported and maintained for four (4) years after the conclusion of the grant project, or longer if required by TDA.

Reporting Requirements

Grant Recipients will be required to submit periodic performance reports. Reporting timelines will be incorporated into the grant agreement. As part of TDA's ongoing monitoring of grant funds, Grant Recipients must regularly demonstrate progress toward achieving grant project goals. Failure to comply with reporting requirements may result in the withholding of requests for reimbursement and/or termination of the grant award.

All performance reports will be submitted in TDA-GO. Selected applicants will be provided guidance in post-award instructions.

General Information

Selected grant applicants will receive an electronic Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) and a grant agreement from TDA. The NOGA is not legally binding until a grant agreement is fully executed.

Applications

TDA reserves the right to negotiate individual elements of any grant application and to reject any and all grant applications. TDA is not liable for costs incurred by the grant applicant in the development, submission, or review of the application; or costs incurred by the grant applicant prior to the effective date of grant agreement.

Funding

TDA reserves the right to fund grant projects partially or fully. Where more than one grant application is acceptable for funding, TDA may request cooperation between Grant Recipients or revisions/adjustments to a grant application in order to avoid duplication and to realize the maximum benefit to the state.

Right to Amend or Terminate Program

TDA reserves the right to alter, amend, or clarify any provisions, terms, or conditions of this Grant Program or any grant awarded as a result thereof, or to terminate this Grant Program at any time prior to the execution of a grant agreement, if TDA deems any such action to be in the best interest of TDA and of the State of Texas. The decision of TDA will be administratively final in this regard.

Proprietary Information/Public Information

In the event that a public information request for the grant application is received, TDA shall process such request in accordance with §552.305 of the Texas Government Code. Applicants are advised to consult with their legal counsel regarding disclosure issues and to take appropriate precautions to safeguard trade secrets or any other proprietary information.

All applications submitted under this Grant Program are subject to release as public information, unless the grant application or specific parts of any such grant application can be shown to be exempt from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code.

Conflict of Interest

The grant applicant is required to disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest relative to this Grant Program. Failure to disclose any such relationship may result in the grant applicant's disqualification or termination of any resulting grant agreement.

Additional Information

• Assistance is available in English and Spanish. Please call (512) 463-7448 to request assistance.

 Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact TDA. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact TDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or Texas Relay 7-1-1. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

Reporting Fraud in State Government

- TDA is committed to promoting a culture of integrity within the agency. As part of
 the agency's commitment, TDA has instituted a Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Prevention
 Program to provide its employees with the necessary guidance and support to
 prevent, detect, and eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse within the agency. TDA's
 Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Prevention Program complies with Executive Order RP-36
 of July 12, 2004.
- Reports of suspected fraud or illegal activities involving state resources may be made by:
 - contacting the Texas State Auditor's Office (SAO) Hotline by calling (800) TX-AUDIT (892-8348);
 - visiting the SAO's website at (https://sao.fraud.texas.gov/ReportFraud/;
 - contacting TDA by calling the TDA Fraud Prevention Hotline at (512) 475-3423
 or (866) 5-FRAUD-4 (866) 537-2834; or
 - sending a written complaint to:

by mail: Texas Department of Agriculture

1700 N. Congress Avenue

Austin, TX 78701

by email: <u>fraud@texasagriculture.gov</u>.

Compliance Information

- Grant Recipient must comply with TDA's reporting requirements and financial procedures
 outlined in the grant agreement. Any delegation by Grant Recipient to a subcontractor
 regarding any duties and responsibilities imposed by the grant award must be approved
 in advance by TDA and shall not relieve Grant Recipient of his/her responsibilities to TDA
 for performance of those duties.
- Grant Recipient must remain in full compliance with state and federal laws and regulations. Non-compliance may result in termination of the grant award or ineligibility for reimbursement of expenses.
- 3. Grant Recipient must keep separate records and a bookkeeping account (with a complete record of all expenditures) for a grant project. Records shall be maintained for a minimum of four (4) years after the completion of the project, or as otherwise agreed upon with TDA. If any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or other action is initiated prior to the expiration of the four-year retention period, then all records and accounts must be

