Grant Opportunities at NIFA

FALCON Grant workshop

November 2018
NIFA’s Mission & Vision

• USDA’s primary extramural agency to advance food & agricultural sciences

• We lead & fund initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture by:
  - Supporting **research**, **education**, & **extension activities** in partnership with institutions across US (Land-Grant University System, other universities/colleges, government, private, and non-profit organizations)

• **AGENCY BUDGET:**
  ~ $1.5 Billion
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

- **Research**: to develop the knowledge to address national challenges
- **Education**: to strengthen schools and universities to train the next generation of scientists, educators, producers, and citizens
- **Extension**: to bring knowledge gained through research and education to the public
NIFA Covers Many Topics

**Advanced Technologies**
- Bioenergy
- Biotechnology
- Nanotechnology

**Animals**
- Animal Breeding
- Animal Health
- Animal Production
- Aquaculture

**Business and Economics**
- Markets and Trade
- Natural Resource Economics
- Small Business

**Education**
- Minority Serving Institutions
- Teaching and Learning
- Workforce Development

**Environment**
- Climate Change
- Ecosystems
- Invasive Pests and Diseases

**Farming and Ranching**
- Agricultural Safety
- Agriculture Technology
- Farmer Education
- Organic Agriculture
- Small and Family Farms
NIFA’s Many Topics Cont’d

**Food Science**
- Food Quality
- Food Safety

**Health**
- Nutrition
- Obesity
- Wellness

**Natural Resources**
- Air
- Forests
- Grasslands and Rangelands
- Soil
- Water

**People**
- Community Vitality
- Family Well-Being
- Youth

**International**
- Global Engagement
- Global Food Security

**Plants**
- Crop Production
- Pest Management
- Plant Breeding
- Plant Health
NIFA Grant Programs of Interest to 1994 Land Grants

• Education Programs
• AFRI
  • CARE
• SARE
• BFRDP
NIFA Vision for Education

• A scientifically competent, culturally diverse, and technologically-savvy workforce that is capable of addressing current and future domestic and global challenges and leading American agricultural enterprise.

• What does NIFA do
  • Programmatic Leadership
    • Formal education - e.g., NAS workshop on Future Workforce in Ag & Food
    • Non-formal education
  • Grant funding
    • Enhancing Literacy – K-14 programs
    • Developing Pathways – Undergraduate Education
    • Advancing Science – Graduate Education
    • Capacity Building – Non-Land Grants and MSIs
    • Positive Youth Development – non-formal education through extension programs.
Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants (SPECA) program

Grants to institutions to promote and strengthen K-14 education in the food, agricultural, natural resources, and human sciences through:

- Curriculum Development, Instructional Delivery Systems and Expanding Student Career Opportunities
- Faculty preparation and enhancement for teaching.
- Interaction with Other Academic Institutions and Industry

Award Max: $300,000
Contact: Victoria LeBeaux
% Funded: ~ 20%
FY 2018 deadline: TBD
NIFA Undergraduate Fellows (REEU)

- Research and extension based experiential learning for undergraduates such that upon graduation they may enter the agriculture workforce with exceptional skills;

- Provides opportunities for students from underrepresented and economically disadvantaged groups at minority-serving institutions, community colleges, and four-year colleges and universities to obtain hands-on experience and training at larger universities and USDA laboratories.

- Eligible institutions include colleges and universities.

Award Max: $ 300,000  Contact:  Ariela Zycherman
Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fields (WAMS) Grants Program

- Grants to educational institutions, private organizations, and others,
- Support education, research and extension projects that increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas
- Fields include science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the context of food, agricultural, natural resources, and human sciences

Award Max: $100,000
Contact: Dr. Victoria LeBeaux
Funded: 20%
Deadline: TBD
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

AFRI research, education, and extension grants improve rural economies, increase food production, stimulate the bioeconomy, mitigate impacts of climate variability, address water availability issues, ensure food safety and security, enhance human nutrition, and train the next generation of the agricultural workforce.
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

- ARFI is NIFA’s largest competitive grants program
- Eligibility may be limited to Colleges and Universities
  ✓ But CBOs, NGOs and farmers can partner
- Programs:
  Education and Workforce Development (formerly Education and Literacy Initiative)
  Foundational & Applied Science Programs (basic research)
    - CAP and Standard Grants
    - Exploratory Program
    - Critical Agricultural Research and Extension
  Sustainable Agricultural Systems (transdisciplinary, integrated)
AFRI Foundational Programs

1. Plant health and production & plant products
2. Animal health and production & animal products
3. Food safety, nutrition, and health
4. Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment
5. Agriculture systems an technology
6. Agriculture economics and rural communities
7. Critical agriculture research and extension
8. Exploratory
FASE Grants are 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.

- **New Investigator**: Less than 5 years career track position, no federal research grants
- **Pre- & Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- **Standard Strengthening**: EPSCoR or Small-midsized institutions or minority serving institutions
- **Set-aside funds are available if rank below the fund line**
FASE – Strengthening Grants

Fifteen percent of AFRI funding is set aside for Strengthening Grants and Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants.

Strengthening Grants are limited to:
1) small and mid-sized,
2) minority-serving degree-granting institutions; or
3) State Agricultural Experiment Stations or degree-granting institutions eligible for EPSCoR funding.
Purpose of CARE Program

- Address **critical challenges and opportunities** to improve the Nation’s agricultural and food systems and address issues that need **immediate attention**
- Enhance **partnerships and coordination** among researchers, extension experts, and practitioners in food and agricultural enterprises
- Lead to practices that may be **readily and rapidly adoptable** by end-users.
Basics

Up to 3 years

Research Extension

$7M

Funding $300,000
Where are awards going?

- **2014**: States with Lead Institutions
- **2015**: States with Lead Institutions
- **2016**: States with Lead Institutions
- **2017**: States with Lead Institutions
Other Grants

• SARE
• BFRDP
SARE – Visit SARE.org

• Regional Program of four Regional Administrative Councils.

• Farmers involved in problem identification, research, outreach AND Regional Administrative Councils
  – Primary grant types
    • Research Grants
      – Large Research and Extension
      – Farmer/Rancher
      – Farmer + Professional
      – Graduate Student
    • Professional Development and Training
      – State Programs
      – Competitive Grants
Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program (BFRDP)

- Competitive grant program for projects that provide education, mentoring and technical assistance for beginning farmers and ranchers.

- A beginning farmer is: a farmer, rancher, or operator of non-industrial private forestland who is in the first ten years of operation, or a person intending or aspirants.

- Recipients must be a collaborative (state, tribal, local, or regional network or partnership of public or private orgs.)

- Interested in being a reviewer? Contact Wesley Dean - wesley.dean@nifa.usda.gov or Denis Ebodaghe - debodaghe@nifa.usda.gov
Looking for More?

Grants page: https://nifa.usda.gov/page/search-grant

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GRACIAS
ARIGATO
SHUKURIA
THANK YOU