



United States Department of Agriculture

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

SNAP & EFNEP Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence



BIOENERGY, CLIMATE, AND ENVIRONMENT



FOOD PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY



YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY



FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

SNAP & EFNEP Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence (RNECE)

Request for Applications - Highlights

Helen Chipman, PhD, RD

**National Program Leader, Food and Nutrition Education
NIFA/USDA**

Webinar – 16 July 2014; repeated 17 July 2014



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Starting with a common definition - Nutrition education is...

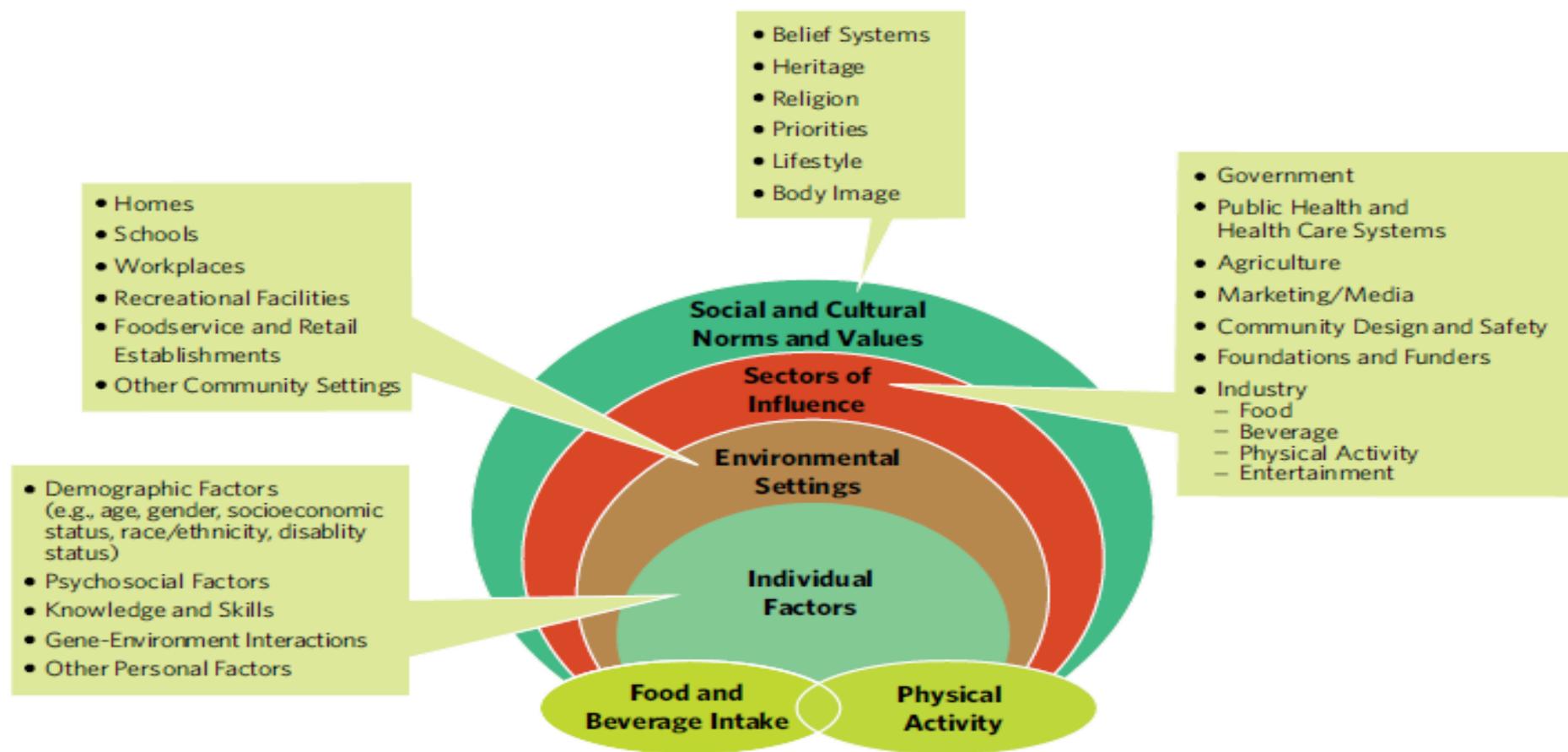
- Any combination of educational strategies
- Accompanied by environmental supports
- Designed to facilitate the voluntary adoption of food- and nutrition-related behaviors conducive to health and well-being
- Delivered through multiple venues
- Involves activities at the individual, community, and policy levels

