



To All Members of the Tennessee Association of Fairs:

We are pleased to announce that the Tennessee State Legislature has approved a **\$1,500,000 one-time payout** to the Tennessee Association of Fairs (TAF), to be distributed to **qualifying member fairs** through the **TAF Improvement Program (TAFIP)**. These funds are **designated solely for capital expenses**.

TAFIP awards grants to eligible fairs for **capital improvements** with the purpose of building strong fairs and improving fairgrounds and facilities with the goal of attracting new visitors and ensuring the tradition of showcasing Tennessee Agriculture. The TAFIP will be administered by the Tennessee Association of Fairs in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

The TAFIP will provide funds to help make needed capital improvements to fairground facilities; including but not limited to new construction, renovation, or general improvements of buildings, or purchase of items shown to directly improve the building or the services that the fair association may provide.

To qualify for a portion of these funds, your fair must:

- Be a **current member** of the TAF,
- Participate in the **2025 Merit Award Program**, and
- Participate in the **2025 Best of Tennessee Showcase** at the Tennessee State Fair / Wilson County.

Funds will be disbursed as follows: \$250,000 will go to the Tennessee State Fair/Wilson County and \$250,000 will be distributed to eligible fairs with over \$50,000 paid in agricultural premiums. The remainder will be distributed to all eligible fairs with 38% for Class A-Premium Fairs, 33% for Class B-Premium Fairs, and 29% for Class C-Premium Fairs. Fairs will be classified as Class A, B, or C and divided with the **top third in agriculture premium** payouts classified as Class A-Premium Fairs and the **bottom third in agriculture premium** payouts classified as Class C-Premium Fairs. The **remainder** of fairs will be classified as Class B-Premium Fairs.

Distribution of Funds: (*Below numbers are based on a working example with 48 eligible fairs*)

- \$37,500 (2.5%) – Administrative costs to TAF
- \$250,000 – Allocation to the Tennessee State Fair/Wilson County
- Remaining balance – Distributed to qualifying fairs based on agricultural premiums paid, as follows:
 - \$250,000 – to be divided among fairs with over \$50,000 in agricultural premiums
 - \$365,755 – Class A-Premium Fairs = \$22,859 x 16
 - \$317,616 – Class B-Premium Fairs = \$19,851 x 16
 - \$279,125 – Class C-Premium Fairs = \$17,445 x 16
 - \$962,485

Important: Final payout amounts will be determined based on **your 2025 Agricultural Premiums** as reported in your **Merit Award submission due by November 1, 2025**.

We appreciate your continued commitment to promoting agriculture and community engagement across Tennessee. Please stay tuned for further instructions on the disbursement process.

Sincerely,
Tennessee Association of Fairs