



KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Landowners, Eligible Applicants, and Farmland Protection Stakeholders

FROM: Richard A. Ball, Commissioner

DATE: April 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Status of Round 19 FPIG-RFA



Thank you all for your collective response thus far to our current grant opportunity, RFA0294 – the Round 19 Farmland Protection Implementation Grants (FPIG) Request For Applications (RFA) for Agricultural Conservation Easement Projects. As demonstrated by both the number of applications and awards thus far, it has already been a great success! We thank you for your ongoing commitment to farmland protection and for your individual and collective good work.

Pursuant to RFA0294, page 4:

After March 31, 2024, the Commissioner may award available funds to eligible projects without regard to regional boundaries provided that all projects awarded thereafter are made in the order of the date on which the Department determined that each such project was eligible for an award.

Therefore, I hereby remove all regional allocation boundaries. Also, in anticipation of forthcoming awards to those applications that were previously deemed award-eligible, these actions will now make the remaining ~\$8.2 million available statewide to eligible applicants to submit applications for funding consideration. Therefore, from this date forward, all subsequent applications deemed to be eligible for an award shall be awarded on a first approved, first awarded basis until the remaining funds have been committed. At that time, RFA0294 shall be closed.

Please continue to monitor the [Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program webpage](#) of the Department's website for the current status of applications received and awarded.