Source: Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior

Adapted from definition given by Isobel Contento, EdD, RD

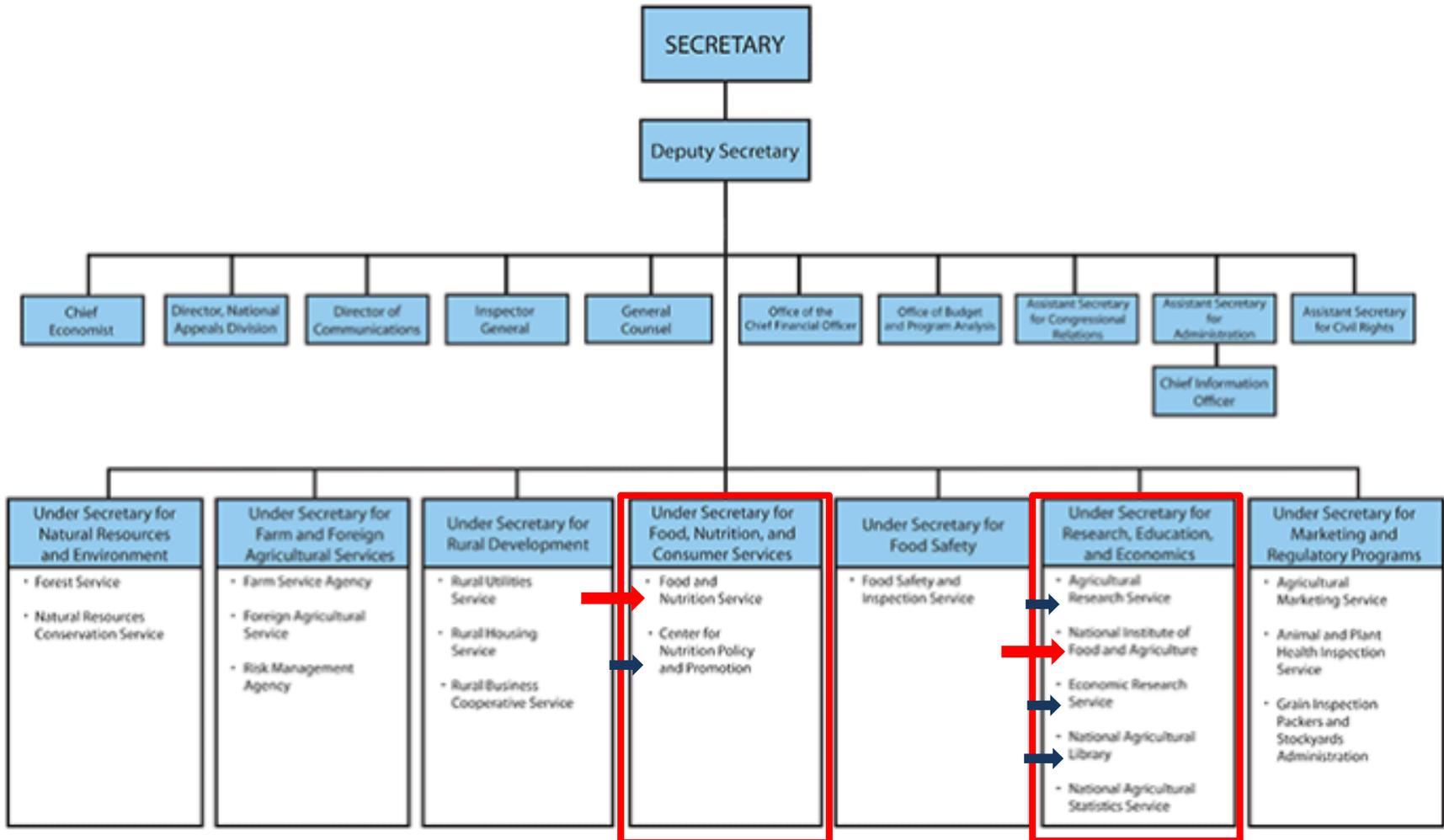
Programs such as EFNEP and SNAP-Ed may have additional program specific criteria

