

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Federal Assistance Programs (Updated April 2018)

NIFA FEDERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Types of NIFA Financial Assistance

NIFA's financial assistance programs are generally classified by the type of funding mechanism. The primary funding mechanisms are (1) competitive grants; and (2) capacity and infrastructure grants.

Competitive grants are awards for fundamental and applied research, extension, and education activities, as well as for projects that integrate research, education and extension functions. Competitive programs enable NIFA to attract a large pool of applicants to work on agricultural issues of national interest, and to select the highest quality proposals submitted by highly qualified eligible individuals, institutions, or organizations. Competitive grants are awarded following a competitive process per 7 CFR 3430.

Capacity and infrastructure grants are agricultural research, extension, education, and related programs for which the Secretary has administrative or other authority as of the day before the date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as defined in section 251(f)(1)(C) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, 7 U.S.C. 6971(f)(1)(C)).

Each funding mechanism establishes the nature of the relationship that will exist between NIFA and the recipient throughout the duration of funding. Different funding mechanisms also carry different application and eligibility requirements. However, all applicable requirements will be communicated to potential recipients through the funding opportunity announcement.

NIFA funding opportunities are discussed in the following pages.

COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

AgrAbility-Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities. 7 U.S.C. 5933.

AgrAbility grants are to increase the likelihood that farmers, farm workers and farm family members with disabilities will experience success in agricultural production. Competitive grants are awarded to State Cooperative Extension Service agencies to support cooperative agreements with private nonprofit disability organizations to provide on-the-farm agricultural education and assistance directed at accommodating disability in farm operations for individuals with disabilities who are engaged in farming and farm-related occupations.

Contact: Aida Balsano and Bradley Rein

CFDA Number: 10.500

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). 7 U.S.C. 3157(b). Section 2(b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 3157(b)) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI); a competitive grant program to provide funding for fundamental and applied research, education, and extension to address food and agricultural sciences. Grants are awarded to address priorities in United States agriculture in the following areas:

1. Plant health and production and plant products;
2. Animal health and production and animal products;
3. Food safety, nutrition, and health;
4. Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment;
5. Agriculture systems and technology; and
6. Agriculture economics and rural communities.

To the maximum extent practicable, NIFA, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics (REE), will make grants for high priority research, education, and extension, taking into consideration, when available, the determinations made by the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board (NAREEEAB) pursuant to section 2(b)(10) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 3157(b)(10)), as amended. The authority to carry out this program has been delegated to NIFA through the Under Secretary for REE.

The purpose of AFRI is to support research, education, and extension work by awarding grants that address key problems of national, regional, and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture, including farm efficiency and profitability, ranching, renewable energy, forestry (both urban and agroforestry), aquaculture, rural communities and entrepreneurship, human nutrition, food safety, biotechnology, and conventional breeding. Through this support, AFRI advances knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. It also allows AFRI to support education and extension activities that deliver science-based knowledge to people, allowing them to make informed practical decisions. The AFRI RFA announces anticipated funding opportunities for Extension, and Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Projects.

Supporting the many components of agriculture under the constraints of a growing population, pressure on natural resources, and the challenges of climate variability and change, requires research, education, extension, and integrated programs that increase agricultural and natural resource sustainability. The term "sustainable agriculture" (as defined in National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act (NARETPA), 7 U.S.C. 3103) means an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will over the long-term achieve the following goals: (1) satisfy human food and fiber needs; (2) enhance environmental

quality and the natural resource base upon which the agriculture economy depends; (3) make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls; (4) sustain the economic viability of farm operations; and (5) enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.

The National Research Council Committee on Twenty-First Century Systems Agriculture recently updated and simplified the term “sustainable agriculture” as a four-part goal: satisfy human food, feed, and fiber needs and contribute to biofuel needs; enhance environmental quality and the resource base; sustain the economic viability of agriculture; and enhance the quality of life for farmers, farm workers, and society as a whole. The Committee states that progress toward these goals will require robust systems which adapt to and continue to function in the face of stresses, are productive, use resources efficiently, and balance all four goals across all scales of farms and enterprises. They further state that if the U.S. is to maintain adequate resources to meet food, feed, fiber, and biofuel needs, progress toward meeting the four goals must be accelerated. This acceleration must be based on research that determines ways to reduce tradeoffs and enhance synergies among the four goals while managing risks associated with their pursuit. The Committee’s 2010 report, *Toward Sustainable Agricultural Systems in the 21st Century*, provides a review of the contributions of farming practices and systems and fields of science that elaborates on these general goals with respect to many of the specific priorities within AFRI programs.

Contact: Mark Mirando and Effie Baldwin

CFDA Number: 10.310

Agriculture In the Classroom (AIRC). The AIRC effort serves nearly 5 million students and 60,000 teachers annually through workshops, conferences, field trips, farm tours, and other educational activities. AIRC works with states and supports a variety of projects relating to agricultural literacy. The activities are carried out in each state, according to state needs and interests, by individuals representing farm organizations, agribusiness, education and government.

Contact: Victoria LeBeaux

CFDA Number: 10.500

Agriculture Risk Management Education Program (ARME). 7 U.S.C. 1524. The Risk Management Education (RME) grants provide U.S. agricultural producers with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to make informed risk management decisions for their operations, with the goal of enhancing farm profitability. Grants fund four Regional RME Centers and a Risk Management Electronic Support Center. The program supports the dissemination of existing risk management tools; and furthers the development of agricultural risk management curricula and materials, the delivery of agricultural RME to producers, and the verification of program impacts. Eligible applicants include public and private entities, including land-grant institutions; Cooperative Extension Services; four-year colleges or universities; Federal, State, and local agencies; nonprofit and for-profit private organizations or corporations (7 U.S.C. 1524(a)(3)(A)).

