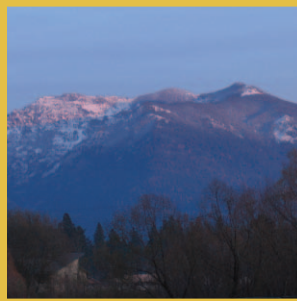


NATIVE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESOURCE MANUAL



NATIVE F.A.R.M.

Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative
First Nations Development Institute



Arrowhead
LOG
Homes

Introduction

Welcome! This document contains 51 programs that will assist you in the development of Native agriculture and food systems projects. These 51 programs provide federal funding for a range of projects to support Indian agriculture. You have made a giant stride toward attaining success with your project by having this document for a reference guide.

This information is provided alphabetically by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program thus making it easier to do web-based research. Each program's website is listed and you will also find specific key words to utilize in your research efforts that may bring you to other sources. You will find conservation programs that, on the surface, may not address your immediate need. However, improving the quality and quantity of native forages improves habitat for both wildlife and avian species. These same programs improve water quality and quantity, thus positively impacting fisheries. Many tribal communities have year-long sustenance hunting which in turn puts severe pressure on wildlife populations; the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program will assist in addressing the problem.

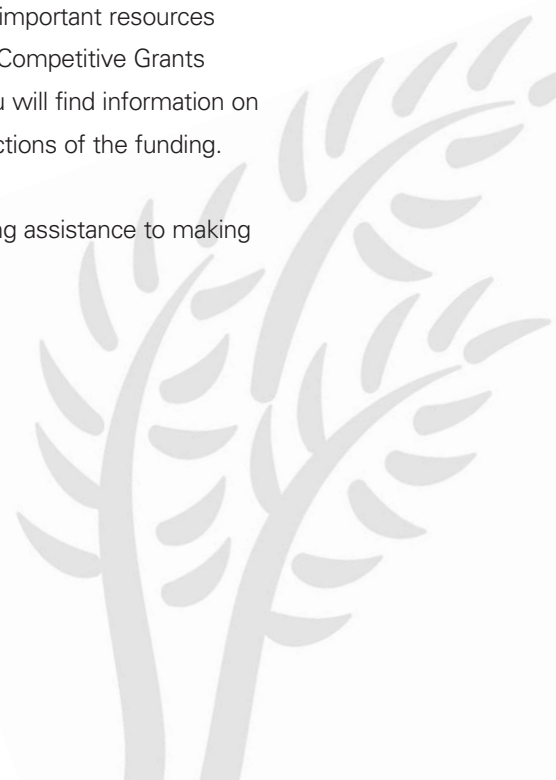
Please realize that this document does not contain every program within USDA. This Department is the second largest department in the US Government, second only to the Department of Defense. A complete reference to every program within USDA would entail a document over 1,200 pages in length.

However, this resource does provide information on some of the most important resources available through USDA, including the Community Food Projects (CFP) Competitive Grants Program and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). You will find information on how to apply, who to contact for more information, and uses and restrictions of the funding.

Congratulations! You have in your possession a document that can bring assistance to making your efforts a success. Do not take "No" for an answer; persevere!



Ross Racine
Executive Director
Intertribal Agriculture Council





First Nations Development Institute is a nonprofit organization that helps Native communities build sound, sustainable economies. First Nations helps community members to identify assets and build models to create and retain wealth in ways that reflect the culture and desires of the people in those communities. The strategy coordinates local grassroots projects with national program and policy development initiatives to build capacity for self-reliant communities.



IAC was founded in 1987 to pursue and promote the conservation, development and use of our agricultural resources for the betterment of our people. We work on behalf of individual Indian producers and Tribal enterprises. Land-based agricultural resources are vital to the economic and social welfare of many Native American and Alaskan Tribes. The harmonies of man, soil, water, air, vegetation and wildlife collectively make up the American Indian agriculture community and influence our emotional and spiritual well-being.



The W.K. Kellogg Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is committed to helping people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations. Established in 1930, the Foundation has continuously focused on building the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to solve their own problems.