FIGURE 6 1: A Social Ecological Framework for Nutrition and Physical Activity Decisions



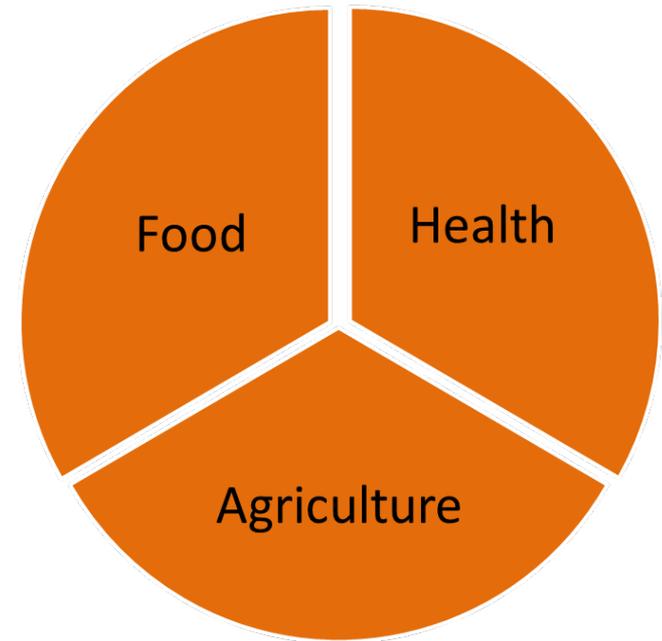
Source: Adapted from: (1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. State Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (NPAO) Program: Technical Assistance Manual. January 2008, page 36. Accessed April 21, 2010. http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/downloads/TA_Manual_1_31_08.pdf. (2) Institute of Medicine. Preventing Childhood Obesity: Health in the Balance, Washington (DC): The National Academies Press; 2005, page 85. (3) Story M, Kaphingst KM, Robinson-O'Brien R, Glanz K. Creating healthy food and eating environments: Policy and environmental approaches. *Annu Rev Public Health* 2008;29:253-272.

Nutrition Education Funding Through the USDA



Why Nutrition Education?

- USDA priority for nearly a half century to support healthier populations through food and agriculture
- Social, health, and economic benefits
- Ever-present need given constantly changing food and social environment
- Both general and targeted populations



GOAL – To promote health and reduce malnutrition and obesity especially in children and high-risk populations



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

EFNEP and SNAP-Ed Administration

EFNEP

- Began in 1969
- Oversight by NIFA
- Administered by 1862 and 1890 land-grant universities
- In all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 6 U.S. territories
- FY 2014 funding - \$67,934,000

SNAP-Ed

- Began in 1992
- Oversight by FNS
- Administered by land-grant universities, public health agencies, non-profits, and others (LGU's in 47 of 50 states)
- In all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 1 U.S. territory
- FY 2014 funding - \$401,000,000



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

EFNEP: A Program that Works

- More than 500,000 adults and youth taught each year
- More than 90% of adults who complete the program report improved food and physical activity behaviors, such as consuming an extra cup of fruits and vegetables
- 2012 Data: Healthy Eating Index Score: 50.7 at entry; 55.1 at exit; scores improved by 4.4 points

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/food/efnep/pdf/impact_data_report_2012.pdf,
accessed 3 April 2014



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

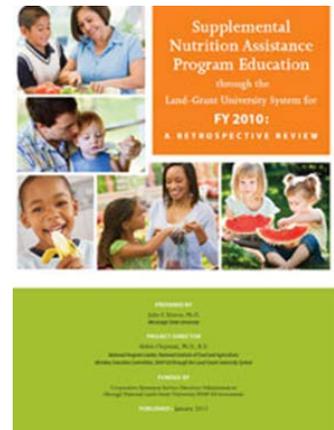
SNAP-Ed: A Program that Works*

- 2010 - More than 4.5 million people and 54.6 million contacts reached by Land-grant universities and partners
- 2010 – More than 50% of participants reported eating closer to recommended amounts for grains, vegetables, and fruits

*Data represents a SUBSET of total SNAP-Ed participation;
Actual reach and potential impact would be greater

SNAP-Ed Through the Land-grant University System for FY2010: A Retrospective Review, 2013 http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/food/fsne/pdfs/lgu_final_rep_2012.pdf. Accessed 3 April 2014.