retained until their destruction is authorized in writing by TDA. TDA and SAO reserve the right to examine all books, documents, records, and accounts relating to the grant project, including all electronic records, at any time throughout the duration of the agreement until all litigation, claims, negotiations, audits, or other action pertaining to a grant is resolved, or until the expiration of the four-year retention period or a final judgment in litigation, whichever is longer. TDA and SAO shall have access to all electronic data or records pertaining to the grant project; paper or other tangible documents or records, including the physical location where records are stored; and all locations related to project activities.

- 4. If Grant Recipient has a financial audit performed during the time Grant Recipient is receiving funds from TDA, upon request, TDA shall have access to information about the audit, including the audit transmittal letter, management letter, any schedules, and the final report or result of such audit.
- 5. Grant Recipients must comply with Texas Government Code, Chapter 783 (Uniform Grant and Contract Management Act) and the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS).

TDA-GO Access Instructions

Applicants MUST be a registered user in **TDA-GO**, TDA's online Grant Application/Management system. Click here to access the TDA-GO website or copy and paste the following in your browser: https://tda-go.intelligrants.com/

- NEW USER:
 - o If applicant organization is a new user, proceed to **Step 1: Registering a New User Organization in TDA-GO**.
- EXISTING USER:
 - o If applicant is already a User in the system, proceed to Accessing Grant Opportunity.
 - If the organization needs to add additional people as New Users, please proceed to Step
 3: Adding Users and Assigning Roles.

Step 1: Registering a New User Organization in TDA-GO

The following describes how to access the TDA-GO online grant system by setting up a new account for an organization. The applicant organization must have a user account to access the program application.

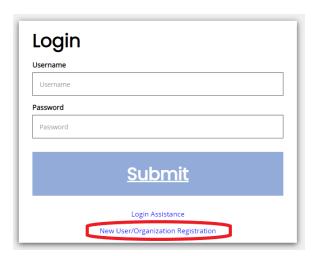
THIS MUST BE DONE 48-72 HOURS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

Steps to Get Started:

- The initial registration for the organization must be completed by an Authorized Official (AO) for the organization
- Once registered, the AO can designate access to the organizational account for additional staff members as they deem appropriate.

To register a New User organization, complete the following steps:

1) Click on the **New User/Organization Registration** link.



2) Fill in the required fields and any optional fields desired. See **Legend** below for specific field instructions. Click the *Save* button.

Legend

First Name (Required) – the first name of Authorized Official (AO).

Middle Name – the middle **New User Registration** name of AO. Last Name (Required) – the last Page instructions for the registration moda name of AO. SAM/UEI & DUNS (Required) the UEI number for the organization. See instructions below for DUNS Consultant/Researcher role. Organization (Required) – the name of the organization the AO is representing. Title – the position title of the AO. **Street Address (Required)** State (Required) Phone 2 County (Required) City (Required) Zip Code (Required) Email (Required) - the email address of the AO. **Phone (Required)** – the phone number of the AO. **Username (Required)** – create a username for the AO. An email address is highly encouraged for usernames.

Password/Verify Password (Required) – create a password for the AO. The password field is case sensitive and will not recognize characters of the wrong case.

3) **Hit Register.** The registration for the New User will be sent to TDA staff for approval. You will receive an email indicating approval within 24-48 hours. After approval, the New User can log on and access the TDA-GO platform.

NOTE: If a user attempts to access the system before they have been approved, the system will show their password as invalid.

You will receive an email confirming registration approval. Once for the organization and another for the user.



Step 2: Adding Users and Assigning Roles

Once the Authorized Official has completed set up of the organization in TDA-GO, additional personnel may be added to the organization and be granted access to TDA-GO. Carefully review the role definitions below and refer to the appropriate instructions for each role. See <u>TDA-GO roles</u> below:

Authorized Official (AO) for Applicant Organizations

Who: Person authorized to enter into legal agreements on behalf of the organization.