First Nations' Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative (NAFSI) is made possible with primary support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, through its Food and Society Initiative (FAS). The purpose of the FAS Initiative is to support the creation and expansion of community-based food systems that are locally owned and controlled, environmentally sound and promote good health. The FAS Initiative is based on a vision of a future food system that provides for all segments of society a safe and nutritious food supply grown in a manner that protects health and the environment and adds economic and social value to rural communities.

First Nations' NAFSI program endeavors to assist Native communities in controlling their agricultural assets, to obtain equal access to the marketplace for Native food producers, and to help build capacity within communities that will lead to a movement for systemic change, resulting in healthy and sustainable food systems within their communities.

Acknowledgments

This resource manual was produced by Sarah Dewees and Alicia Bell-Sheetter of First Nations Development Institute, and Ross Racine of the Intertribal Agriculture Council. Thanks to Marcia Warren Edelman for helping to research the funding sources. Funding for this resource was provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation through their support of First Nations' Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative.

Table of Contents

1994 Institutions Research Program.....	1
Agricultural Management Assistance	3
Agricultural Research - Basic and Applied Research.....	5
Agriculture and Rural Economic Research	7
Agriculture and Rural Economic Research (Impact of Food Assistance on American Indian Reservations)	11
Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Grants	13
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	15
Community Facilities Grants Program	18
Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program	21
Conservation Innovation Grants	24
Conservation Reserve Program	26
Emergency Conservation Program	29
Emerging Markets Program (EMP).....	32
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).....	35
Farmlands Protection Program.....	38
Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate Fellowship Grants	41
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.....	44
Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program	46
Fund for Rural America - Research, Education, and Extension Activities.....	49
Grassland Reserve Program.....	53
Higher Education Challenge Grants	56
Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (Minority Scholars Program).....	58
Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program - Integrated Pest Management	61
Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program - National Integrated Food Safety Initiative	65
International Training - Foreign Participant	69

Table of Contents (continued)

Klamath Basin - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP-KB)71

Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers74

Loans For Socially Disadvantaged Persons76

Market Access Program79

National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program82

National Sheep Industry Improvement Center84

Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)87

Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers90

Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control, and Animal Care93

Quality Samples Program (QSP)95

Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG)97

Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program (RCDG)100

Scientific Cooperation and Research (International Collaborative Research
and Scientific Exchanges, Scientific Cooperation Program)102

Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants105

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)108

Small Business Innovation Research111

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children
(WIC Program)114

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program117

Trade Adjustment Assistance121

Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants124

Tribal Colleges Endowment Program126

Value-Added Producer Grants128

Watershed Protection And Flood Prevention (Small Watershed Program;
PL-566 Operations Phase)130

Wetlands Reserve Program133

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program136

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)139

Program Name: 1994 Institutions Research Program

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program is a competitive grants program that assists 1994 Land-Grant Institutions in conducting agricultural research that addresses high priority concerns of tribal, national, or multistate significance. The program funds investigative and analytical studies and experimentation in the food and agricultural sciences (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA) (7 U.S.C. 3103)). TCR seeks to advance the body of knowledge in the basic and applied natural and social sciences within the food and agricultural sciences.

CFDA Number: 10.227

Eligibility:

Bay Mills Community College, Blackfeet Community College, Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Cheyenne River Community College, Dine Community College, D-Q University, Dullknife Memorial College, Fond Du Lac Community College, Fort Belknap Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, Fort Peck Community College, LacCourte Oriettes Ojibwa Community College, Little Big Horn Community College, Nebraska Indian Community College, Northwest Indian College, Oglala Lakota College, Salish Kootenai College, Sinte Gleska University, Sisseton Wahpeton Community College, Sitting Bull College, Stonechild Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, United Tribes Technical College, Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, Institute of American Indian Arts, Crownpoint Institute of Technology, Haskell Indian National University, Leech Lake Tribal College, College of the Menominee Nation, and Little Priest Tribal College.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Formal proposal to National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program, U.S.DA/CSREES as outlined in the guidelines. Application procedures are contained in CSREES Research Grant Application Kit. This program is subject to the provisions of 7 CFR 3019.

CSREES program staff members review and evaluate all proposals with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified scientists and other appropriate persons who are

specialists in the field covered by the proposal. Proposals are accepted in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

As announced in the request for proposals each year.