Contact: Toija Riggins

CFDA Number: 10.520

Alfalfa and Forage Research Program (AFRP). 7 U.S.C. 5925(d)(8). The Alfalfa and Forage Research Program (AFRP) supports integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer to improve the efficiency and sustainability of conventional and organic forage production systems. AFRP encourages projects that establish multi-disciplinary networks to address priority national or regional science needs of the forage industry. By bringing together expertise from multiple

organizations and states, these projects will have greater impact and will enhance the effectiveness of limited state, federal and industry resources.

Contact: Caroline Sherony and Ann Marie Thro
CFDA Number: 10.330

Aquaculture Centers. 7 U.S.C. 3322 (d). Authorizes the establishment of aquaculture research, development and demonstration centers in the United States for the performance of aquaculture research and extension work and demonstration projects. Funding currently supports five Regional Aquaculture Centers. Only institutions housing the respective Administrative Centers are eligible to apply (7 U.S.C. 3322(d)). Non-land-grant institutions can serve as regional centers.

Contact: Gene Kim
CFDA Number: 10.200

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP). 7 U.S.C. 3319f. The purpose of this program is to support the nation's beginning farmers and ranchers by making competitive grants to new and established local and regional training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives that address the needs of beginning farmers and ranchers. To be eligible for a grant under this authority, an applicant must be a collaborative State, tribal, local, or regionally-based network or partnership of public or private entities which may include a State cooperative extension service; a Federal, state, or tribal agency; a community-based and non-government organization; a college or university (including an institution offering associate's degree) or a foundation maintained by a college or university; or any other appropriate partner (7 U.S.C. 3319f(c)(2)). All awardees are required to provide a 25 percent match in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. For standard BFRDP projects and Education Enhancement projects are supported. The long-term goals of the Standard BFRDP projects are to enhance the sustainability of beginning farmers and ranchers through education, training, mentoring and outreach programs that enhance self-employment in farming, ranching and forestry opportunities. The long-term goals of the Educational Enhancement Team (EET) projects are to identify gaps in beginning farmer and rancher training by evaluating all existing programs, and to develop and conduct train-the-trainer projects to address these gaps.

Contact: Denis Ebodaghe
CFDA Number: 10.311

Biodiesel Fuel Education Program. 7 U.S.C. 8106. The purpose of the Biodiesel Fuel Education Program is to educate governmental and private entities that operate vehicle fleets, other interested entities (as determined by the Secretary), and the public about the benefits of biodiesel fuel use.

Contact: Daniel Cassidy
CFDA Number: 10.306

Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Competitive Grants. 7 U.S.C. 5921 The purpose of the BRAG program is to support the generation of new information that will assist Federal regulatory agencies in making science-based decisions about the effects of introducing into the environment genetically engineered organisms (GE), including plants, microorganisms — such as fungi, bacteria, and viruses — arthropods, fish, birds, mammals and other animals excluding humans. Investigations of effects on both managed and natural environments are relevant. The BRAG program accomplishes its purpose by providing federal regulatory agencies with scientific information relevant to regulatory issues. The grants are funded through a 2 percent assessment on all USDA-supported biotechnology research. Eligible applicants include U.S. public

or private research or educational institutions or organizations (7 U.S.C. 5921(d)). NIFA and the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) jointly administer the BRAG program.

Contact: Shing F. Kwok

CFDA Number: 10.219

Community Food Projects Competitive Grants. 7 U.S.C. 2034. These grants are funded through the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and are competitively awarded to support the development of Community Food Projects with a one-time infusion of federal dollars to make such projects self-sustaining or to support the development of stand-alone technical expertise and assistance activities. Community Food Projects are designed to meet the food needs of low-income people; increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food need; and promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm and nutrition issues. Eligible applicants include private, nonprofit entities; and, for training and technical assistance, other entities (all applicants may partner with public or private, nonprofit or for-profit entities, including academic or other appropriate professionals, community-based organizations, or local government entities) (7 U.S.C. 2034(c)). There is a matching requirement of 100 percent from nonfederal sources.

Contact: Jane Clary Loveless and Pascale Jean

CFDA Number: 10.225

Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act. 7 U.S.C. 3157(c). The Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act provides authorization in section 2(c) for the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants, for periods not to exceed 3 years for special emphasis awards for the purpose of facilitating or expanding ongoing State-Federal food and agricultural research, extension, or education programs. Organizations eligible to participate are: (1) State agricultural experiment stations, all colleges and universities, other research institutions and organizations, Federal agencies, private organizations or corporations, and individuals for the purpose of conducting research, extension, or education activities to facilitate or expand promising breakthroughs in areas of the food and agricultural sciences of importance to the United States (7 U.S.C. 3157(c)(1)(A)); and (2) State agricultural experiment stations, land-grant colleges and universities, research foundations established by land-grant colleges and universities, colleges and universities receiving funds under the Act of October 10, 1962 (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), and accredited schools or colleges of veterinary medicine (7 U.S.C. 3157(c)(1)(B)).

CFDA Number: 10.200

The following three special emphasis programs are currently supported:

- **Interregional Research Project #4 Minor Crop Pest Management Program (IR-4). (7 U.S.C. 3157(e)).** The primary goal of the IR-4 program is to provide safe, effective and economical pest management solutions for growers of minor/specialty crops. IR-4 facilitates crop protection by providing expert assistance with product development and registration. The IR-4 program generates a substantial portion of the rigorous data U.S. Environmental Protection Agency needs to make sound regulatory decisions about registering chemical and biological pesticides for use on specialty crops.
Contact: Rob Hedberg
- **Potato Breeding Research. (7 U.S.C. 3157(c)(1)(B)).** The purpose of this grant program is to support potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.) research programs that focus on varietal development and testing and potato varieties for commercial production. As used herein, varietal development and

testing is research using traditional and biotechnological genetics to develop improved potato varieties. Aspects of evaluation, screening and testing must support variety development.

