
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 660 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, VOGEL, STEFANO, AUMENT, K. WARD, BAKER
AND BROWNE, MAY 17, 2019

REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, MAY 17, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, providing for agriculture and rural youth
3 development; establishing the State Agriculture and Rural
4 Youth Development Board; and providing for the Agriculture
5 and Rural Youth Organization Grant Program.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Title 3 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes
9 is amended by adding a part to read:

10 PART IX

11 GRANT PROGRAMS

12 Chapter

13 101. (Reserved)

14 103. Agriculture and Rural Youth Development

15 CHAPTER 101

16 (Reserved)

17 CHAPTER 103

18 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

19 Sec.

- 1 10301. Definitions.
- 2 10302. Board membership.
- 3 10303. Authorization and purpose.
- 4 10304. Applications.
- 5 10305. Grants.
- 6 10306. Regulations.
- 7 10307. Funding.
- 8 § 10301. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
10 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Agriculture and rural youth organization." An organization
13 composed mainly of youth and organized to promote development in
14 the areas of agriculture, rural community leadership, vocational
15 training and peer fellowship. The term includes, but is not
16 limited to, Pennsylvania FFA, 4-H, Ag in the Classroom, the
17 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and vocational
18 education programs.

19 "Board." The State Agriculture and Rural Youth Development
20 Board.

21 "Program." The Agriculture and Rural Youth Organization
22 Grant Program.

23 § 10302. Board membership.

24 The board shall consist of the following members, with a
25 majority of members constituting a quorum:

26 (1) The secretary or a designee, who shall serve as
27 chairperson.

28 (2) The Secretary of Education or a designee.

29 (3) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
30 Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the Senate or a

1 designee and the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
2 Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the House of
3 Representatives or a designee.

4 (4) One representative from the Pennsylvania Association
5 of Agriculture Educators and one from the Penn State
6 Cooperative Extension, both of whom shall be appointed by the
7 Governor.

8 (5) The Statewide president of the Pennsylvania FFA.

9 (6) The 4-H Statewide Council President.

10 (7) Up to three representatives, each from a different
11 Pennsylvania farm or rural organization having a youth
12 program, whom shall be appointed by the secretary.

13 (8) A representative of an urban agriculture community
14 program.

15 (9) A youth representative of an urban garden operation
16 or another urban agriculture operation.

17 § 10303. Authorization and purpose.

18 (a) Grant program.--The department, in consultation with the
19 board, shall establish a program of grants for agriculture and
20 rural youth organizations qualifying to receive grants under
21 this chapter.

22 (b) Purpose.--Grants awarded under this chapter may be used
23 for any of the following purposes:

24 (1) To cover the costs of special projects conducted by
25 the organization and approved by the board.

26 (2) For educational programs conducted by the
27 organization and approved by the board.

28 (3) For educational seminars and field trips conducted
29 by the organization and approved by the board.

30 (4) For agricultural safety training programs conducted

1 by the organization and approved by the board.

2 (5) For certain capital projects and equipment purchases
3 approved by the board.

4 § 10304. Applications.

5 (a) Application procedure.--An agriculture and rural youth
6 organization may make application at the time, in the manner and
7 containing information as the department may require. The
8 department shall determine, from the information provided,
9 whether the application is eligible for consideration by the
10 board.

11 (b) Annual meeting.--The board shall meet annually to
12 recommend to the department the awarding of grants to qualifying
13 organizations.

14 (c) Other meetings.--The board shall meet at the call of the
15 chairperson to conduct business related to the award of grants.

16 § 10305. Grants.

17 (a) General rule.-- The department shall make grants in an
18 amount not to exceed \$2,500 to qualifying agriculture and rural
19 youth organizations upon the recommendation of the board.

20 (b) Matching funds.--Grants in an amount not to exceed
21 \$25,000 shall be awarded to qualifying agriculture and rural
22 youth organizations selected to receive the awards for the
23 purposes of capital projects. Grants for capital projects must
24 be matched by private funds in an amount equal to the State
25 grant.

26 (c) Annual allocation.--The board shall establish annual
27 allocation limits for each fiscal year.

28 § 10306. Regulations.

29 The department shall administer the provisions of this
30 chapter and, with the approval of the board, shall prescribe and

1 adopt program policy guidelines or regulations to administer and
2 enforce this chapter. Until or unless supplanted by program
3 policy guidelines or regulations adopted under this section, the
4 program guidelines promulgated under the act of August 6, 1991
5 (P.L.326, No.33), known as the Agriculture and Rural Youth
6 Development Act, shall be the policy guidelines for the program.
7 § 10307. Funding.

8 (a) Funds available basis.--The Agriculture and Rural Youth
9 Organization Grant Program shall only be administered in years
10 in which funds are specifically allocated or received and made
11 available to the department under this chapter for that purpose.

12 (b) General.--For purposes of implementing the provisions of
13 this chapter, the department may use:

14 (1) Any funding appropriated by the General Assembly to
15 the department to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

16 (2) Any other money, contributions or payments which may
17 be made available to the department by the Federal Government
18 or by any public or private source.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.