

# PRESS RELEASE

## FDA and AFDO Partner to Award Year 3 Retail Program Standards Grants to State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal Regulatory Retail Food Programs

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) are proud to announce Year 3 of the AFDO administered Retail Program Standards Grant Program. Opening on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 and accepting applications through Friday, October 9, the program provides funds for the completion of projects and training to enhance conformance with the Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (Retail Program Standards). Grant funding is open to state, local, territorial, and tribal regulatory retail food programs that have enrolled in the [Retail Program Standards](#). Applicants to this program can expect a simple application process, up-front funding when required by the project, and simple reporting requirements.

Funds are available for completing projects that meet Retail Program Standard goals and objectives in three categories:

- Category 1: Small Projects (up to \$3,000) - Examples: Completion of Self-Assessments, Verification Audits, Small Projects that Advance Conformance with a Standard Not Previously Met
- Category 2: Moderate Projects (\$10,000 to \$20,000) - Examples: Completion of Foodborne Illness Risk Factor Studies, Implementation of Comprehensive Intervention Strategies to Reduce Risk Factors, Training Events, Moderate Projects that Advance Conformance with a Standard Not Previously Met
- Category 3: Training (up to \$3,000) - Examples: Step 1 & 3 Curriculum or CEU Maintenance, Travel to Training Courses, Workshops, and FDA Regional Seminars that Advance the Goals of the Retail Program Standards

All eligible jurisdictions are encouraged to apply and can receive funding, regardless of whether or not they were awarded funds in Years 1 & 2 of this program. Jurisdictions can apply for funding for one project in each of the three categories for a maximum of three applications per jurisdiction. Total funding for this program has increased significantly for Year 3 to \$1,974,242. Consequently, we expect the number of awards to increase dramatically.

### How to Apply for Funding

To stay informed of the latest developments on this funding opportunity or to enroll in the Retail Program Standards, visit the AFDO Retail Food Safety Grants website at: <http://afdo.org/retailstandards>. The Web site will have the most up-to-date information about this grant program, and will be open for Year 3 applications on September 1, 2015.

For Additional Information: Email: [retailstandards@afdo.org](mailto:retailstandards@afdo.org) Phone: (850) 583-4593

### About AFDO

AFDO, which was established in 1896, successfully fosters uniformity in the adoption and enforcement of science-based laws, rules, and regulations regarding food, drugs, medical devices, cosmetics and product safety by either drafting regulatory rules or commenting on government proposals. By developing a broad base of support for new approaches, AFDO has become a recognized voice in determining the rules and helping to shape the regulatory playing field of the future. The consensus that AFDO helps develop is key to advancing uniform laws, regulations, and guidelines that result in more efficient regulations and less confusion among industries in the marketplace. AFDO develops support for its positions by interfacing with high-level regulatory officials, industry representatives, trade associations, and consumer organizations. This effort continues to have a significant impact on regulations at the Federal, State and local levels. For more information, visit [www.afdo.org](http://www.afdo.org). Inquiries about AFDO can be directed to AFDO Executive Director Joseph Corby. # # #