SNAP-Ed: A Program that Works contd. – Examples of Improved Environmental Supports



Reported environmental outcomes achieved through land-grant university and other coordinated efforts

- Increased referrals across organizations
- Joint efforts to improve diet quality and physical activity within communities
- Increased availability of nutritious foods in schools, restaurants, grocery stores, and farmers' markets
- Trends for increased support for community anti-hunger programs
- Increased availability of nutritious foods to low-income people due to new grocery stores or farmers' markets in low-income communities and/or new community gardens



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Why this RFA?

- FNS and NIFA have a strong interest in assuring that EFNEP and SNAP-Ed programs are effective, innovative, replicable, sustainable, and cost effective in terms of meeting the needs and improving behaviors of program target groups



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

This RFA addresses...

- **USDA Strategic Plan 2014-2018, Goal 4.** Ensure that All of America's Children Have Access to Safe, Nutritious, and Balanced Meals
 - Objective 4.1: Improve Access to Nutritious Food
 - Objective 4.2: Promote Healthy Diet and Physical Activity Behaviors
- **Research, Education, and Economics (REE) Action Plan Goal 4: Nutrition and Childhood Obesity:** Build evidence base for food-based and physical activity strategies and develop effective education/extension translational activities to promote health and reduce malnutrition and obesity in children and high-risk populations
 - Action item: Develop and extend approaches to prevent obesity and related diseases, including translational activities to promote behavior change related to healthy eating and physical activity



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Legislative Authority and Funding

- The Secretary has general authority to enter into contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements to further the research, extension, or teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences of the Department of Agriculture (7 U.S.C. 3318)
- Interagency Agreement between FNS and NIFA
- Oversight by NIFA with FNS involvement
- \$4 million allocated from FY 2014 funding



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Goal and Purpose

- Overarching goal
 - Improve the health of low-income Americans through multiple strategies, including complementary nutrition education and public health approaches
- Three-fold purpose
 - Strengthen the evidence-base on effective nutrition education/obesity prevention programs for diverse population groups – i.e. identify and confirm what works
 - Evaluate long-term effectiveness of nutrition education/obesity prevention interventions for disadvantaged and underserved populations and opportunities for new research
 - Identify and create research collaborations and synergistic relationships among researchers and EFNEP/SNAP-Ed program directors, universities and other implementers, and state and federal agencies

More Specifically...

- Build evidence-base for dietary (food-focused) and physical activity strategies
- Demonstrate/improve effectiveness of complementary nutrition education and public health approaches
- Support a culture of health among low-income populations (e.g., improved nutrition and physical activity behaviors; and reduced food insecurity, obesity, and chronic disease)
- Align research with programs
- Use a socio-ecological framework in research and programs
 - Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010
<http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/DietaryGuidelines/2010/PolicyDoc/PolicyDoc.pdf>
 - Community Nutrition Education (CNE) Logic Model
<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/food/fsne/logicmodeloverview.pdf>



<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/rnece.html>



United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

USDA United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture



Home About Us Grants Forms Newsroom Help Contact Us

Search NIFA

Search input field with Go button

Search Help

Browse by Subject

- Agricultural Systems
Animals
Biotechnology & Genomics
Economics & Community Development
Education
Environment & Natural Resources
Family, Youth & Communities
Food, Nutrition & Health
International
Pest Management
Plants
Technology & Engineering

You are here: Home / Funding Opportunities / Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (SNAP & EFNEP): Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence (RNECE)

Grants

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (SNAP & EFNEP): Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence (RNECE)

Request for Application
Text Version | PDF Version

- Related Information
SNAP & EFNEP: RNECE Summary
Electronic Application Information
Applying for a Grant FAQs





Search NIFA

[Search Help](#)

Browse by Audience

Information for ...

Browse by Subject

- [Agricultural Systems](#)
- [Animals](#)
- [Biotechnology & Genomics](#)
- [Economics & Community Development](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Environment & Natural Resources](#)
- [Family, Youth & Communities](#)
- [Food, Nutrition & Health](#)
- [International](#)
- [Pest Management](#)
- [Plants](#)
- [Technology & Engineering](#)

You are here: [Home](#) / [Grants](#) / [Grant Search](#) / Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (SNAP & EFNEP): Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence (RNECE)

Grants

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (SNAP & EFNEP): Regional Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Centers of Excellence (RNECE)

To build the evidence-base for nutrition education and obesity prevention strategies and interventions that produce measurable improvements in health, obesity, nutrition (food behavior), and physical activity-related outcomes of interest to USDA; and develop effective education/extension, environmental, systems, and policy translational activities that promote health and prevent/reduce obesity in disadvantaged low-income families and children.