Created By: Initially, the AO is created when the Organization account is established.

Additional AO's may be added once Organization account is approved.

TDA-GO tasks:

- Create new user accounts for organization members
- Initiate an application
- Complete all required application fields
- Certify and submit an application
- Execute Grant Agreements
- Initiate/Complete/Submit Payment request/Performance reports/Amendments

Project Director (PD) for Applicant Organizations

Who: Personnel involved in grant administration

Created By: The organization's AO creates and manages PD users

TDA-GO tasks:

- Create new user accounts for organization members
- Initiate an application
- Complete all required application fields
- Initiate/Complete/Submit Payment request/Performance reports

Consultant/Researcher (C/R)

Who:

- A third-party person assisting with a grant application; or
- Employee/researcher/staff/PIs/professors assisting with a grant application/proposal that does not need to see every grant application for the organization

Created By:

The C/R registers individually as a New User. The AO <u>DOES NOT</u> create C/R users. TDA will assign this user to the organizations documents once an AO or PD starts the application

TDA-GO tasks:

- Complete all required application fields
- Initiate/Complete Payment request/Performance reports

NOTE: This role cannot submit an application on behalf of the applying organization.

Adding Additional Authorized Officials and Project Directors:

After logging into the TDA-GO system, the AO will see the Dashboard. In the upper right-hand corner, click on the arrow next to the AO name, and select **Profile** from the drop-down menu (Figure 1).

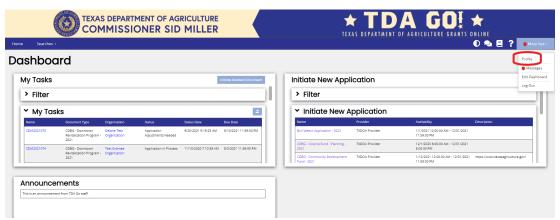


Figure 1. Landing page after logging in and Profile button location

The **Profile** page shows basic information for the primary AO and the Organization. Located on the left-hand side of the webpage, the AO can access the Organization information (Figure 2). The AO can update general information for the organization, as well as add and manage organization members.



Figure 2. Accessing Organization pages

To add a new member, click on **Organization Members**. To the right in the box titled "Members Search", click the **Plus (+)** button to add person.

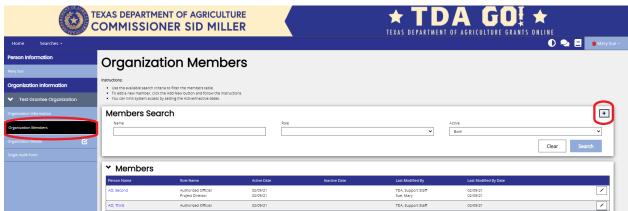
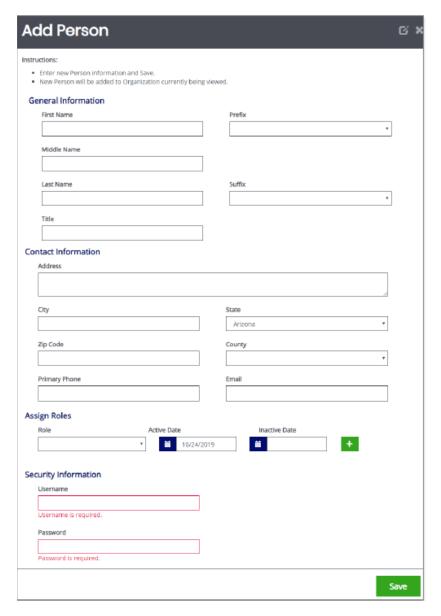


Figure 3. Location of Plus (+) button to add new organization members (AO and PD)

Complete the **Add Person** form (Figure 4) for the new user to the organization. Please remember, this process is only to add additional Authorized Officials (AO) or Project Directors (PD). Click the *Save* button. See below for form Legend.



