

Notice of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Participation in PAR-17-482 “Comparative Genomics Research Program”

Notice Number: NOT-HG-18-007

Related Announcements

[PAR-17-482](#)

Issued by

National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH ([NHGRI](#))
National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA ([NIFA](#))

Purpose

The purpose of this Notice is to inform potential applicants that the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is participating, effective immediately, in [PAR-17-482](#) "Comparative Genomics Research Program".

The following sections of [PAR-17-482](#) have been updated to reflect NIFA's participation in this funding opportunity announcement.

NIH NHGRI comparative genomics program solicitation runs through 2021. However, USDA NIFA is participating in the joint solicitation as a pilot for FY 2019 only for all three submission dates (October 5, 2018, Feb 5, 2019, and June 5, 2019).

The number of NIFA awards from this program is contingent upon NIFA appropriations and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications.

NIFA participation in the future years is contingent upon community interest (number of high quality proposals received) and availability of funds. A separate notification will be issued accordingly.

Part 1. Overview Information

Participating Organizations

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Components of Participating Organizations

National Human Genome Research Institute ([NHGRI](#))
National Institute of Food and Agriculture ([NIFA](#))

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers

10.310

Funding Opportunity Purpose

NIFA invites applications for research developing comparative approaches that can be used to understand genome structure and function and the relationship between genomic features and phenotypes. NIFA will support studies that enable the use of a diverse array of species to advance our ability to improve genome annotations that complements Functional Annotation of Animal Genomes (FAANG) efforts or understand basic biological processes related to health and disease of *agriculturally important animals*, as well as studies that develop novel analytical tools and resources for the comparative genomics research community. See FOA for specific areas of research interest.

Applicants who plan to focus on agricultural animals in their multi-species comparisons are strongly encouraged to contact NIFA early in the development of their application to discuss alignment of their proposed work with the goals of NIFA.

This funding opportunity aligns with USDA strategic goal 7; REE action plan goal 1c, and NIFA strategic plan science goal 1.

Part 2. Section III. Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

USDA-NIFA Eligibility Criteria: Award grants may be made to State agricultural experiment stations; colleges and universities; university research foundations; other research institutions and organizations; Federal agencies; national laboratories; private organizations or corporations; individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents; or any group consisting of two or more of the aforementioned entities. Applications from scientists at non-U.S. organizations will not be accepted. Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply, provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project.

Cost sharing

USDA-NIFA: Cost sharing is not required.

Section IV. Application and Submission Information

Applications must be submitted directly to NIH for review. Applicants should read the full funding opportunity announcement (FOA; <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-482.html>) and comply with all the requirements for submitting an application. Applicants will need to follow the Research (R) Instructions in the SF424 (R&R) Application Guide, including Supplemental Grant Application Instructions, except where instructed in this FOA to do otherwise. Conformance to the requirements in the Application Guide is required and strictly enforced. Applications that do not comply with these instructions may not be accepted for review.

NIFA will consider only new or resubmission applications. The project types considered for NIFA funding are standard research projects or standard strengthening (from eligible institutions

such as minority serving or EPSCoR) research projects as described in the AFRI grant types document. <https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource/AFRI-Grant-Types.pdf>.

Funding Restrictions

USDA-NIFA: “Section 713 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-141) limits indirect costs to 30 percent of the total federal funds provided (or 42.857 percent of total direct costs) under each award. When preparing budgets, you should limit your request for the recovery of indirect costs to the lesser of your institution’s official negotiated indirect cost rate or the equivalent of 30 percent of total Federal funds awarded. See Part V section 7.9 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for further indirect cost information.

Section V Application Review Information

Review Criteria

USDA-NIFA and NIH-NHGRI will jointly put together a panel that includes expertise from agricultural animals and biomedical genomics research community. NIH will conduct the review of applications submitted in response to this FOA with input from NIFA. Scored Review Criteria are described in the FOA and include:

- Significance
- Investigators
- Innovation
- Approach
- Environment

Funding decisions

This is an interagency partnership between NIH/NHGRI and USDA/NIFA. Funding decisions will be made based on scientific and technical merit of the proposed project as determined by scientific peer review, availability of funds, and relevance of the proposed project to program priorities of the NHGRI and NIFA. Applicants selected for funding may be required to provide additional information. Subsequent grant administration procedures will be in accordance with the individual policies of the awarding agency. Projects chosen for funding by NHGRI will follow NIH policies and procedures as outlined in the program announcement. Those chosen for NIFA funding will follow NIFA's policies and procedures in [NIFA's Policy Guide](#).

Approximately **\$3,000,000** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) funds will be available for this program.

Section VI. Award Administration Information

Award Notices

NIFA award document will provide pertinent instructions and information including, at a minimum, the information described in [2 CFR 200.210](#).

See <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html> to view current NIFA award terms and conditions.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several Federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These may include, but are not limited to, the ones listed on the NIFA web page – <http://nifa.usda.gov/federal-regulations>.

NIFA Federal Assistance Policy Guide—a compendium of basic NIFA policies and procedures that apply to all NIFA awards, unless there are statutory, regulatory, or award-specific requirements to the contrary—is available at <http://nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide>.

Reporting

The output and reporting requirements are included in the award terms and conditions (see <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html> for information about NIFA award terms). If there are any program or award-specific award terms, they will be identified in the award.

For USDA-NIFA, documentation on the required mandatory Felony Convictions or Tax Delinquent Status.

For USDA-NIFA:
Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

In accordance with sections 2, 3, and 8 of 2 CFR Part 422, institutions that conduct USDA-funded extramural research must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity, bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, and maintain and effectively communicate and train their staff regarding policies and procedures. In the event an application to NIFA results in an award, the Authorized Representative (AR) assures, through acceptance of the award that the institution will comply with the above requirements. Award recipients shall, upon request, make available to NIFA the policies, procedures, and documentation to support the conduct of the training. See <http://nifa.usda.gov/responsible-and-ethical-conduct-research> for further information.

Section VII Agency Contact

Scientific/Research Contact(s)

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