



ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL
Commissioner

M E M O R A N D U M

Date: October 27, 2015
To: Entities Interested in Farmland Protection Implementation Activities
Re: Request for Proposals for Hudson Valley Agricultural Enhancement Program

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets is pleased to announce the availability of funding for the Hudson Valley Agricultural Enhancement Program (HVAEP), which was announced in Governor Cuomo’s 2015-16 Executive Budget and approved in the final 2015-16 Budget by the State Legislature. This regional program supporting farmland preservation efforts offers \$20 million in state assistance for farmland protection projects within the Hudson Valley region. For the purposes of this grant opportunity, the Hudson Valley region shall include:

Albany	Putnam	Sullivan
Columbia	Rensselaer	Ulster
Dutchess	Rockland	Washington
Greene	Saratoga	Westchester
Orange	Schenectady	

Eligible applicants include:

- counties with state-approved agricultural and farmland protection plans;
- municipalities that have adopted a local farmland protection plan;
- soil and water conservation districts; and
- not-for-profit conservation organizations (referred to as “land trusts”).

For this grant opportunity, only implementation projects that result in perpetual conservation easements are eligible for funding, regardless of whether that transaction is for the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR), or the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR), or the donation of the full value of development rights.

All proposals must be submitted through the [New York State Grants Gateway portal](#) by 4:30 p.m., January 29, 2016.

Thank you for your interest in farmland protection in New York State.