







Fund Your Orchard Stewardship Activities with Blue Diamond's Climate-Smart Grant (CSG)

In 2023, Blue Diamond was awarded a grant from the USDA for \$45 million over the course of 5 years to support growers implementing climate-smart farming activities. This voluntary program allows Blue Diamond member growers or those who farm on a Blue Diamond orchard to be eligible to **receive an incentive payment and no cost plants/seeds** when implementing one or more of the following activities:

ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

| Cover Crops | Conservation Cover, "Bee Pasture" | Hedgerows | Whole Orchard Recycling (WOR) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  |
| MATERIAL COSTS | | | |
| No cost seeds provided by Project Apis m. | No cost seeds provided by Project Apis m. | No cost plants provided by Pollinator Partnership | Consult local providers |
| IMPLEMENTATION INCENTIVE | | | |
| Up to \$35/acre * | Up to \$50/acre * | Up to \$8/linear foot * | Up to \$900/acre * |
| IMPLEMENTATION INCENTIVE EXAMPLES | | | |
| Cover crops planted on at least every other row of a 100-acre orchard: ≤ \$3,500 | Conservation cover planted on 4% of 100 acres (primarily on idle or fallow land, in or next to orchards): ≤ \$200 | Hedgerows planted around an orchard in a 300 foot row: ≤ \$2,400 | WOR implemented for a 100-acre orchard: ≤ \$90,000 |

What is required?

1. Participation in Blue Diamond's Orchard Stewardship Incentive Program (OSIP) for the 2024 crop year bluediamondgrowers.com/forms/
2. Registration of your farm and orchards with the USDA Farm Service Agency offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ca&agency=fsa
3. A completed application, all requested materials, and approval from Blue Diamond (**note:** you will be notified when we receive your application and when review is complete)
4. Proof of implementation to show you have completed the activity
5. Adherence to all practice program requirements and rules (see link to guide on the right)

Where do I learn more and how do I sign up?

- More information can be found on the Blue Diamond Growers webpage under *Grower Resources* > Climate-Smart Grant, or bluediamondgrowers.com/climate-smart-grant
- The application link is located at bit.ly/bdg-csg
- Email jbains@bdgrowers.com or contact your Regional Manager with additional questions. bluediamondgrowers.com/meet-your-partners/

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Climate-Smart Grant funding is not guaranteed and is subject to the review and approval of the USDA.