Who Is Eligible to Apply

See Part III, Eligibility Information for details.

[Request for Application \(RFA\)](#) | Apply: [Electronic](#)

Solicitation Date (Opening)	July 15, 2014
Letter of Intent Due Date	None
Due Date (Closing)	August 15, 2014
Estimated Total Program Funding	\$4,000,000.00
Range of Awards	Unavailable
Cost Sharing Requirements	None
For More Information Contact	Helen Chipman
Funding Opportunity Number	USDA-NIFA-OP-004574
CFDA Number	10.200
Contact for Electronic Access Problems	webcomments@nifa.usda.gov





United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Who's Eligible to Apply

- EFNEP and SNAP-Ed implementing agencies and organizations that received FY 2014 funding (not sub-grantees)
 - All 75 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions – in every state, six U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia
 - Nearly 100 SNAP-Ed implementing agencies – in every state, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia (not state SNAP funding agencies unless the state SNAP agency did direct program implementation)
- Although only implementing agencies are eligible, proposals are expected to reflect broad coordination and cooperation
 - Program and research areas
 - Types/numbers of agencies and organizations
 - States/territories within the region



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Regional Centers of Excellence: Program Description

- 4 Program awards, 1 for each NIFA administrative geographic region
- CFDA Number – 10.200
- Program Area Priority Code – OP; Program Code Name – RNECE
- Application Deadline – August 15, 2014 before 5:00 pm EDT
- Requested Grant Type – Standard grants
- Proposed Budget Request – Two-year budget, not to exceed \$856,250 total, including indirect costs
 - Maximum \$642,188 in first year and \$214,062 in second year
- New awards in FY 2014; continuation awards in FY 2015 (second year funding based on progress)
- Contact – Dr. Helen Chipman, hchipman@nifa.usda.gov or 202-720-8067

NIFA's Administrative Geographic Regions



Also:

- American Samoa
- Guam
- Micronesia
- Northern Marianas

Also:

- Puerto Rico
- Virgin Islands



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Regional Centers of Excellence: Program Description

- 4 Program awards, 1 for each NIFA administrative geographic region
- CFDA Number – 10.200
- Program Area Priority Code – OP; Program Code Name – RNECE
- Application Deadline – August 15, 2014 before 5:00 pm EDT
- Requested Grant Type – Standard grants
- Proposed Budget Request – Two-year budget, not to exceed \$856,250 total, including indirect costs
 - Maximum \$642,188 in first year and \$214,062 in second year
- New awards in FY 2014; continuation awards in FY 2015 (second year funding based on progress)
- Contact – Dr. Helen Chipman, hchipman@nifa.usda.gov or 202-720-8067



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Regional Centers of Excellence: Program Priorities

- Build partnerships to address challenges and opportunities
- Establish and maintain information networks
- Develop signature low-income nutrition education research programs and foster their sustainability
- Review and evaluate impacts of low-income nutrition education program research and communicate success
- Work collaboratively with the National Coordination Center to provide required deliverables
- Manage funding resources effectively
- Complete all other RNECE program requirements, including but not limited to the RNECE 3-fold purpose

Regional Centers of Excellence: Additional Details

- Personnel
 - Include different types of implementing agencies; evaluation specialist; communication specialist, EFNEP representative, SNAP-Ed representative; others, as justified
 - Include multistate/multi-institutional/organizational involvement
- Signature research program (within 9 months of receiving award)
 - Unique to region/area; specific cultures/populations
 - EFNEP and SNAP-Ed interventions/policy
 - Socio-ecological framework
 - Transferable
 - Process and outcomes evaluation
- Sub-awards – same criteria on smaller scale

Pay attention to “must” and “should” language



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Regional Centers of Excellence: Priority Consideration