Contact Info:

Dr. George L. Godfrey
National Program Leader
U.S. Department of Agriculture
SERD
Stop 2251
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington , DC 20250

Phone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
E-mail: ggodfrey@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Normally, competitive research projects will be supported for periods of up to 3 years.

Amounts:

From \$40,963 to \$150,000. Average: \$66,221.

Uses and Restrictions:

This research grants program is authorized to conduct agricultural research that addresses high priority concerns of tribal, national or multi-State significance. Eligible institutions may propose projects in any discipline(s) of the food and agricultural sciences. There are no limits on the specific subject matter/emphasis areas to be supported.

Subject Keywords: tribal college, education, food science, agriculture science, research

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas.tribal_research.html

Program Name: **Agricultural Management Assistance**

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To provide cost-share assistance to producers on private lands through contracts to construct or improve water management structures or irrigation structures; plant trees for windbreaks or to improve water quality; and mitigate financial risk through production or marketing diversification or resource conservation practices, including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming.

CFDA Number: 10.917

Eligibility:

Applicants must have control of the land for a period of the contract running from a minimum of 3 years to a maximum of 10 years. The land must be in one of the 15 following eligible states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

Match required:

Cost share payments shall be based on 75 percent of the cost of the eligible practice installed.

How to Apply:

Potential applicants must submit documents to the appropriate local NRCS or Conservation District office.

Application forms are available in USDA Service Centers and conservation district offices as well as in an automated format on the Internet on the USDA NRCS homepage.

Participants must sign a 3 to 10 year contract based on the conservation plan to receive cost-sharing. Cost share payments are made directly to the applicant upon satisfactory completion on identifiable units of work. Approval of contracts are made by an authorized representative of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

Deadlines:

Applicants may submit an application at any time during the year. Applications will be ranked at periodic intervals during the year. Applications that miss the current ranking cut-off date will be held and processed at the end of the next application ranking cut-off date, regardless of whether the cut-off date occurs in the current fiscal year or the

subsequent fiscal year.

Contact Info:

David B. Mason
National Program Manager
Conservation Operations Division
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th & Independence Ave., SW
Room 5243-S, P.O. Box 2890
Washington, DC 20013-0013

Telephone (202) 720-1873
Fax: (202) 720-4265
E-mail: dave.mason@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Long term contracts of 3 to 10 years. Cost share assistance is paid when the practice is performed.

Amounts:

Not to exceed \$50,000 per fiscal year. Total cost share payments per the life of the contract shall not exceed \$150,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Eligible producers in approved states may receive cost-share assistance to construct or improve water management structures or irrigation structures; plant trees for windbreaks or to improve water quality; and mitigate financial risk through production or marketing diversification or resource conservation practices, including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming.

Subject Keywords: agriculture management, irrigation, erosion, organic

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ama

Program Name: Agricultural Research - Basic and Applied Research

Agency: Agricultural Research Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To make agricultural research discoveries, evaluate alternative ways of attaining research goals, and provide scientific technical information.

CFDA Number: 10.001

Eligibility:

Usually nonprofit institutions of higher education or other nonprofit research organizations, whose primary purpose is conducting scientific research.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Standard application forms are not used. Interested applicants should call the Extramural Agreements Division for more information.

This is a non-competitive grant program.

A peer review panel considers each proposal, evaluates the qualifications of applicants in line with research to be undertaken and determines priority for final negotiations of the grant.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Extramural Agreements Division
5601 Sunnyside Ave.
Beltsville, MD 20705-5110
Telephone: (301) 504-1147
Fax: (301) 504-1262

Duration of Grant:

N/A

Amounts:

From \$1,000 to \$25,000. Average: \$3,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Research is conducted that is in cooperation with and is correlated with the Agricultural Research Service's in-house research programs and projects. Limited discretionary research funds are periodically made available.

Subject Keywords: agriculture science, research, education

Categories: Project grants (non-competitive)

Website: www.afm.ars.usda.gov/ead/index.htm

Program Name: **Agriculture and Rural Economic Research**

Agency: Economic Research Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) at ERS addresses the research needs of the Nation's food assistance and nutrition programs.

