

Attachment 4



Department of Community Services and Development
Farmworker Resource Center Grant Program
Fact Sheet

What is the Farmworker Resource Center Grant Program?

On September 22, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 941 (Bennett, Chapter 203) into law, which established the Farmworker Resource Center Grant Program. \$3 million was appropriated in the 2021-22 State Budget to fund the program. County governments interested in establishing and funding Farmworker Resource Centers will be eligible to apply for grant funding. Counties must commit to providing 25 percent of the Farmworker Resource Center's funding to qualify for a grant. Farmworker Resource Centers funded under the program will offer information and access to services to farmworkers and their families.

What is the proposed program framework?

Farmworker Resource Centers funded under the program will offer information and access to services to farmworkers and their families. These services can include, but are not limited to, assistance in filing with state or local agencies, and referrals to legislative offices or community-based organizations. Farmworker Resource Centers can also provide resources and information regarding programs related to labor and employment rights, education, housing, utilities, immigration, and health and human services, including, but not limited to, food security, mental health, and childcare assistance. Farmworker Resource Center services may be offered at traditional brick-and-mortar locations or through mobile centers.

What are the obligations of grantees?

In addition to establishing and funding an existing program according to the proposed framework, county governments will have additional obligations. County grantees must:

- Provide 25 percent of the center's program funding,
- Develop an assessment of the community that the farmworker assistance program would serve and monitor local trends on an ongoing basis,
- Provide services in English and Spanish (with the encouragement to include other languages necessary to allow for equitable program access for the target community),
- Maintain a cost-effective database to track calls received, referrals made, claims filed, and other program outcomes,
- Establish or utilize existing linkages with local or statewide community-based organizations already serving the farmworker community,
- Offer assistance programs through either a traditional brick-and-mortar location(s) or mobile center(s) depending on local needs.

What is the Farmworker Resource Center Grant Program Workgroup?

AB 941 requires CSD to convene a workgroup to work with the department to develop evaluation criteria for Farmworker Resource Center grant applicants and awardees. The workgroup will be comprised of:

- (1) A nonmanagement representative from an existing farmworker resource center;
- (2) Three representatives from community-based organizations with a history of serving the farmworker communities;
- (3) A representative from a community-based organization that works with indigenous farmworkers;
- (4) A representative from the Labor and Workforce Development Agency;
- (5) A representative from a local public health department;
- (6) A representative from the County Welfare Directors Association of California; and
- (7) A representative from the farming community.

The workgroup will meet as needed between April and August 2022.