Contact: Ann Marie Thro and Megan O'Reilly

- **Aquaculture Research. (7 U.S.C. 3157(c)(1)(A)).** The purpose of the Aquaculture Research program is to support the development of an environmentally and economically sustainable aquaculture industry in the U.S. by generating new science-based information and technology to address industry constraints. Results of projects supported by this applied research program are intended to help improve the profitability of the U.S. aquaculture industry, reduce the U.S. trade deficit, increase domestic food security, provide markets for U.S.-produced products, increase domestic aquaculture business investment opportunities, and provide more jobs for rural and coastal America.

Contact: Gene Kim

Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Competitive Grants Program.

Pub. L. 115-141. The overarching goal of AgVets is to increase the number of military veterans gaining knowledge and skills through comprehensive, hands-on and immersive model farm/ranch programs offered regionally that lead to successful careers in the food and agricultural sector.

Contact: Brent Elrod

CFDA Number: 10.334

Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB). 7 U.S.C. 5925f. The goal of the Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB) Competitive Grant Program is to strongly support the intellectual talent and collaborative efforts to maintain the national, publicly available farm financial management database needed to meet the challenges facing the nation's agriculture and food systems. Meeting these challenges will require innovative approaches that foster multi-disciplinary projects. This means that farm management producers must be educated and prepared to work effectively across disciplines in order to work to solve agricultural and educational challenges. The goal of this program is to engage producers in improving the United States farm management knowledge and skills by encompassing the USDA/NIFA's food, agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences.

Contact: Toija Riggins

CFDA Number: 10.319

Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative. 7 U.S.C. 3318(c). The initiative supports a national diagnostic network of public agricultural institutions which identifies and responds to high-risk biological pathogens in the food and agriculture system. NIFA directly funds twenty eight individual animal laboratories (National Animal Health Laboratory Network–NAHLN) and five regional hub plant diagnostic laboratories that support laboratories in all 50 states and some territories (National Plant Diagnostic Network - NPDN). These diagnostic laboratories, dispersed strategically around the country are responsible for identification of exotic and domestic pests and pathogens that are of concern to the security of our food and other agricultural production systems. Additionally, the Food and Agricultural Defense Initiative provides funding for the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN). EDEN provides a clearinghouse of educational materials for disaster response and other agricultural homeland security information. Listed as a competitive program, but the animal and plant health laboratory funding is administered noncompetitively.

Contact: Michelle Colby (NAHLN); Rubella Goswami (NPDN); Beverly Samuel (EDEN)

CFDA Number: 10.304

Food and Agriculture Education Information System. 7 U.S.C 3152(e). Funding is provided to administer the Food and Agriculture Education Information System (FAEIS) which is a comprehensive database that gathers information, on a voluntary basis, from degree granting institutions of higher education on student enrollment in Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences (FANH) sciences, degrees awarded, and graduate placement at all degree levels and by gender, race, and other relevant categories. In addition, data is collected on faculty salaries by rank and discipline.

Contact: Ariela Zycherman

CFDA Number: 10.200

Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program. 7 U.S.C. 7633. This program is to: 1) increase capacity for food, garden, and nutrition education within host organizations or entities and school cafeterias and in the classroom; 2) complement and build on the efforts of the farm to school programs implemented under section 18(g) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)); 3) complement efforts by the Department and school food authorities to implement the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the school breakfast program established by section 1773 of title 42; 4) carry out activities that advance the nutritional health of children and nutrition education in elementary schools and secondary schools (as those terms are defined in section 7801 of title 20); and 5) foster higher levels of community engagement and support the expansion of national service and volunteer opportunities.

Contact: Jane Clary and Pascale Jean

CFDA Number: 10.522

Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank. 7 U.S.C. 7642. The Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) supports the production of safe foods of animal origin through the development and dissemination of expert-mediated resources supporting prevention and mitigation of violative chemical (drug, pesticide, natural toxins, and environmental contaminant) residues in food animal products. Listed as a competitive program, but is administered noncompetitively.

Contact: Robert Smith

CFDA Number: 10.518

Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) Grant Program. 7 U.S.C. 7517. To support projects to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables among low-income consumers participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by providing incentives at the point of purchase. The program will test strategies that could contribute to our understanding of how best to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants that would inform future efforts, and develop effective and efficient benefit redemption technologies.

Contact: Jane Clary Loveless

CFDA Number: 10.331

Hispanic Serving Institutions Education Grants. 7 U.S.C. 3241. The competitively awarded Hispanic Education Partnership Grants strengthen the ability of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) to carry out higher education programs in the food and agricultural sciences; attract outstanding students from underrepresented groups; and produce graduates capable of enhancing the Nation's food and agriculture scientific and professional workforce. Only public or other non-profit Hispanic-Serving Institutions are eligible to apply for this program (7 U.S.C. 3241). To qualify as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, applicants must at the time of application, have an enrollment of undergraduate

full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students. For the purposes of this program, the individual branches of a State university system or public system of higher education that are separately accredited as degree granting institutions are treated as separate institutions eligible for awards. Accreditation must be by an agency or association recognized by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education. Institutions also must be legally authorized to offer at least a two-year program of study creditable toward an associate's or bachelor's degree. Separate branches or campuses of a college or university that are not individually accredited as degree granting institutions are not treated as separate institutions. Funded projects address one or more targeted needs: curricula design, materials development and library resources; faculty preparation and enhancement for teaching; instruction delivery systems; scientific instrumentation for teaching; student experiential learning; and student recruitment and retention.

Contact: Irma Lawrence

CFDA Number: 10.223

Integrated Research, Education and Extension Competitive Grants. 7 U.S.C. 7626. NIFA competitive integrated grants support research, education and extension functions to solve critical agricultural issues, priorities or problems in a broad array of disciplines. All four-year colleges and universities (as defined in 7 U.S.C. 3103(4)) including university research foundations maintained by four-year colleges and universities, 1994 land-grant institutions, and Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities are eligible to compete for NIFA integrated grants (7 U.S.C. 7626(b)). This program requires 100 percent matching from nonfederal sources, unless an exception applies (7 U.S.C. 3371).