FANRP research analyzes diet and nutritional outcomes and well-being of needy Americans, food program targeting and delivery, and program dynamics and administration. These programs include the Food Stamp Program; the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); and child nutrition programs, such as the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

FANRP research on food assistance programs is designed to meet the critical information needs of the Administration, Congress, program managers, policy officials, clients, the research community, and the public at large.

FANRP research is conducted through internal research at ERS and through a portfolio of external research. Through partnerships with other agencies and organizations, FANRP also enhances national surveys to maintain a food assistance dimension. Related websites have background information about surveys with which FANRP has been involved.

"A Healthy, Well-Nourished Population" is our research emphasis. Our goal is a high-quality, multidisciplinary program that focuses on today's problems and addresses tomorrow's issues.

CFDA Number: 10.250

Eligibility:

Proposals may be submitted by any State agricultural experiment station, college, university, other research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, corporation, or individual.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

To meet the programmatic needs of USDA and to promote research from a broad arena, FANRP uses a variety of funding mechanisms for its extramural research.

Contracts are used when a very specific product is required, such as compliance with a Congressional mandate. When the intent is to stimulate new and innovative research or to conduct projects jointly with ERS researchers, FANRP uses its Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program or its Small Grants Program.

Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program

This program awards grants and cooperative agreements between \$100,000 and \$300,000. The program is publicly announced and competitively awarded through the use of peer review panels.

The Priority Research Areas identified for fiscal 2004 are:

- * Strengthening economic incentives in food assistance programs
- * Food assistance as a safety net
- * Obesity, diet quality, and health outcomes

Small Grants Program

The Small Grants Program seeks to stimulate new and innovative research on food assistance and nutrition issues and to broaden the participation of social science scholars in these issues. Small grants last for 1 year; most are in the range of \$20,000 to \$40,000. The program is funded by ERS and is administered through selected universities and their associated research institutes located at five sites. The five institutions administer the application and peer review processes. Each of the institutions takes a different aspect of food assistance, nutrition, or subgroup of recipients as its primary focus.

Deadlines:

Deadlines are usually set for late May of each year; contact FANRP program office for specific dates.

Contact Info:

David Smallwood
FANRP Office
USDA Economic Research Service
1800 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036-5831

Telephone: (202) 694-5466
Fax: (202) 694-5677
E-mail: dsmallwd@ers.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

The total period for which a grant or cooperative agreement is awarded may not exceed 3 years.

Amounts:

From \$100,000 - \$300,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

FANRP recognizes the importance of adopting a multi-program view rather than restricting research to an individual program-by-program approach; cross-program interactions between food stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Medicaid can be important. FANRP's research is less targeted to specific operational details of programs. It is more oriented toward core policy issues, such as the overall success of the package of food assistance and nutrition programs in terms of diet and health outcomes, program coverage, gaps and overlap between programs, and outcome-based performance for the target population.

The three long-term themes of FANRP are:

1. Diet and Nutritional Outcomes—Studies how the programs enhance access to and choices of palatable, nutritious, and healthy diets.
2. Food Program Targeting and Delivery—Gauges the success of programs aimed at needy, at-risk population groups and examines program gaps and overlaps; differences between rural and urban delivery; outreach; waste, fraud, and abuse; commodity procurement and distribution; public and private partnerships; and alternative ways to deliver benefits.
3. Program Dynamics and Administration—Focuses on how program needs change with local labor market conditions, economic growth, recession, and inflation in food prices and the general economy and how changing State welfare programs interact with food and nutrition programs.

Within these general themes, the topic areas for upcoming research are reexamined and re-selected annually. ERS holds annual priority-identification conferences, the first of which was convened under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences, to listen to the interests and concerns of many experts and help establish topic areas for upcoming research. ERS seeks input from a broad constituency, including the Food and Nutrition Service, the agency responsible for USDA's food and nutrition assistance programs, State-level program administrators, service providers, associations, industry groups, public-interest groups, advocates, and researchers.

The cooperative agreements and grants for the year incorporate those research areas, supplemented by the Small Grants Program that continues with its site-specific research agendas.

Proposals may include requests for conferences that bring together members of the interested research community to identify research needs, update information, or advance an area of research recognized as an integral part of the research effort.

