

Community Greenhouse Grant RFA#: ARD.2026.Greenhouse2
Final Written Question and Answer Summary
May 4, 2026

Questions About Greenhouse Design or Requirements

Q. I'm looking through the greenhouse grant document and it states that hoophouses and plastic covered greenhouses are unallowable costs. I'm wondering what distinguishes these from the greenhouses you accept? It says that you allow for the purchase of a durable greenhouse, what does that constitute?

A. The RFA Overview Section paragraph *E Allowable Costs* states that “The only allowable costs associated with this RFA are those necessary for an eligible entity to purchase and install a durable greenhouse.”

The RFA Appendix A: RFA Terms and Definitions defines a durable greenhouse as “a steel or wooden framed structure, covered with rigid polycarbonate sheets, or glass in which plants are cultivated in a controlled environment. The end walls can be framed with steel or wood and covered with different sheathing materials: from rigid polycarbonate to plywood. These load rated four-season structures are designed to withstand snow load. Durable greenhouse structures must meet the municipal codes and standards for the intended location and use, which may include Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) codes and standards, and may require an engineer stamp. Durable greenhouses often have power and/or a heat source to allow for crop or seedling production in the early spring or late fall or to provide minimal heat for winter growing.”

The RFA Overview Section paragraph *F Unallowable Costs* states that the following types of greenhouse structures are unallowable for this program:

- Low or caterpillar tunnels, hoophouses, poly-tunnels, coldframes, flexible poly or plastic covered greenhouses, and other growing structures with limited durability and not designed with the capacity to withstand snow-load,
- Greenhouse structures that do not meet applicable codes and standards for the intended location and use,