CFDA Number: 10.303

- **Crop Protection and Pest Management Program (CPPM).** The purpose of the Crop Protection and Pest Management Program (CPPM) is to address high priority issues related to pests and their management using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches at the state, regional and national levels. The CPPM program supports projects that will increase food security and respond effectively to other major societal challenges with comprehensive IPM approaches that are economically viable, environmentally sound and will help protect human health. The CPPM program addresses IPM challenges for emerging issues and existing priority pest concerns that can be addressed more effectively with new and emerging technologies. The outcomes of the CPPM program are effective, affordable, and environmentally sound IPM practices and strategies supporting more vital communities.
Contact: Herbert Bolton, Rubella Goswami, and Tesfa Mengistu
CFDA Number: 10.329
- **Methyl Bromide Transition Program.** This program is designed to support the discovery and implementation of practical pest management alternatives for commodities affected by the methyl bromide phase-out. The program focuses on short- to medium-term solutions for all commodities at risk using either combinations of presently available technologies or some newly developed practices.
Contact: Herbert Bolton
- **Organic Transition Program.** This program supports the development and implementation of biologically based pest management practices that mitigate the ecological, agronomic, and economic risks associated with a transition from conventional to organic agricultural production systems.

Contact: Mathieu Ngouajio

Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI). 7 U.S.C. 5925b. The purpose of this congressionally mandated program is to make competitive grants to support research, education, and extension activities regarding organically grown and processed agricultural commodities for the purposes of facilitating the development and improvement of organic agriculture production, breeding, and processing methods; evaluating the potential economic benefits of organic agricultural production and methods to producers, processors, and rural communities; exploring international trade opportunities for organically grown and processed agricultural commodities; determining desirable traits for organic commodities; identifying marketing and policy constraints on the expansion of organic agriculture; conducting advanced on-farm research and development that emphasizes observation of, experimentation with, and innovation for working organic farms, including research relating to production, marketing, food safety, socioeconomic conditions, and farm business management; examining optimal conservation and environmental outcomes relating to organically produced agricultural products; and developing new and improved seed varieties that are particularly suited for organic agriculture. This program requires 100 percent matching from nonfederal sources, unless an exception applies (7 U.S.C. 3371). Section 7211 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 amended section 1672B of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade (FACT) Act to provide mandatory funding in the amount of \$20,000,000 for FY 2014 through FY 2018 for the Organic Agricultural Research and Extension Initiative.

Contact: Mathieu Ngouajio

CFDA Number: 10.307

Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA): National Focus Funds. The purpose of RREA is to provide funds for pilot projects that address emerging forest and rangeland resource issues; have national or regional relevancy; and develop new and innovative projects that can be replicated at other institutions. Applications may be submitted by 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions (16 U.S.C. 1672(b)).

Contact: Eric Norland

CFDA Number: 10.515

National Food Safety Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Grant Program: Regional Centers Grants to Enhance Food Safety (FSMA). 7 U.S.C. 7625. This program is designed to develop and implement a comprehensive food safety training, education and technical assistance program for those affected by the FSMA. Specifically, this program will address the needs of owners and operators of small and medium-sized farms, beginning farmers, socially disadvantaged farmers, small processors, or small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers. Grants awarded through this program, to the extent possible, will be carried out in a manner that facilitates the integration of food safety standards and guidance with a variety of agricultural production and processing systems, including conventional, sustainable, organic, and conservation and environmental practices carried out by the eligible entities. The assistance provided by these programs shall be coordinated with and delivered in cooperation with similar services or assistance by other federal agencies or programs serving those eligible entities.

Contact: Jodi Williams, Dawanna James-Holly, and Melvin Carter

CFDA Number: 10.328

Rural Health and Safety Education. 7 U.S.C. 2662(i). The Rural Health and Safety Education (RHSE) Programs focus on issues related to individual and family health education in one or more of the following areas: (1) healthy living behaviors, family interaction and environmental attributes in

rural areas; (2) health literacy and its impact on health status in rural and farm families; and/or (3) related issues of health promotion and health care to rural individuals and families. Applications may be submitted by Land-grant colleges and universities that are eligible to receive funds under the Act of July 2, 1862 (7 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), and the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), including Central State University, Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University and the University of the District of Columbia. Applications may also be submitted by any of the Tribal colleges and universities designated as 1994 Land-Grant Institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 2662(i)).

Contact: Ahlshia Shipley

CFDA Number: 10.516

Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants. 7 U.S.C. 3152(j). The Secondary Education, and Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program (SPECAs) promotes and strengthens secondary education and two-year postsecondary education in the food and agricultural sciences to ensure a qualified workforce to serve the U.S. food and agricultural science system and to support the current agriculture in the classroom programs for grades K-12. Applications may be submitted by: (1) public secondary schools; (2) public or private nonprofit junior and community colleges; (3) institutions of higher education; or (4) nonprofit organizations (7 U.S.C. 3152(j)(1)). This program requires 100 percent matching from nonfederal sources, unless an exception applies (7 U.S.C. 3371).

Proposals address targeted need areas of curricula design and instructional materials development; faculty development and preparation for teaching; career awareness; linkages between secondary, 2-year post-secondary, and institutions of higher learning; or education activities promoting diversity in students seeking degrees in agribusiness and agriscience.

Contact: Victoria LeBeaux

CFDA Number: 10.226

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR). 15 U.S.C. 638. USDA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program makes competitively awarded grants to qualified small businesses to support the commercialization of high quality, advanced concepts related to important scientific problems and opportunities in agriculture and natural resources. Grants are made to stimulate technological innovations in the private sector; strengthen the role of small businesses in meeting federal research and developmental needs; increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from USDA-supported research and development efforts; and fosters participation by women-owned and socially and economically disadvantaged small business firms in technological innovations. The program is funded through a statutorily mandated assessment of all USDA supported extramural research. New rules and regulations are currently being developed for the program since SBIR was recently reauthorized by Congress.

