



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture



BIOENERGY, CLIMATE,  
AND ENVIRONMENT



FOOD PRODUCTION  
AND SUSTAINABILITY



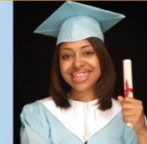
YOUTH, FAMILY,  
AND COMMUNITY



FOOD SAFETY  
AND NUTRITION



INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMS



# USDA NIFA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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# Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Overview

- Premier agricultural competitive grants program in the US, established in 2008.
- Designed to fund high priority fundamental and applied research, education, and extension grants that address food and agricultural sciences.



# AFRI Grant Types

- Standard Grants;
- Coordinated Agricultural Project Grants;
- Conference Grants;
- Collaborative Grants;
- Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants;
- Sabbatical Grants;
- New Investigator Grants;
- Equipment Grants; and
- Seed Grants.



# AFRI Priority Areas

- Plant health and production and plant products;
- Animal health and production and animal products;
- Food safety, nutrition, and health;
- Bioenergy, natural resources, and environment;
- Agriculture systems and technology; and
- Agriculture economics and rural communities.





# New Program Initiatives

- Critical Agricultural Research and Extension (CARE) – local, regional, or national projects designed to quickly yield solutions that can be rapidly implemented by producers; and
- Exploratory – encourages innovative ideas that have not been addressed before with a focus on food security, climate change, environmental quality and natural resources, nutrition, obesity, and food safety.



# AFRI Challenge Areas

- Childhood Obesity Prevention;
- Climate Variability and Change;
- Food Safety;
- Food Security;
- Sustainable Bioenergy; and
- Water for Agriculture.



# Fellowship Grants Program

- **Predoctoral Fellowships**
  - Technical and functional competence for predoctoral students
  - tuition, fees, supplies, travel, etc.
- **Postdoctoral Fellowships**
  - The research independence and teaching credentials of postdoctoral students
  - primarily for salary support, expenditures other than salary support may not exceed \$30,000 per year



# Eligible Applicants - General

- State Agricultural Experiment Stations;
- Colleges and universities;
- University research foundations;
- Other research institutions and organizations;
- Federal agencies,
- National laboratories;
- Private organizations, foundations, or corporations;
- Individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents; and
- Any group consisting of 2 or more entities identified above

**NOTE: Eligible institutions do not include foreign and international organizations.**





# Eligible Applicants – Integrated Projects

- Colleges and universities;
- 1994 Land-Grant Institutions; and
- Hispanic-serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities.



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# Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE)

- Designed to help institutions develop competitive projects, and to attract new scientists and educators into careers in high-priority areas of national need in agriculture, food, and environmental sciences.
- Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowships, New Investigators, and Strengthening Grants have specific eligibility requirements, see the request for applications for details.
- 2.5% of AFRI budget set aside for fellowships, 7.5% set aside for Strengthening Grants
- Limited to EPSCoR states, small and mid-sized or minority-serving degree-granting institutions with limited institutional success



# Matching Funds

- Equipment Grants – may not exceed 50% of the cost or \$50,000, whichever is less;
- Applied Research Grants – equal match of non-Federal funds if research is commodity-specific and not of national scope; and
- Commodity Promotion Grants - equal match of non-Federal funds required.



# AFRI Coordinators

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