

Illinois Extension

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences



IL 4-H Food Advocacy Grant Program Details



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Illinois State 4-H Office, thank you for your interest in helping to promote youth leadership in the field of food security and food access.

Too many families in Illinois do not know where their next meal will come from, and we know that this can impact young people negatively. These grants are designed to support youth-led projects tackling the challenge of food security where they live. We're looking forward to engaging and supporting another cohort of young leaders dedicated to creating food-secure communities throughout Illinois.

With the right support and encouragement, we know that the youth we work with are ready to rise to the occasion.

Grant Details

The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Grant is financial support in the form of \$500 or \$1,000 grants to invest in the next generation of food access leaders. Funds are made available with the support of the Illinois 4-H Foundation, The Brandt Foundation, and Compeer Financial.

Applications will open in Spring, 2024. You can see an example of previously awarded grant projects here: [Report Link](#)

Projects that demonstrate a leadership role for youth (8-18) will be given preference. Applicants will be asked to talk about their project, and their goals, and share with us a rough outline of their budget spreadsheet so we can have a sense of how they plan to utilize the funds.

After applicants are selected, they will receive coaching and guidance from the Illinois 4-H State Office throughout the process and until the final report. Grantees will also be invited to present their experiences to other 4-H youth leaders from around the state.

Webinar

You can view a recent educational webinar at the link below. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about the grant process and get your questions answered.

[Webinar Link](#)

Resources

This infographic lays out some ideas for youth-led service projects.

[Link: Food Advocacy Ideas](#)

The advocacy organization Feeding America is the leading expert nationwide regarding food insecurity and the many ways it impacts young people and their families. You can learn more about the impacts that food insecurity has on youth specifically at their website: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/child-hunger-facts>

The featured presenter at the 2021 Food Action Summit presenter was Dr. Craig Gundersen, an ACES Distinguished Professor and food insecurity researcher at the U of I. He provides a broader vision of food insecurity in Illinois.

[Link: Alleviating Food Insecurity w/Dr. Craig Gundersen](#)

A marketing toolkit that contains social media graphics, flyers, and other useful information.

[Link: Food Advocacy Grants Toolkit](#)

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