Contact: Charles Cleland

CFDA Number: 10.212

Smith-Lever Act 3(d). 7 U.S.C. 343(d). The Smith-Lever Act provides authorization in section 3(d) for special emphasis awards to support cooperative extension programs. 1862, 1890, and Insular Territory land-grant institutions may compete for and receive Smith-Lever 3(d) funds (7 U.S.C. 343(d)). The following special emphasis programs are currently supported:

- **Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program.** These awards establish extension and education programs on Indian Reservations and tribal jurisdictions. The programs are implemented in consultation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Intertribal Agriculture Council, and the Southwest Indian Agriculture Association.
Contact: Erin Riley
CFDA Number: 10.517
- **Children Youth and Families at Risk (CYFAR).** CYFAR supports comprehensive, intensive, community-based efforts developed with active citizen participation. CYFAR promotes building resiliency and protective factors in youth, families, and communities.
Contact: Bonita Williams and Bianca Johnson
CFDA Number: 10.521
- **Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification.** Smith-Lever 3(d) funds competitive grants to support National, State and Regional AgrAbility Projects and youth farm safety education. The youth farm safety awards support national efforts to deliver timely, pertinent, and appropriate farm safety education to youth seeking employment or already employed in agricultural production.
Contact: Aida Balsano, Steve Thomson and Bradley Rein
CFDA Number: 10.500
- **Sustainable Agriculture.** Smith-Lever 3(d) provides funding for Professional Development Grants that support extension outreach projects in coordination with Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education.
Contact: Wesley Dean and Robert Hedberg
CFDA Number: 10.215
- **New Technologies for Agriculture Extension.** The purpose of the New Technologies for Agriculture Extension Program (NTAE) is to increase the capacity of each State to contribute expertise and content to the development of eXtension, a national web-based information and education delivery system that provides direct access to science-based educational resources from land-grant and other partner institutions about subjects of high importance to the general public.
Contact: Brent Elrod
CFDA Number: 10.500

Smith-Lever Special Needs Projects. 7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c). Special Needs Program is a competitive grants program to State Extension Services at 1862 Land-Grant Institutions to support innovative, education-based approaches to addressing emergency preparedness and specific responses related to natural and man-made disasters. Applications may be submitted with the approval of Extension Directors of 1862 Land-grant Institutions in the 50 states, American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)). There is a 100 percent matching requirement for all awards.

Contact: Beverly C. Samuel
CFDA Number: 10.511

Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI). 7 U.S.C. 7632. Reauthorized by Section 7306 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, which amended Section 412 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act (AREERA) of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632), the SCRI is a competitive grant program

to solve critical industry issues through research and extension activities. Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops including floriculture. Applications may be submitted by Federal agencies, national laboratories, colleges and universities, research institutions and organizations, private organizations or corporations, State agricultural experiment stations, Cooperative Extension Services, individuals, or groups consisting of two or more of these entities (7 U.S.C. 7632(c)). SCRI will give priority to projects that are multistate, multi-institutional, or trans-disciplinary; and include explicit mechanisms to communicate results to producers and the public. Projects must address at least one of five focus areas: research in plant breeding, genetics, and genomics to improve crop characteristics; efforts to identify and address threats from pests and diseases, including threats to pollinators; efforts to improve production efficiency, productivity, and profitability over the long term; new innovations and technology, including improved mechanization and technologies that delay or inhibit ripening; and methods to prevent, detect, monitor control, and respond to potential food safety hazards in the production and processing of specialty crops. This program requires 100 percent matching from nonfederal sources, unless an exception applies (7 U.S.C. 3371). Section 7306 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 added a requirement that, in addition to the scientific peer review that NIFA regularly conducts, a panel of specialty crop industry representatives review and rank SCRI applications for merit, relevance, and impact. In addition, Section 7306 requires increased consultation between NIFA and the Specialty Crops Committee of the National Agricultural Research, Education, Extension and Economics Advisory Board.

Contact: Thomas Bewick
CFDA Number: 10.309

Specialty Crop Research Initiative/Citrus Disease Research and Extension (SCRI/CDRE). 7 U.S.C. 7632(j). The purpose of the SCRI/CDRE, as authorized by section 7306 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, is to award grants to eligible entities to conduct research and extension activities, technical assistance and development activities to: (a) combat citrus diseases and pests, both domestic and invasive and including huanglongbing and the Asian citrus psyllid, which pose imminent harm to United States citrus production and threaten the future viability of the citrus industry; and (b) provide support for the dissemination and commercialization of relevant information, techniques, and technologies discovered pursuant to research and extension activities funded through SCRI/CDRE and other research and extension projects targeting problems caused by citrus production diseases and invasive pests.

Contact: Thomas Bewick
CFDA Number: 10.309

Sun Grant Program. 7 U.S.C. 8114. The purpose of this program is to provide a consortium of universities made up of a university from each of the sun grant regions and subcenter region with a grant to support a North-Central, Southeastern, South-Central, Western, and Northeastern Sun Grant Center and a Western Insular Pacific Subcenter. A Sun Grant Center or Subcenter will use 75 percent of grant funds to provide competitive grants within each region that are multi-institutional and integrated, multistate research, extension, and education programs on technology development and technology implementation and address bioenergy, biomass, or bioproducts research priorities.

Contact: Daniel Cassidy
CFDA Number: 10.320

Supplemental and Alternative Crops Grants Program (SACC). 7 U.S.C. 3319d(c). The Supplemental and Alternative Crops Competitive Grants Program (SACC) supports the significant increase of canola crop acreage by the development and testing of superior germplasm, methods of

planting, cultivation, harvesting, processing, and transfer of such applied research from experimental sites to on farm practice as soon as practicable. Applications may be submitted by colleges and universities, other Federal agencies, and private sector entities (7 U.S.C. 3319d(c)(3)(F)).

