

Iowa Farm Business Resource Directory

Information and Contacts

Farm Service Agency

Farm Service Agency (FSA) Direct Operating Loans Low interest loans for funds to purchase livestock, equipment, supplies of up to \$200,000.

Guaranteed bank loan for operating expenses FSA can help set up a guaranteed loan with local lender up to \$899,000.

FSA Direct Farm Loan Low interest loans for funds for farm land ownership of up to \$200,000.

Guaranteed bank loan for farm land ownership FSA can help set up a guaranteed loan for land purchase with local lender up to \$899,000.

Contact: Your local county office at <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app> or in the phone book under the Federal Government/United States Government/Farm Service Agency.

Small Business Development Center

Grow Your Small Farm Business

Program A program to assist beginning farmers who do not have a high level of equity.

Contact: Penny Brown, (515) 232-1344 or <http://www.iowasbdc.org>.

Farm Credit Services of America

New Farmers Program

Contact: <http://www.fcsamerica.com/>

Center for Rural Affairs

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunities

Contact: http://www.cfra.org/resources/beginning_farmer

State of Iowa

Iowa Beginning Farmer Loan Program

Assists beginning farmers by providing reduced interest loans for the purchase of agricultural assets.

Loan Participation Program For those with good cash flow status, but inadequate equity status.

Iowa Beginning Farmer Tax Credit

Act Allows a tax credit to those who control agricultural assets and lease them to beginning farmers.

Livestock and Water Quality Facility

Program Provides low interest loans for manure management equipment and activities. **Contact:** Jeff Ward, Iowa Agricultural Development Authority, (515) 281-6444, or <http://www.iada.state.ia.us>

Linked Investment for Tomorrow (LIFT)

Injects capital into small businesses, including farms, owned and operated by Iowa residents via a local lender.

Contact: Steve Larson, State Treasurer's Office, (515) 281-6878 or lift@iowa.gov

Iowa Farm Bureau

Young Farmers Program Helps farmers ages 18-35 learn leadership skills and encourages them to become active participants in the agricultural community at the county, state and national levels.

Contact: <http://www.iowafarmbureau.com/programs/youngfarmer/default.aspx>

Iowa Farm Business Association

Members hire an agricultural consultant to assist them with financial management, record keeping, total farm and enterprise analysis, income tax management and other related farm management areas.

Contact: info@iowafarmbusiness.org

Practical Farmers of Iowa

Learning the Farmer Way This apprenticeship placement service links people seeking work experience on sustainable farms with farmers who need help and who are willing to share their experience and knowledge.

Contact: Kamyar Enshayan, Apprenticeship Program Coordinator at: (515) 232-5661 or <http://www.practicalfarmers.org/programs/special-projects.html>

... and justice for all

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Iowa State University

ISU Beginning Farmer Center Established by the Iowa Legislature in 1994, the Center staff helps beginning farmers become established and works to increase the number of Iowa family farms.

- **Farm-On Program** This program serves to link beginning farmers, who have little equity, to existing farmers or landowners who have equity.
- **Ag-Link Seminar** A workshop, also a part of the Beginning Farmer Center, to guide family members through the process of decisions about transferring farm/land/ business ownership from one generation to the next.

Contact: Mike Duffy, John Baker, or Dave Baker at (877) 232-1999 or <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc/>

Ag Decision Maker This resource offers agriculture economics, business information, and evaluation tool to assist farmers.

Contact: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm>

Agriculture Marketing Resource Center

This website combines expertise from Iowa State University, Kansas State University, and University of California and other Land Grant Universities to provide independent producers and processors with information to build successful value-added agricultural enterprises.

Contact: (866) 277-5567 or <http://www.agmrc.org/agmrc>

Farm Financial Planning Program

This program offers farm and agribusiness management strategies and information.

Contact: www.extension.iastate.edu/farmanalysis

Iowa Concern This confidential hot line offers information and referral services on legal, finance, crisis and disaster, and personal health issues. Services are available 24 hours a day 7 days per week at no charge.

Contact: (800) 447-1985

Leopold Center for Sustainable

Agriculture This research and education center with statewide programs to develop sustainable agricultural practices that are both profitable and conserve natural resources.

Contact: <http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/>