- Expand and/or strengthen evidence-base of effective nutrition education/obesity prevention programs for diverse low-income populations
- Incorporate evaluation on mid- to long-term effectiveness of interventions
- Create opportunities for new research on the effectiveness of nutrition education/obesity prevention programs – specifically EFNEP and SNAP-Ed
- Foster new collaborations between individuals and institutions
- Focus research on improving behaviors of the underserved or hard-to-reach audiences in “real-world” settings



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Regional Centers of Excellence: Priority Consideration, cont'd

- Include small, mid-sized, and large EFNEP and SNAP-Ed programs, 1862 land-grant institutions, 1890 land-grant institutions, 1994 land-grant institutions, Hispanic-serving institutions, public health organizations, non-profit organizations, and/or other organizations that serve high-risk, underserved, and hard-to-reach audiences through EFNEP and SNAP-Ed
- Successfully integrate research and education/extension/other intervention components with EFNEP and SNAP-Ed programs into the proposed work
- Successfully incorporate a social-ecological framework
- Complement other EFNEP and SNAP-Ed evaluation projects



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

National Coordination Center: Program Description

- 1 program award
- CFDA Number – 10.200
- Program Area Priority Code – OP; Program Code Name – RNECE
- Application Deadline – August 15, 2014 before 5:00 pm EDT
- Requested Grant Type – Cooperative Agreement; 10% indirect cost rate
- Proposed Budget Requests – Two-year budgets, not to exceed \$175,000 total, including indirect costs
 - \$87,500 per year for two years for National Coordination Center project
- New awards in FY 2014; continuation awards in FY 2015 (second year funding based on progress)
- Contact – Dr. Helen Chipman, hchipman@nifa.usda.gov or 202-720-8067



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

National Coordination Center: Program Priorities

- Coordinate communications with Regional Centers to ensure collaboration in achieving overall program goal
- Aggregate and disseminate research findings – working in conjunction with Regional Centers, web-managers, federal agencies, and others to ensure broad dissemination; develop website content, as needed and appropriate
- Develop national data – work with Regional Centers to evaluate report, and aggregate data; report national impacts; Provide NIFA with annual national impact reports and other documentation
- Conduct a review of Regional Centers in conjunction with NIFA



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

National Coordination Center: Program Priorities cont'd

- Serve as information and communication liaison with NIFA, FNS, and Regional Centers through national meetings, Regional Center reviews, and posting of program content on eXtension website, SNAP-Ed connections website, and other NIFA and FNS websites
- Complete all other RNECE program requirements, including but not limited to the RNECE 3-fold purpose



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

National Coordination Center: Additional Details

- Applicants
 - From any EFNEP and/or SNAP-Ed implementing organization/agency
 - Understand and cooperate/coordinate with organizations and programs represented by the Regional Centers
 - Have communications, technology, and evaluation expertise
 - Demonstrate capacity to meet program requirements, including, but not limited to data aggregation, evaluation, and dissemination, and transferability, back-up, and security of data
 - Show the direct involvement of nutrition education/childhood obesity researchers
- Cooperative Agreement with NIFA



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Evaluation Criteria

- **Relevance** to accomplishing program goals and core objectives; includes logic model
- **Completeness and adequacy**, including configuration of proposed Regional/National Coordination Center and potential to engage with appropriate stakeholders, researchers, and programs; e.g. reflect tight connections between program implementation research, EFNEP and SNAP-Ed, and across the social-ecological framework
- **Potential to accomplish** program goals, objectives, and requirements
- **Quality and extent of stakeholder involvement** and probability that stakeholders will actively participate and contribute to Regional Centers success



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

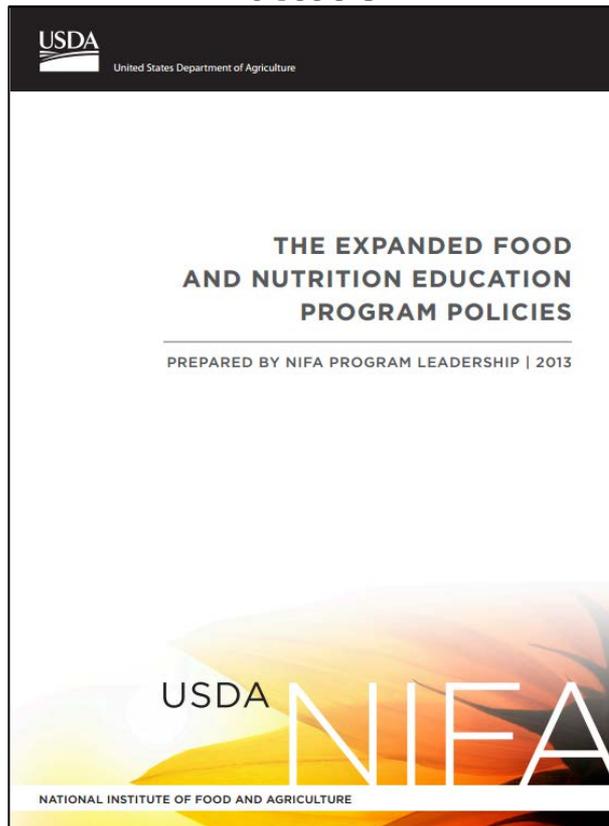
INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Evaluation Criteria, cont'd