Contact: Ann Marie Thro and Caroline Sherony

CFDA Number: 10.200

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE). 7 U.S.C. 5811. SARE works to increase knowledge about and to help farmers and ranchers adopt practices that are profitable, environmentally sound, and beneficial to communities. Competitive grants for sustainable agriculture research and education are awarded by four regional administrative councils. SARE grants fund projects that usually involve scientists, producers and others in an interdisciplinary approach. Many funded projects involve on-farm research trials with crops and/or livestock. SARE grants also fund education and demonstration projects, including the development of farmer-to-farmer networks. Eligible applicants include land-grant colleges or universities, other universities, State agricultural experiment stations, State cooperative extension services, nonprofit organizations, and individuals with demonstrable expertise, or Federal or State governmental entities (7 U.S.C. 5811(b)).

Contact: Robert Hedberg and Wesley Dean

CFDA Number: 10.215

Tribal Colleges Research Grants. 7 U.S.C. 301 note. These grants support agricultural research that addresses high priority concerns of tribal, national, or multistate significance. Grants support investigative and analytical studies in the food and agricultural sciences. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications may be submitted by any of the Tribal colleges and universities designated as 1994 Land-Grant Institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note.). Section 7402 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 amended section 532 of the 1994 Act by adding College of the Muscogee Nation and Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, effective October 2014. Grant applications submitted under this program must collaborate with: 1) an 1862 or 1890 land-grant institution ([Weblink to a PDF of locations of the Land-Grant Colleges and Universities](#)), 2) USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) headquarters, state or regional laboratory; 3) a Non-land-grant College of Agriculture (NLGCA) (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977). See requirements and list of certified NLGCA at [Weblink to PDF of Official List of Certified Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture](#); or 4) a forestry school funded under the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program. The partner must be the McIntire-Stennis funded department and not another entity at the institution.

Contact: Erin Riley

CFDA Number: 10.227

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program. 7 U.S.C. 3151a. The purpose of this program is for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to enter into agreements with veterinarians under which the veterinarians agree to provide, for a specific period of time as identified in the agreement, veterinary services in veterinarian shortage situations in exchange for loan repayment benefits on the principal and interest on eligible debt incurred while attending an accredited college of veterinary medicine (7 U.S.C. 3151a).

Contact: Michelle Colby

CFDA Number: 10.313

Veterinary Services Grant Program. 7 U.S.C. 3151(b). The purpose of this program is to develop, implement, and sustain veterinary services and relieve veterinarian shortage situations in the U.S., which includes insular areas (see Part VIII, D. Definitions for a definition (7 U.S.C. 3151(b)).

Contact: Robert M. Smith

CFDA Number: 10.336

Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fields Grant Program. 7 U.S.C. 5925(d)(7). This program supports research and extension projects that have robust collaborations to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields that are relevant to USDA priorities identified by the Secretary. Applications may be submitted by eligible applicants and may be a collaborative state, tribal, local, or regionally-based network or partnership of public or private entities. Eligible applicants are: (a) State agricultural experiment stations; (b) colleges and universities; (c) university research foundations; (d) other research institutions and organizations; (e) Federal agencies; (f) national laboratories; (g) private organizations or corporations; (h) individuals; or (i) any group consisting of 2 or more of the entities described in subparagraphs (a) through (h) .

Contact: Victoria LeBeaux

CFDA Number: 10.318

CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

1890 Facilities Grants Program¹. 7 U.S.C. 3222b. The 1890 Facilities Grants Program provides funds for the acquisition and improvement of agricultural and food sciences facilities and equipment, including libraries, so that the 1890 land-grant institutions may participate fully in the production of human capital in the food and agricultural sciences. Eligible applicants are the 1890 land-grant institutions, including Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University and Central State University (7 U.S.C. 3222b(a)(1)).

Contact: Edwin Levis

CFDA Number: 10.513

1890 Extension Capacity Grants². 7 U.S.C. 3221. The 1890 Extension Capacity allocates funding according to a statutory formula for agricultural extension programs at the 1890 land-grant institutions, including Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University and Central State University. A non-federal match of 100 percent is required, although the Secretary may waive the match above 50 percent if an institution demonstrates that it is unable to meet that requirement.

Contact: Edwin Lewis

CFDA Number: 10.500

1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program³. 7 U.S.C. 3152(b). CBG is designed specifically to build the institutional teaching, research and extension capacities of the eligible institutions through cooperative programs with Federal and non-Federal entities. The program is designed to: 1) advance the cultural diversity of the FANH sciences scientific and professional workforce by attracting and educating more students from underrepresented groups; 2) strengthen linkages among the 1890 institutions, other colleges and universities, USDA, other federal agencies, and private industry; and 3) enhance and strengthen the quality of Teaching/Education, Research and Extension programs at the 1890 institutions to more readily establish them as full partners in the U.S. FANH sciences higher education system.

Contact: Antonio McLaren

CFDA Number: 10.216

Agricultural Research at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. 7 U.S.C. 3222. Evans-Allen funds are allocated according to a statutory formula for agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant institutions, including Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University and Central State University (per Section 7129 of Pub. L. 113-79). A non-federal match of 100 percent is required, although the Secretary may waive the match above 50 percent if an institution demonstrates that it is unable to meet that requirement.

Contact: Edwin Lewis

CFDA Number: 10.205

Alaska-Native Serving and Native-Hawaiian Serving Institutions Education Grants⁴. 7 U.S.C. 3156. This program promotes and strengthens the ability of Alaska Native-Serving Institutions and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions to carry out education, applied research, and related community

¹ Listed as a Capacity & Infrastructure Program in section 251(f)(1)(C) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 ("Reorganization Act") (7 U.S.C. 6971(f)(1)(C)), as added by section 7511 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 ("FCEA"), Pub. L. 110-246, but is administered on a competitive basis unless otherwise stated.

² See Footnote 1.

³ See Footnote 1.

