

2026 Grant Application
North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®)
State Implementation Committee

Instructions and guidelines

Please answer all questions and return the signed and dated original with any written attachments (required or supplemental) to Amy Phillips, the Vice Chair of the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee (NC SFI).

The deadline to apply for the next grant cycle is August 31, 2026. Applicants must use this North Carolina SIC application form. Electronic submissions must be sent by 11:59 p.m., August 31. Submissions by U.S. Postal Service must be postmarked no later than August 31.
The contact information is:

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Grants are available only to non-profit organizations that have obtained tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or are public entities which are tax exempt under Section 170(c). Please include a copy of the IRS Determination Letter with your application.

Grants are awarded in three categories and preference is given to grants used for specific projects or equipment, rather than operating support. Grant amounts range between \$500 and \$10,000.

The full amount of the grant may not be awarded. A representative of the NC SFI SIC may contact the grantee to discuss potential contingencies to the award, such as using the SFI label on published or public materials, allowing a speaker on SFI at workshops, etc., before the grant is actually awarded.

The NC SFI SIC seeks to expand the footprint of sustainable forestry across the state by supporting an assortment of projects from a diversity of organizations. Repeat grants for the same project year after year are discouraged. To maximize funding the core purpose of the project, none of the funding provided by the NC SFI SIC shall be allocated toward project overhead (e.g. rent, utilities, administrative fees).

The NC SFI SIC views the grant process as a dialogue with the grantee. A member of the NC SFI SIC will be assigned to each grant project awarded to serve as the liaison between the NC SFI SIC and the grantor organization. The NC SFI SIC representative will provide updates on the project at the quarterly NC SFI SIC meetings. The grantor may also be requested to present at one of the scheduled NC SFI SIC meetings.

Likewise, upon conclusion of the project, and before an organization can receive subsequent grants from the NC SFI SIC, the organization needs to submit one of the following reports to their NC SFI SIC.

- a. For grants under \$5,000, a one page summary (with photos if applicable)
- b. Grants over \$5,000 should submit a one page summary (with photos if applicable) **and** may warrant a representative from the receiving organization to come and make a brief presentation to the NC SIC on results

2026 NC SFI SIC Grant Application

Summary

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>

Please provide responses to all questions. If any do not apply, write DNA in the box.

1. What is the organization's mailing address?

3. What is the contact person's name, title, phone number(s) and e-mail address?

4. If the organization has a website, what is the address?

5. What is the organization's mission statement or purpose?

6. Which category describes your grant request (check below)?

___ **Landowner Outreach** – For programs that encourage or support sustainable forest management by private, non-industrial forest owners and managers consistent with SIC principles. The objective is to increase the amount of well managed and certified acres in North Carolina

___ **Forest Professionals Education and Training** – For programs that provide, directly or indirectly, education and training for forestry professionals (e.g., loggers, wood transporters, foresters, technicians) in areas consistent with SIC principles such as sustainable forestry, best management practices, safety, and other topics identified in the SFI Standard. The objective is to increase the knowledge of forestry practitioners to implement sustainable practices on all forestlands in North Carolina

___ **Public Outreach** – For programs that support forestry education (whether in the classroom or elsewhere, whether formal or non-traditional) or other public outreach activities, which promote sustainable forestry awareness and practices, consistent with SIC principles. The objective is to increase and improve SFI recognition in North Carolina

___ **Market Outreach/Recruitment** – For programs that increase and improve SFI recognition, and increase the number of third party certified organizations in the NC SIC

7. What is the project title?

8. What is the project's description?

9. What is the total dollar amount requested from the North Carolina SFI for this project?

10. What is the total dollar cost of the project?

11. Specifically how will the SFI grant monies be used?

12. If the total amount of the grant sought is not approved, is a partial amount helpful or does the project require the entire amount requested from the North Carolina SFI to proceed? Please explain.

13. If a North Carolina SFI grant does not fund 100% of the project, what is the source of the other necessary support?

14. What is the project's time line, and the major steps or mile posts to completion? Or, if the funds are for use on a continuous or regularly recurring basis during the year, please explain.

15. If the project continues after the grant year, where will that support be derived?

16. Is there additional information you want to add that was not addressed in the other questions?

17. Please tell us how you learned about this grant program?

Signature(s) and Date(s)

I attest that the information included in and with this application is true to the best of my knowledge, that the organization has obtained non-profit status under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or is a public entity under Section 170(c), and have included a copy of the IRS Determination Letter.

Signature

Date

Title

Printed Name

If your organization requires more than one signature for grant applications, please provide them below.

Signature

Date

Title

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Title

Printed Name

Thank you for your interest in sustainable forestry
and the NC Sustainable Forestry Initiative State
Implementation Committee.