Legend

First Name (Required) – the first name of new user.

Middle Name – the middle name of new user.

Last Name (Required) – the last name of new user.

Title – the position title of the new user.

Address (Required) – the street address of the organization.

City (Required) – the name of the city of the organization.

State (Required) – select the state of the organization using the state drop-down menu.

Zip Code (Required) – the zip code of the organization.

County (Required) – select the county where the organization is located using the county dropdown menu.

Phone (Required) – phone number of the new user.

Email (Required) –email address of the new user.

Role - select drop-down menu to select a role for the new user.

Active Date – date selection tool to select the active date for the new user.

Inactive Date – date selection tool to select the inactive date for when the user is no longer active.

Username (Required) - create a

username for the new user. An email address is highly encouraged for usernames.

Password (Required) – create a password for the new user. The user can reset this once access to TDA-GO is granted. The password field is case sensitive and will not recognize characters of the wrong case.

Login Assistance

The TDA-GO portal allows the user to request a password reset be generated and sent to their email address. To do so, complete the following steps:

- 1) Click on the Login Assistance link.
- 2) Enter the username and email address. Click on the Email button. A reset link will be sent to the email address supplied.

Forgot Password	
Email	
Username	
Forgot Username	Clear Email

3) An email like the following will be sent to reset your password:

From: TDA-GO@IntelliGrants.com <TDA-GO@IntelliGrants.com>

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 1:01 PM

To: Mindy Weth Fryer < Mindy.Fryer@TexasAgriculture.gov >

Subject: Password Reset

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the Texas Department of Agriculture email system. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you expect them from the sender and know the content is safe.

You have requested a password reset. Please use the link below reset your password. It will expire in 15 minutes. Reset Password

If you did not request this reset and would like to invalidate and cancel the request, please click here.

4) At that point, the user will be brought directly to the Profile page and requested to create a new password into the Password and Confirm Password fields are available.

NOTE: The password field is case sensitive and will not recognize characters of the wrong case. Precision when entering the password into the password field will decrease the risk of error messages being generated by the system.



Accessing Grant Opportunity

The following describes how to access the grant opportunity via TDA-GO. Applications may only be initiated by an Authorized Official or Project Director.

Dashboard

After your registration has been submitted and you have received an approved email, you will be able to log into the system and see the Dashboard. The User's Dashboard will appear (Figure 1).

- **My Tasks** are applications/reports that are in process; or where you will go when you want to edit an application you have started.
- Initiate New Application are blank grant applications.

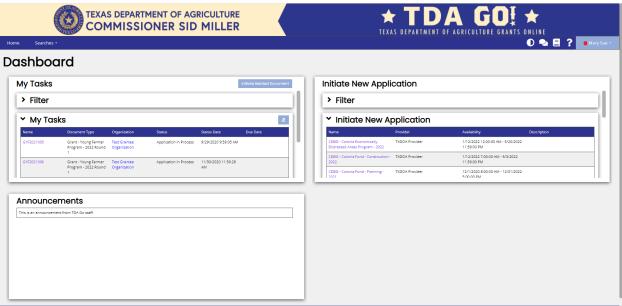


Figure 1. Landing page after logging in

Choose the **Application** by scrolling down the "Intiate New Application" box and select **Surplus Agricultural Products – 2026-2027** (Figure 2 & 3).

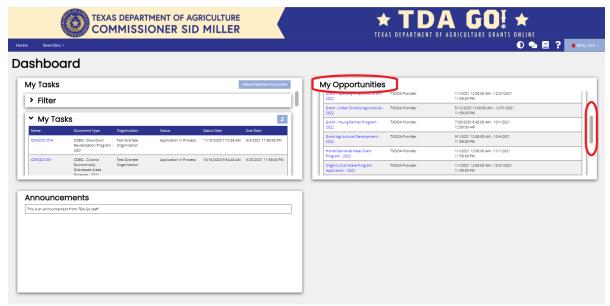


Figure 2. My Opportunities and location of scrolling tool



Figure 3. Selection for new Grant Application. Please note dates are for testing purposes only.

