



GROW Your AgriRoots Trailblazer Award Contest

Rewarding the Next Generation in Agriculture

Are you a Capital Farm Credit customer with under ten years of experience in owning and operating your own farm or ranch? Then we encourage you to apply for a GROW Your AgriRoots Trailblazer Award for a chance to receive up to \$10,000.

Awards: Up to two \$10,000 awards; up to five finalists receive \$1,000 stipends.

Application Period: May 1 – June 30, 2026 (midnight deadline)

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Eligibility Requirements

- 18 years or older by June 30, 2026
- Must be an existing or former Capital Farm Credit Customer
- Must have between two to ten years of experience in owning and operating a farm or ranch business
- May apply individually or as a partnership
- Winners are eligible to receive one Trailblazer award over a three-year period
- Employees, directors, and immediate family members of directors are not eligible

Application Judging – Phase One

An independent panel of qualified judges will review all eligible applications and select finalists to move on to phase two of the judging process. Each application in phase one will be evaluated based on the following criteria to achieve a score out of 100 maximum points:

- Agriculture Business Growth – 30 points
- Business & Financial Character – 20 points
- Leadership & Community Involvement – 15 points
- Continuing Education & Training – 15 points
- Sustainability Practices – 10 points
- Spelling, Grammar & Presentation – 10 points

In Person Finalist Interviews – Phase Two

July 21–22, 2026 | Capital Farm Credit Headquarters, College Station, TX

Includes a 15-minute PowerPoint sales pitch. Travel and lodging will be reimbursed for finalists.

Each applicant in phase two will be evaluated based on the following criteria to achieve a score out of 100 maximum points.

- Sales Pitch – 40 points
- Ability to explain application & answer questions – 30 points
- Depth of knowledge and professionalism – 30 points

Application Requirements

- Intent to apply through Survey Monkey Applied registration
- Biography and contact information
- Essay application
- Completed Financial Documents: Business Plan, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Projection and Profit and Loss Statement (CFC templates required)
- Completed W-9
- High-resolution photo (.jpg or .png)
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted or reviewed.