⁴ See Footnote 1.

development within a broadly defined arena of food and agricultural sciences-related disciplines. Eligible applicants are individual public or private, nonprofit Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions of higher education that meet the definitions of Alaska Native-Serving Institution or Native Hawaiian-Serving Institution established in Title III, Part A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (7 U.S.C. 3156(a)(1)).

Contact: Joyce Parker

CFDA Number: 10.228

Animal Health and Disease Research Program. 7 U.S.C. 3195. Funds are allocated according to a statutory formula that takes into account both the importance of the livestock industry and the animal health research capacity within a State. Funding supports livestock and poultry disease research at accredited schools or colleges of veterinary medicine or State Agricultural Experiment Stations that conduct animal health and disease research. The Act limits the annual Federal payment a State may receive in excess of \$100,000 to that amount made available and budgeted from nonfederal sources for expenditures on animal health and disease research. In accordance with amendments made by Section 7111 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, allocated funds may only be used to meet the expenses of conducting animal health and disease research, publishing and disseminating the results of such research, and contributing to the retirement of employees subject to the Act of March 4, 1940 (7 U.S.C. 331); for administrative planning and direction; and to purchase equipment and supplies necessary for conducting research described above. If amounts exceed \$5 million, the funds must be apportioned as follows: 15% for capacity and infrastructure program and 85% for a competitive grant program.

Contact: Robert Smith

CFDA Number: 10.207

Capacity Building Grants for Non Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA)

Programs⁵. 7 U.S.C. 3319i. The Non Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) grants assist the NLGCA institutions in maintaining and expanding the capacity to conduct education, research, and outreach activities relating to agriculture, renewable resources, and other similar disciplines. Section 7101 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 defined eligibility for this program and a certification process was implemented accordingly.

Contact: Ariela Zycherman

CFDA Number: 10.326

Distance Education Grants (DEG) for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas⁶. 7

U.S.C. 3362. The purpose of this program is to strengthen the capacity of Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas to carry out resident instruction, curriculum, and teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences through distance education technology. The Distance Education Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas (DEG) is a NIFA-administered competitive grants program focused on improving formal, postsecondary agricultural sciences education. No match required. Funds may be used to acquire, alter, or repair facilities or relevant equipment necessary for conducting agricultural research. Eligible entities are Institutions of higher education, as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1995 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), that are located in an Insular Area and have a demonstrable capacity to carry out teaching and extension programs in the food and agricultural sciences. Individual land-grant colleges and universities, and other institutions that have secured land-grant status through Federal legislation, and which are

⁵ See Footnote 1.

⁶ See Footnote 1.

located in Insular Areas are automatically eligible for awards under the Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas (RIIA) and Distance Education Grants (DEG) grant programs, either as direct applicants or as parties to a consortium agreement (7 U.S.C. 3363 and 20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

Contact: Joyce Parker
CFDA Number: 10.322

Extension Services at the 1994 Institutions⁷. 7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3); 7 U.S.C. 301 note. The Tribal Colleges Extension Services provides funding on a competitive basis to increase extension capacity at the designated 1994 land-grant institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note) to address special needs, take advantage of important opportunities, and/or demonstrate long-term sustained benefits of extension projects at 1994 land-grant institutions.

Contact: Erin Riley
CFDA Number: 10.517

Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. 7 U.S.C. 3175. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is conducted by the 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions in all 50 states and in American Samoa, District of Columbia, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. It is designed to assist limited-resource audiences in acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and changed behavior necessary for nutritionally sound diets, and to contribute to their personal development and the improvement of the total family diet and nutritional well-being. Funds are distributed according to a statutory formula.

Contact: Helen Chipman
CFDA Number: 10.514

Global Change/Ultraviolet Radiation Monitoring and Research Program⁸. (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)). The purpose of the Global Change, UV-B Monitoring program is to support research which: (1) generates an uninterrupted stream of climatology data; (2) determines mechanisms and symptoms of plant and animal response to ultraviolet radiation and other stressors; and (3) applies tightly integrated models to assess regional and national impacts (both biological and economic) of multiple plant stressors. The program and network are managed by Colorado State University. It is administered on a noncompetitive basis.

Contact: Luis Tupas
CFDA Number: 10.200

Higher Education Challenge Grants⁹. 7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1). Projects supported by Higher Education Challenge Grants address a State, regional, national, or international educational need, involve a creative or non-traditional approach toward addressing that need, encourage and facilitate better working relationships in the university science and education community, as well as between universities and the private sector, and result in benefits that will likely transcend the project duration and USDA support. Eligibility is limited to four-year colleges and universities with programs in the food and agricultural sciences (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)).

Contact: Antonio McLaren
CFDA Number: 10.217

⁷ See Footnote 1.

⁸ See Footnote 1.

⁹ See Footnote 1.

Hatch Act Capacity Grants. 7 U.S.C. 361 et seq. The Hatch Program allocates federal funds on the basis of a statutory formula to the State Agricultural Experiment Stations of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Insular Areas of Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands, Micronesia, American Samoa, and Northern Marianas Islands. Funds also are awarded for the Hatch Multistate Research Fund as a separate allocation and on a formula basis. A 100 percent non-federal match is required for all recipients except for the District of Columbia and Insular Area institutions, which are required to provide a 50 percent non-federal match. Approximately 25 percent of these funds support Multistate Research Fund Projects selected through a scientific peer-review process. The States are required to spend a certain amount on integrated activities.

Contact: Hatch (Regular) – Ann Lichens-Park and Steven Smith; Hatch Multistate – Herbert Bolton and Lakshmi Matukumalli

CFDA Number: 10.203

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program. 16 U.S.C. 582a, et seq. McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry allocates funds on a formula basis for forestry research, which includes forests and related rangelands, to eligible 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions and institutions offering graduate training in the sciences basic to forestry or having a forestry school. Eligible institutions are designated by the State. A 100 percent non-federal match is required. Section 7101 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 allows eligible State institutions to declare their intention not to be considered a cooperating forestry school, and to alternatively be considered as a Non-Land-Grant College of Agriculture. Such a declaration would remain in effect until September 30, 2018.