Subject Keywords: food research, nutrition research, food assistance research

Categories: Grants, cooperative agreements

Website: www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/FoodNutritionAssistance/fanrp/

Program Name: **Agriculture and Rural Economic Research (Impact
of Food Assistance on American Indian Reservations)**

Agency: Economic Research Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The American Indian Studies Program, University of Arizona is working with scholars at tribal colleges and elsewhere to support research on the unique issues and problems of Native Americans with respect to food assistance. Their small grants program focuses on the relationship between food assistance programs on reservations and family poverty.

CFDA Number: 10.250

Eligibility:

Information not available

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Information not available

Deadlines:

Information not available

Contact Info:

Dr. Jay Stauss, Professor
American Indian Studies Program
University of Arizona
PO Box 210076
Tucson, AZ 85721-0076
fax: 520-621-7952
phone: 520-621-0812
e-mail: jstauss@u.arizona.edu

Duration of Grant:

1-3 years

Amounts:

\$40,000

Uses and Restrictions:

Subject Keywords: food assistance research, health research, nutrition research,
poverty research

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/foodnutritionassistance/funding/#smallgrants

<http://aisp.web.arizona.edu/foodassistance1.htm>

Program Name: Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Grants

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To recruit, support and educate under-represented scientists and professionals, and to advance the educational capacity of the Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian(AN/NH) Serving Institutions.

CFDA Number: 10.228

Eligibility:

Alaska Native-Serving Institutions and Native-Hawaiian Serving Institutions.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

All proposals/solicitations are published in the Federal Register. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure

Formal proposals should be submitted to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, as outlined in the solicitation of applications. Application procedures are contained in the program regulations and required forms are contained in the Grant Application Kit. This program is subject to the regulatory provisions of USDA, 7 CFR Part 3015, et seq., and all successor regulations.

Award Procedure

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by CSREES staff members with the assistance and advice of peer panels of qualified educators, administrators, industrialists, and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the fields covered by the proposals, as needed. Grant payments may be made by the electronic transfer system, advance by Treasury check, or reimbursement by Treasury check.

Deadlines:

All deadlines are announced in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Dr. Jeffrey L. Gilmore
Director, Higher Education Programs
CSREES/Higher Education Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW,
Stop 2251
Washington, DC 20250-2251

Telephone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
email: wcolbert@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants are awarded for project periods of 12 to 36 months duration.

Amounts:

It is anticipated that awards will range from \$100,000 to \$150,000. This is a newly funded program; average not yet determined.

Uses and Restrictions:

Funds may be used to enhance educational equity for under-represented students in order to prepare them for careers related to the food, agricultural, and natural resource systems of the United States; to strengthen institutional educational capacities, including libraries, curriculum, faculty, scientific instrumentation, instruction delivery systems, and student recruitment and retention, in order to respond to identified educational needs in the food and agricultural sciences; and to facilitate activities and cooperative initiatives between AN/NH Serving Institutions, or between AN/NH Serving Institutions and units of State government or the private sector, to maximize the development and use of resources, faculty, facilities, and equipment, to improve food and agricultural sciences teaching programs.

Subject Keywords: agriculture, food, education, professional development

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfaannh.htm

Program Name: Commodity Supplemental Food Program

Agency: Food and Nutrition Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To improve the health and nutritional status of low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age of 6, and elderly persons through the donation of supplemental foods.

CFDA Number: 10.565

Eligibility:

Agreements are made between the Department and the State agency, or an Indian tribe, band, or group recognized by the Department of the Interior for the administration of the program.

To be certified as eligible to receive supplemental foods, each applicant must be: (a) categorically eligible as an infant, child up to age 6, pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding woman, or elderly person 60 years of age or older, residing in an area where the program operates; (b) for women, infants, and children, income eligible under existing Federal, State, or local food, health, or welfare programs for low-income persons; for elderly with income at or below 130 percent of Federal poverty income guidelines; and (c) at State agency discretion, at nutritional risk as determined by a competent health professional at the local agency.

Participants are provided donated foods by local agency personnel or its designee.