A brief description and agreement language appears (Figure 4). Read and select Agree.



Figure 4. Agreement

Document Landing Page

After Agree is selected, the Document Landing Page will appear (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Document Landing Page

The left column has the Grant Project Number at the top, then four drop down menus: Forms, Tools, Status Options, and Related Documents.

- **Forms** is a list of required information that includes Applicant Form, Proposed Project, Budget Form, Required Uploads, and Certification.
- Tools include Add/Edit People that can access the application, Status History, Modification Summary, Attachment Repository, Notes and Print Document ability. See "Application Form Guidance" section for instructions on how to complete the application.
- **Status Options** is where the application can be submitted or cancelled.
- **Related Documents** is not applicable to the application submisson process. You will not need this function to submit your application.

Application Form Guidance

The following section provides some additional guidance regarding key sections of the applications. As a reminder this is a competitive grant application, TDA staff is available to answer questions regarding the program and to provide clarifying information concerning this RFGA. TDA staff will not review any grant proposals prior to the application deadline.

TIPS

As you move through the online application, here are a few tips to keep in mind:

1. All required fields are marked with a *. An error message will appear and the application may not be submitted if these required fields are not filled out (Figure 6).

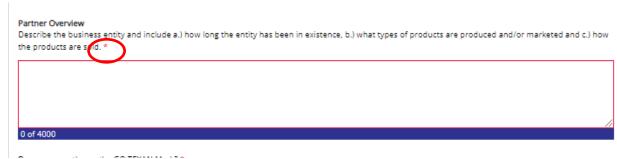


Figure 6. Example of Required Fields

2. If a question has a Select button in the answer box, it is necessary to upload the appropriate documentation (Figure 7). Click on the Select Button to open the file selection screen.

Upload photos of current use of GO TEXAN Mark *



Figure 7. The Select button allows applicant to select and upload the appropriate documentation

3. Any field with a Plus (+) button has the ability to add an additional row (Figure 8).

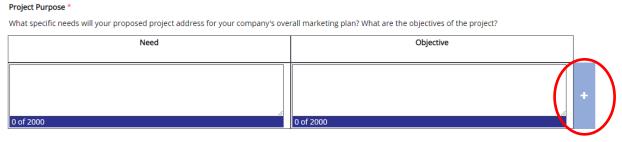


Figure 8. Add additional rows by clicking the plus (+) button

You can delete additional rows by pressing the red minus (-) button (Figure 9)

Project Purpose * What specific needs will your proposed project address for your company's overall marketing plan? What are the objectives of the project? Need Objective + -

0 of 2000

Figure 9. Subtract additional rows by clicking the minus (-) button

0 of 2000

4. After completing the form, click the **Save** button in the top right hand corner (Figure 10). After clicking the **Save** button, if any required sections are missing, an error message will appear (Figure 11).



Figure 10. Regularly save your work by clicking the save button in the upper right hand corner



Figure 11. Error Message of missing required message

Step 1: Start Application Form

Expand the Forms drop down menu and select Application Contact Information (Figure 6).

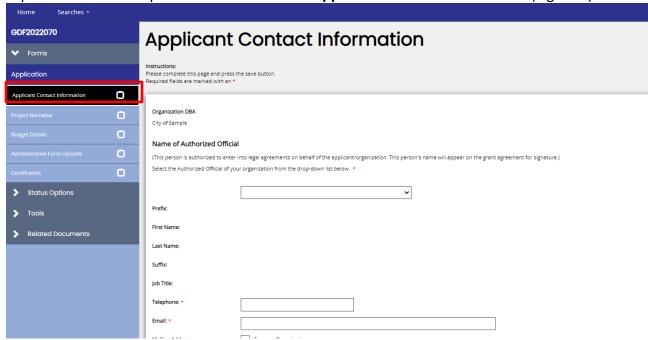


Figure 6. Application Form location

All sections of the Application Contact Information must be completed.



