



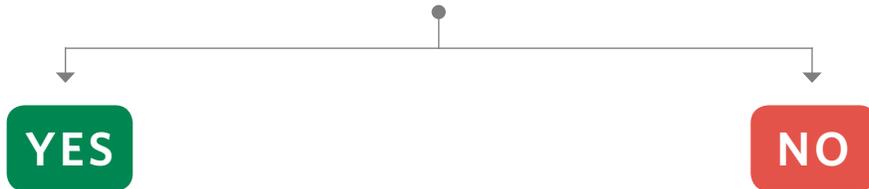
FACT SHEET

NEW MATCHING REQUIREMENTS FOR NIFA COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARDS

OVERVIEW

THE AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 2014 ADDED A NEW REQUIREMENT FOR FINANCIAL MATCHING OF SOME National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) competitive grant awards. Matching for these awards means that a grantee must provide funds, in-kind contributions, or a combination of both, from sources other than funds provided through such grant in an amount that is at least equal to the amount awarded by NIFA, unless the grantee is exempt from the matching requirement or the requirement is waived. The new requirement impacts grants made after October 1, 2014. No AFRI awards are impacted by the new matching requirement. • The questions below will help determine if you need to meet the new matching requirement for competitive grant programs.

Does the program to which I am applying have a matching requirement?



Am I in a group that is exempt from the matching requirements? (See FAQ #2 on back page)

You have no new match requirement to meet. The new matching requirement does not apply to AFRI awards.



You have no new match requirement to meet.

Do I have a qualifying partnership? (See FAQ #4 on back page)



You have no new match requirement to meet.

The new match requirement applies to you. (See FAQ #3 on back page for requesting a waiver)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Agricultural Act of 2014 added a requirement for financial matching of some of NIFA's competitive awards; however, it does not impact AFRI awards. For some grants made after Oct. 1, 2014, a grantee must provide funds, in-kind contributions, or a combination of both, from sources other than funds provided through such grant in an amount that is at least equal to the amount awarded by NIFA, unless the grantee is exempt from the matching requirement or the requirement is waived. Below you will find common questions that will help guide you through the details of the new requirement. ■ For additional questions, contact the Awards Management Staff at (202) 205-5799.

1 DOES THE NEW MATCHING REQUIREMENT APPLY TO CURRENT GRANTS?

The matching requirement only applies to new awards made on or after Oct. 1, 2014. No AFRI awards are impacted by the new matching requirement. It does not supersede matching requirements that were in place for competitive grant awards made before October 1, 2014 and only applies to competitive grants made under covered programs.

2 WHAT ENTITIES ARE EXEMPT FROM THE NEW MATCHING REQUIREMENT AS SPECIFIED IN THE FARM BILL?

- A. 1862 land grant institutions
- B. 1890 land grant institutions
- C. 1994 land grant institutions
- D. Entities eligible to receive continuing animal health and disease capacity and infrastructure funds
- E. Hispanic serving agricultural colleges and universities
- F. Insular area schools eligible to receive funds from the distance education/resident instruction grant programs
- G. Entities eligible to receive McIntire-Stennis cooperative forestry program funds
- H. Non-land grant colleges of agriculture
- I. Entities eligible to receive funds under a program established under section 1417 (b) of the national agricultural research, extension, and teaching policy act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 31529b0, including: (1) 1890 Teaching Institution, Research, and extension capacity building grants program; (2) higher education challenge grants program (3) higher education multicultural scholars program; and (4) food and agricultural sciences national needs graduate and post graduate fellowship grants program.
- J. Research agencies of USDA

3 WHAT OPTIONS EXIST FOR NONEXEMPT ENTITIES?

Nonexempt entities can partner with one of the exempt entities (see FAQ 2) or if they qualify apply for Non-Land Grant College of Agriculture (NLGCA) status and become exempt. Alternatively, they can request that NIFA waive the match requirement for one year for a particular application where proposed activities are consistent with priorities established by the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board. Instructions for requesting a waiver are provided in Requests for Applications for covered programs.

4 WHAT IS A PARTNERSHIP?

Entities that partner with an exempt entity become exempt from the matching requirement. Partnership requires that all partners have a substantial involvement in the project throughout the life of the project. If a partnership between multiple entities is proposed, the proposal must clearly identify the following:

- A narrative of each entity's clearly established role in the project;
- How each entity involved as a partner on the project will contribute to execution of project objectives, determination of experimental design, development of the project work plan and time table, and submission of collaborative timely reports; and
- A comprehensive project budget that reflects each entity's financial or in kind contribution to total project costs.

5 WHERE DO I DESCRIBE A PROPOSED PROJECT PARTNERSHIP ON THE RFA APPLICATION?

You should describe your partnership in the project narrative section detailing the role of each partner. While applicants can justify that a partnership meets the required criteria, the final decision about whether an entity is a "partner" rests with NIFA.

6 CAN THE NONEXEMPT ENTITIES BE THE LEAD?

Yes, as long as one of the partners is exempt either can be the lead.

7 WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS?

Please use the programmatic contact listed under the agency contact section of the Request for Applications.

8 WHAT IS NON-LAND GRANT COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE (NLGCA) STATUS AND HOW DO I APPLY?

For an institution to qualify as a NLGCA, it must be a public college or university offering a baccalaureate or higher degree in the study of food and agricultural sciences, as defined in 7 U.S.C. 3103(9). To apply for certification, go to: www.nifa.usda.gov/form/form.html

9 IF I APPLY FOR NON-LAND GRANT STATUS, WHEN WILL I KNOW?

Within 30 days of submitting this form, NIFA will provide the Administrative Point of Contact specified on the form, with a certification or a response indicating why certification is being denied.