Match required:

Public Law 93-86, as amended requires USDA to reimburse State and local agencies for administrative expenses equal to but not to exceed 20 percent of the annual program appropriation. Public Law 93-86, as amended, makes available up to 20 percent of CSFP food funds carried over from the previous fiscal year to State and local agencies for administrative expenses. There are no Federal matching requirements.

How to Apply:

Application is made through submission of a State Plan of Program Operation and Administration as required by the Federal agency. An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

The State agency shall require each agency that desires approval as a local agency, to

submit an application that contains sufficient information to enable the State agency to make a determination of eligibility for that agency. Individual participants may apply for program benefits at an approved local agency.

Funds are awarded by the Department to State agencies in accordance with the priorities and funding formulas set forth in program regulations and legislation; State agencies, in turn, distribute administrative funds to the local level.

Deadlines:

A State plan for the next fiscal year is required by August 15.

Contact Info:

Dana Rasmussen
Program Analyst
Food Distribution Division
Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Alexandria, VA 22302

Telephone: (703) 305-1628
Fax: (703) 305-1410
dana.rasmussen@fns.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Commodities are made available on an ongoing basis. Cash assistance is released quarterly each fiscal year by the electronic transfer system to the Department of the Treasury. State agencies may withdraw funds only as needed.

Amounts:

From \$10,631 to \$4,629,473 per State in appropriated administrative funds for fiscal year 2001.

Uses and Restrictions:

Administrative grants are made to State agencies, Indian tribes, bands, or intertribal councils, or groups recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior. These agencies distribute funds to participating local public or private nonprofit agencies. Federal funding for administrative costs may only be used in making these donated foods and nutrition education available to eligible beneficiaries. Donated foods can only be made available to eligible beneficiaries and cannot be sold, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of without prior specific approval by the Department.

Subject Keywords: food assistance, commodities, nutrition

Categories: Sale, exchange, or donation of property and goods; formula grants.

Website: www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/csf/

Program Name: **Community Facilities Grants Program**

Agency: Rural Housing Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents.

The Community Facilities Grant Program is typically used to fund projects under special initiatives, such as Native American community development efforts; child care centers linked with the Federal government's Welfare-to-Work initiative; Federally-designated Enterprise and Champion Communities, and the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative area.

CFDA Number: 10.766

Eligibility:

City, county, and State agencies; political and quasi-political subdivisions of States and associations, including corporations, Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations and other federally recognized Indian tribes; and existing private corporations which: (1) are operated on a not-for-profit basis; (2) have or will have the legal authority necessary for constructing, operating, and maintaining the proposed facility or service and for obtaining, giving security for, and repaying the loan; and (3) are unable to finance the proposed project from its own resources or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms. Assistance is authorized for eligible applicants in rural areas of the States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Match required:

Matching funds are not required but may be used in connection with the funds provided from the applicant or other sources. Funds are allocated to States based upon rural population and number of households below the poverty level. The statistical factor for eligibility is towns or incorporated areas under 20,000 population for direct and guaranteed loans and 20,000 population for grants. The source is "Latest Decennial Census." This program has no statutory formula.

How to Apply:

An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires in applying for assistance if the State has selected the project for review.

After the preapplication has been reviewed by the Rural Development Area Office, it is forwarded to the Rural Development State Office for review and processing instructions. Following review by the State Office, the applicant is notified about eligibility, availability of funds, and if an application should be filed. Upon completion of application processing requirements and approval by the State Office, funds are made available to the Rural Development Area Office for delivery.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Chadwick O. Parker
Director, Direct Loans and Grants
Community Programs
Mail Stop 0787, Room 0180
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th & Independence, SW
Washington, DC 20250-0787

Telephone: (202) 720-1490
Fax: (202) 690-0471

Duration of Grant:

A time limitation is not specified for the use of RHS loan or grant funds. Funds will be awarded when all RHS requirements are met and the project can be completed on a timely basis. Funds may be advanced on an as needed basis by RHS to cover expenses for a 30-day period.

Amounts:

From \$100 to \$100,000. Average: \$31,937.
Direct Loans: \$5,000 to \$4,500,000. Average: \$442,192.
Guaranteed Loans: \$50,000 to \$12,000,000. Average: \$859,283.