Figure 12. Sample of Error Message of missing required message

Step 2: Complete Project Narrative

Expand the Forms drop down menu and select Narrative (Figure 13).



Figure 13. Project Narrative location

Complete all appropriate sections of the Project Narrative. After completing the Project Narrative form, click the **Save** button in the top right hand corner (Figure 11). After clicking the **Save** button, if any required sections are missing, an error message will appear (Figure 12).

Step 3: Complete Budget Deails

Expand the Forms drop down menu and select Budget Details (Figure 14).

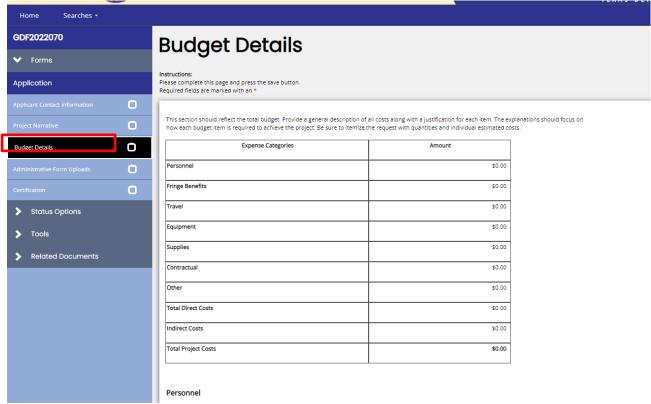


Figure 14. Budget Form location

Complete all applicable sections of the Budget Details. Read instructions included in application carefully. See below for specific instrutions.

See "Budget Information" section for additional gudiance on "elgible expenses".

Please place the following costs in these expense categories:

- o Grant Recipient personnel expenses use the personnel and fringe beneifts
- Third Party Vendor Adminstration fees use Contratual expense category
- <u>Transportation/Freight</u> use the other category
- Food Procurement use the Supplies Expense Category: no less than \$5,000,000 each fiscal year shall be used to provide food and may not be used for costs including facility expansion or renovation, increasing capacity, transportation, equipment, technology, personnel, administration, indirect administration, or to purchase generators.

Step 4: Complete Required Uploads

Expand the Forms drop down menu and select Required Uploads (Figure 15).

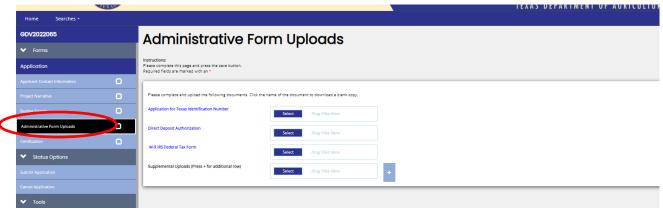


Figure 15. Required Uploads location

Required forms (Figure 15):

Click on the blue hyperlink to download the form to complete.

- 1. <u>Application for Texas Identification Number</u>: This form is required per Texas Contract Management guidelines. By completing this form, you are assisting TDA with contract management standards to set up accounts for grant awards.
- 2. <u>Direct Deposit Authorization</u>: Required to ensure ACH Payments are made.
- 3. <u>W-9 Federal Tax Form:</u> This form is required per Texas Contract Management guidelines.
- 4. <u>Supporting Documentation Upload (Optional)</u>: Applicants may upload relevant additional documentation in this field (e.g. letters of support, references, supporting data, etc.). Click the Select button to add a file. Additional documents may be added by clicking the plus (+) button.

Supporting Documentation



After uploading the required forms, hit the **Save** button in the top right hand corner (Figure 11). After clicking the **Save** button, if any required sections are missing, an error message will appear (Figure 12).

