

USDA Food Safety Outreach Program (FSOP) Pilot Projects [up to \$50,000 each]

Objectives

- The applicant team should demonstrate that they will support the capacity of food safety education and outreach programs in local communities.
- Applicant teams should include a food safety professional with evidence of experience in the field.
- Pilot project team/s should be locally or regionally focused.
- Proposals should target non-traditional or niche or hard-to-reach communities such as Amish, Hmong, Vietnamese, Somali, Burmese farmers, migrant workers non-English speakers, etc.
- Education outreach programs should focus on various agricultural production and processing systems including conservation and/or organic farming systems.
- Projects should focus on developing and identifying model programs/best practices and lessons learned when working with key target audiences.
- Demonstrate strong partnerships with local entities including Letters of Support (LOS) from food hubs, farm cooperatives, and other local/community based organizations.

Methods

- Demonstrate an awareness of the needs of the targeted audience/s for meeting the current Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements, such as knowledge of existing curricula in food safety and gaps in training.
- Identify local communities that are providing training through food and farm cooperatives, food hubs with outreach programs, and local Department of Agriculture affiliates among others.
- Describe innovative resources that will meet the needs of the audiences you have identified.
- Describe plans to modify FSMA-related educational and training materials to target audiences while preserving an FDA “recognized” core curriculum.
- Collaborate with the currently established regional centers and coordinate with the USDA-NIFA and FDA Regional Centers through teleconferences.
- Describe how outcomes will be reported to both USDA-NIFA and NIFA/FDA Regional Centers. Be sure to include lessons learned, best practices, commodity groups addressed, target audience reached, and/or other metrics.

Key Personnel, Project Management and Budget

- Project teams should define role and responsibilities of key staff and incorporate a timeline with benchmarks for key events that will address the project objectives.
- Budget and budget justification should adequately justify resources and funds directed to key personnel responsible for managing and conducting the project activities.

Submission Format

- The project narrative shall not exceed a total of 7 pages of written text with 12 point font regardless of whether it is single or double spaced, including all figures and tables.

