



New York State Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant Program

SMART GOAL WORKSHEET: Stand-Alone Project

Developing a SMART goal for a stand-alone projects is likely to be relatively straightforward. It will start with identifying an operational outcome.

An operational outcome is simply a phrase to describe what happens when a change is made. If the applicant is able to purchase the goods and services that were described, what changes would result?

Common agricultural outcomes are listed below. It's important to focus on the areas where realistic estimates can be developed.

- Increase production capacity
- Produce a new product
- Improve efficiency and/or reduce inputs
- Reduce product waste
- Serve new markets
- Better market the business' products
- Improve the workforce
- Climate mitigation (ability to better withstand weather events)

Operational outcomes are the first step in building financial targets. The table below outlines ways that operational outcomes can be measured and translated into financial outcomes.

Proposals are NOT limited to the outcomes shared below.

Operational Outcome	Unit of Measurement	Financial Outcome 1	Financial Outcome 2
Increase production capacity	Volume	Annual Sales Revenue	Profit Margins
Produce a new product	Volume	Annual Sales Revenue	Profit Margins
Improve efficiency and/or reduce inputs	Labor hours per unit of production/inputs per unit of production	Reduced operating costs	Profit Margins
Reduce product waste	Volume available for sales and/or margins	Improved profitability and/or increased sales	
Serve new markets	Volume	Annual Sales Revenue	Profit Margins
Better market products	Price premium and/or increased sales	Annual Sales Revenue	Profit Margins
Improve the workforce	Labor hours per unit of production/or increased sales	Reduced Operating Costs/Annual Sales Revenue	Profit Margins

The Beginning Farmer competitive grant program is funded by the State of New York and administered by the New York Farm Viability Institute in partnership with the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. This Request for Proposals (RFP) utilizes the generous appropriation from the New York State Governor and legislature in the 2022/23 fiscal year appropriation.

Climate Mitigation	Price premium or increased/stable volume	Annual Sales Revenue	Profit margin
--------------------	--	----------------------	---------------

For every operational outcome identified, it should be possible to develop a financial goal based on projected numbers.

What is the operational outcome for this project?

What unit of measurement does it use?

What are the current or estimated measurement numbers?

What are the projected measurement numbers (fill in blank) by (date)?

How will the applicant estimate the financial impact of the project? (reduced operating costs, increased revenue, profit margins)

What is the estimated net financial impact of the project?

The answers to the previous questions have now provided the information necessary to write a narrative SMART goal in the online application.