Step 5: Complete Review and Certification

Before completing Step 6 Certification, please review application for completeness and accuracy. Once the application is certified and submitted, an applicant *CANNOT* make any additional changes.

Before certifying the application, please go over each section ensuring all information is correct and there are no error messages. If there are no error messages in a section, the section in the drop down menu will have a check next to it (Figure 16).



Figure 16. Completed section with check mark

If there are error messages in a section, the section in the drop down menu will have an exclamation point next to it (Figure 17). Click on the selection in the drop down menu and review and resolve the error messages.



Figure 17. Incomplete section with error messages

Once all error messages are resolved and each section has a check as seen in Figure 17, the application can be certified and submitted.

Expand the **Forms** drop down menu and select **Certification** (Figure 18). To certify your application, check the box (Figure 18). The section is then complete. Click **Save** in the top right corner.

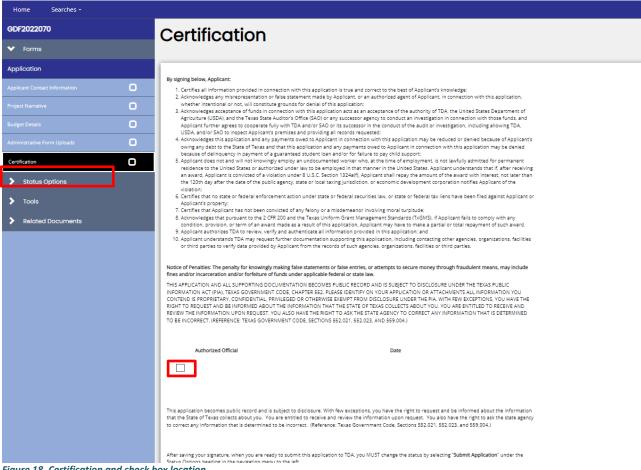


Figure 18. Certification and check box location

Step 6: Application Submission

Once the application is certified/e-signed and complete, you must <u>SUBMIT</u> the application within the TDA-GO system.

Expand the Status Options drop down menu (Figure 19). Select Submit Application.

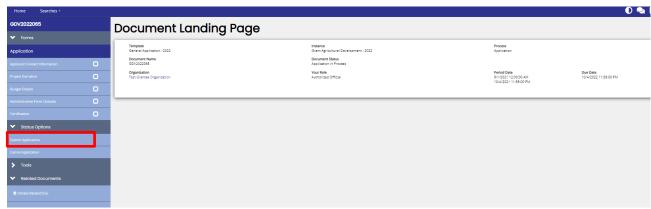


Figure 19. Status Options drop down menu and Application Submitted button location

NOTE: If errors remain, an **Errors Present** message will pop up (Figure 20). You may click on each section name to be directed to the errors.

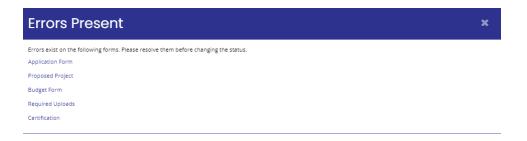


Figure 20. Error message will appear if you try to submit application with errors

If no errors are detected, the system will ask if you are sure. Once you select to submit, you will then be taken back to the **Landing Page** (Figure 21).



Figure 21. After application submission, you will return to the Document Landing Page.

NOTE: Applications must be submitted by the opportunity due date. The online application will no longer be available after that time. Times identified are based on TDA headquarters (Central Time Zone) and are displayed on your TDA-GO home screen.

Confirmation Email

After submitting your application, you will receive a confirmation email (Figure 22).

From: websites@agatesoftware.com <websites@agatesoftware.com > Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 10:57 AM Subject: Application HDM-2021-TGO-00005 Submitted

WARNING: This email originated from outside of the Texas Department of Agriculture email system. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you expect them from the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for submitting Application HDM-2021-TGO-00005 for Test Grantee Organization. TDA staff will review and contact the persons identified in the application with any questions or concerns

Figure 22. Example of confirmation email