

Programs for Agricultural Producers



Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

This program provides grants to agricultural producers to fund processing and/or marketing projects to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income. Past recipients have used the grants to conduct feasibility studies, develop business plans, update their packaging and marketing materials, and pay advertising costs. The grants are awarded through an annual competitive grant process that is administered at the national level. Contact Ivana Hernandez-Clukey at 207-990-9127 for more information.



Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers can also apply for new energy-efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing. Applications are due quarterly and are evaluated at the state level. Contact Katrina Shaw at 207-990-9129 for more information.



Rural Energy for America Program Technical Assistance Grants (REAP TAG)

New in 2023, this program pays for selected technical assistance providers to give free help to agricultural producers and rural small businesses applying for REAP grants.

- Pecos, Inc. will advise REAP applicants statewide interested in utilizing distributed wind power, contact 207-745-2231.
- Sustaine, Inc. offers assistance statewide on a wide range of efficient energy systems and improvements, visit sustaine.com.
- Sunrise County Economic Council offers a menu of free assistance to farmers and rural businesses in Washington County to help them apply for REAP grants, contact 207-255-0983.



Low Interest Mortgages & Home Repair Loans/Grants

USDA RD offers flexible, low-interest, long-term mortgages to low- and very-low-income eligible borrowers to purchase homes in rural areas. Income restrictions vary by area. Grants and loans for home repairs and improvements are also available for eligible very-low-income residents. These products cannot be used to purchase businesses such as farms, but residential properties purchased by farmers or business owners may be eligible. Contact Darrin Dyer at 207-573-5440 for more information.



Maine Contact List

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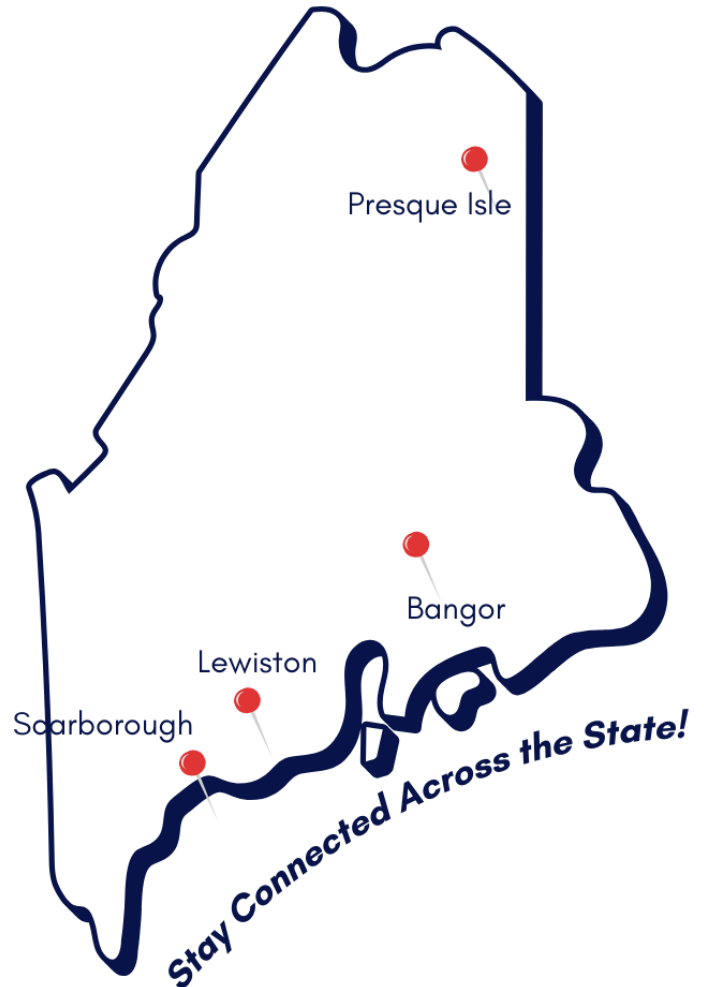
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