- **Host institution's capacity** including commitment to research and programs, and history of regional, multi-state, or multi-institutional/multi-organizational engagement and leadership in EFNEP and SNAP-Ed
- **Experience, accomplishments and time commitments** of key personnel
- **Appropriateness of requested budget**, including sub-award monitoring

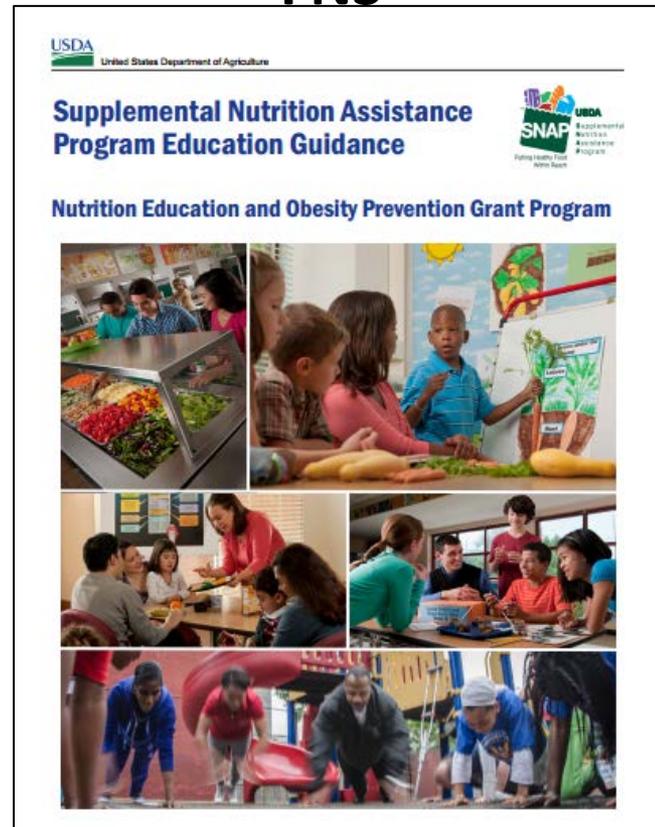
Key References

NIFA



<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/food/efnep/pdf/program-policy.pdf>

FNS



<http://snap.nal.usda.gov/national-snap-ed/snap-ed-plan-guidance-and-templates>



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements

- Initial project information
- Annual reports and summary reports
- Annual and final technical reporting requirements
- Attendance at annual leadership meetings to report on activities
- Other documentation, as identified



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Important Dates

- RFA Announcement: 15 July 2014
- RFA Webinar: 16 July, 1:45 pm EDT, repeated 17 July, 4:30 – 6:00 pm EDT; will be recorded and posted
- Applications due: 15 August, before 5:00 pm EDT
- Panel Review: Week of 25 August 2014 (dates tentative)
- Awards approved and announced: 30 September 2014

Questions



Link to RFA: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/regionalcentersofexcellence.cfm>



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

INVESTING IN SCIENCE | SECURING OUR FUTURE | WWW.NIFA.USDA.GOV

Best Wishes!

For additional questions, contact:*

Helen Chipman, PhD, RD, National Program Leader, Food & Nutrition Education, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, (NIFA), USDA; Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition, Nutrition Division

Phone: 202-720-8067

Email: hchipman@nifa.usda.gov

***Please note: Messages received after 4 pm EDT on Thursday, will be responded to the following Monday**

Link to RFA: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/regionalcentersofexcellence.cfm>