Contact: Daniel Cassidy

CFDA Number: 10.202

Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program¹⁰. 7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(5). These competitive undergraduate scholarship grants are to increase the multicultural diversity in the workforce and meet the increasingly advanced technological needs of the food and agricultural sciences. These competitive grants are open to colleges and universities that confer baccalaureate and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)). This program is offered annually and supports student scholarship and special experiential learning for eligible Scholars. The goal of the grant program is to increase the number of new and outstanding students from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the food and agricultural sciences and who pursue and complete baccalaureate or Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees, with scientific and professional competence.

Contact: Ariela Zycherman

CFDA Number: 10.220

National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants¹¹. 7 U.S.C. 3152(b)(6). Grants are awarded to train students for Master's and/or doctoral degrees and to provide additional postdoctoral training for Fellows who have completed their doctoral degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences. Grants are open to colleges and universities that confer a graduate degree in at least one targeted expertise shortage area of the food and agricultural sciences and have demonstrable teaching and research competencies in the food and agricultural sciences (7 U.S.C. 3152(b)). This competitive grants program is specifically intended to support stipends for students in graduate degree level and postdoctoral training and for Special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances (IRTA) for eligible Fellows. The goal of the program is to develop

¹⁰ See Footnote 1.

¹¹ See Footnote 1.

intellectual capital to ensure the preeminence of U.S. food and agricultural systems in areas where there is a national need for the development of scientific and professional expertise.

Contact: Ray Ali

CFDA Number: 10.210

Regional Rural Development Centers (RRDCs)¹². 7 U.S.C. 450i(c). Regional Rural Development Centers (RRDCs) play a unique role in USDA's service to rural America. They link the research and educational outreach capacity of the nation's public universities with communities, local decision makers, entrepreneurs, families, and farmers and ranchers to help address a wide range of development issues. They collaborate on national issues that span regions (e.g., e-commerce, the changing interface between rural, suburban, and urban places, and workforce quality and jobs creation). The RRDCs bring together the most innovative minds—from inside and outside universities—to address cutting-edge issues without regard to state boundaries. They respond to emerging issues, generate credible science-based information to clarify these issues, and create public-private partnerships to address them.

Contact: Brent Elrod

CFDA Number: 10.200

Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA). 16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq. The Renewable Resources Extension Act provides funding for extension efforts in forest and range resources. Funds are distributed on a formula basis to the 1862 and 1890 institutions to address forest and rangeland stewardship and health, invasive species, economic opportunities, and fish and wildlife resource issues. A small amount of RREA funding is retained for the competitive National Focus Funds program which funds innovative projects that are national or regional in scope.

Contact: Eric Norland

CFDA Number: 10.500

Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas (RIIA)¹³. 7 U.S.C. 3363. Competitive grants are awarded for educational capacity building at land-grant universities in the Insular Areas. Eligible entities are Institutions of higher education, as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1995 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), located in an Insular Area and have a demonstrable capacity to carry out teaching and extension programs in the food and agricultural sciences. Funds also may be used to acquire, alter, or repair facilities or relevant equipment necessary for conducting agricultural research. Individual land-grant colleges and universities, and other institutions that have secured land-grant status through Federal legislation, and which are located in Insular Areas are automatically eligible for awards under the Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas (RIIA). The purpose of this program is to promote and strengthen the ability of Insular Area Institutions to carry out teaching and education programs within a broadly defined arena of food and agricultural sciences-related disciplines. By strengthening institutional educational capacities in instruction and curriculum, and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning, NIFA intends that this program will help Insular Area Institutions meet their unique needs. No match required.

Contact: Joyce Parker

CFDA Number: 10.308

¹² See Footnote 1.

¹³ See Footnote 1.

Smith-Lever: 1862 Institution Cooperative Extension Capacity Grants. 7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c).

The Smith-Lever Act sections 3(b) and (c) allocate federal funds on a formula basis to support cooperative extension work in the 50 States, Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands, Micronesia, American Samoa, and Northern Mariana Islands. The District of Columbia receives extension funds through a separate legislative authority. The States are required to spend a certain amount on both integrated and multistate activities. A 100 percent non-federal match is required for all recipients except for Insular Area institutions, which are required to provide a 50 percent non-federal match, although the Secretary may waive the match above 50 percent if an institution demonstrates that it is unable to meet that requirement. The District of Columbia is not required to provide a non-federal match.

Contact: Wesley Dean and Mathieu Ngouajio

CFDA Number: 10.500

Tribal Colleges Endowment Fund. 7 U.S.C. 301 note. This fund distributes the interest earned by an endowment established for the 34 1994 land-grant institutions. The Endowment Fund enhances education in agricultural sciences and related disciplines for Native Americans by building educational capacity at these institutions in the areas of curricula design and materials development, faculty development and preparation for teaching, instruction delivery systems, experiential learning, equipment and instrumentation for teaching, and student recruitment and retention. It also funds facility renovation, repair, construction and maintenance in support of these efforts. At the end of each fiscal year, the earned interest income from the endowment fund is distributed according to a statutory formula.

Contact: Erin Riley

CFDA Number: 10.222

Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants¹⁴. 7 U.S.C. 301 note. These grants promote and strengthen higher education instruction in the food and agricultural sciences at the 34 1994 land-grant institutions. Project proposals focus on undergraduate and/or graduate studies in the food and agricultural sciences in one or more of the following areas: Curricula Design and Materials Development, Faculty Development and Preparation for Teaching, Instruction Delivery Systems, Student Experiential Learning, Equipment and Instrumentation for Teaching, or Student Recruitment and Retention. Funds are allocated on a formula basis. Section 7402 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 amended section 532 of the 1994 Act by adding College of the Muscogee Nation and Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, effective October 2014.

Contact: Erin Riley

CFDA Number: 10.221

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

¹⁴ See Footnote 1.