Uses and Restrictions:

Community facilities include but are not limited to those providing or supporting overall community development such as child care facilities, food recovery and distribution centers; assisted-living facilities; group homes, mental health clinics, and shelters; and education facilities. Projects comprise community, social, cultural, transportation, industrial park sites, fire and rescue services, access ways, and utility extensions. All facilities financed in whole or in part with RHS funds shall be for public use.

Grant funds cannot be used to:

- Pay any annual recurring costs, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses
- Construct or repair electric generating plants, electric transmission lines, or gas distribution lines to provide services for commercial sale
- Pay costs to construct facilities to be used for commercial rental where the applicant has no control over tenants and services offered
- Construct facilities primarily for the purpose of housing State, Federal or quasi-Federal agencies
- Finance recreational facilities or community antenna television services or facilities

Subject Keywords: community facilities, construction

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/brief_cp_grant.htm

Program Name: Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To support the development of community food projects designed to meet the food needs of low-income people; increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own needs; and promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues.

CFDA Number: 10.225

Eligibility:

Proposals may be submitted by private nonprofit entities. Because projects must promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues, applicants are encouraged to seek and create partnership among public, private nonprofit and private for-profit organizations or firms. To be further eligible for a grant, a private nonprofit applicant must meet three mandatory requirements: 1. Have experience in the area of: (a) community food work, particularly concerning small and medium-sized farms, including the provision of food to people in low-income communities and the development of new markets in low-income communities for agricultural producers; or (b) job training and business development activities in low-income communities; 2. demonstrate competency to implement a project, provide fiscal accountability and oversight, collect data, and prepare reports and other appropriate documentation; and 3. demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers, practitioners, and other interested parties.

Match required:

There is a matching requirement of 50 percent Federal and 50 percent nonfederal support of the project during the term of the grant. The nonfederal share may be provided through payment in cash or in-kind contributions in the form of fairly evaluated facilities, equipment, or services. The nonfederal share may be derived from State or local governments, or from private sources.

How to Apply:

All proposal solicitations are published in the Federal Register. Formal proposal submission to the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service in accordance with the Community Food Projects program guidelines which will be issued annually.

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by CSREES staff members with the assistance

and advice of peer panels of specialists who are uniquely qualified by training and experience in their respective fields to render expert advice on the merit of proposals being reviewed. Proposals are supported in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds. Proposals recommended for funding as a result of the merit review then undergo a financial and administrative review. Upon completion of all reviews, a grant award is issued.

Deadlines:

All proposal submission deadlines are announced in the proposal solicitation published in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty
CSREES, USDA,
Stop 2241
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2241

Telephone: 202-205-0241
Fax: 202-401-6488
E-mail: etuckermanty@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Projects may be funded for one to three years.

Amounts:

From \$10,000 to \$250,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Community food projects are intended to take a comprehensive approach to developing long-term solutions that help to ensure food security in communities by linking the food sector to community development, economic opportunity, and environmental enhancement. Comprehensive solutions may include elements such as: (1) Improved access to high quality, affordable food among low-income households; (2) support for local food systems, from urban gardening to local farms that provide high quality fresh food, ideally with minimal adverse environmental impact; and (3) expanded economic opportunities for community residents through local business or other economic development, improved employment opportunities, job training, youth apprenticeship, school-to-work transition, and the like. Any solution proposed must tie into community food needs. Successful applicants must provide matching funds, either in cash or in-kind amounting to at least 50 percent of the total cost of the project during the term of the grant award.

Subject Keywords: food, farms, nutrition, health

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/crgam/cfp/community.htm

Program Name: Conservation Innovation Grants

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) is a voluntary program intended to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging the Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production. Under CIG, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds are used to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or non-governmental organizations, Tribes, or individuals.

CFDA Number: Check www.cfda.gov

Eligibility:

CIG applications will be accepted from State or local units of government, Federally-recognized Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals. Applications will be accepted from all 50 States, the Caribbean Area (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands), and the Pacific Basin Area (Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands). Proposed projects must involve EQIP-eligible producers.

Match required:

At least 50 percent of the total cost of the project must come from non-Federal matching funds (cash and in-kind contributions) provided by the grantee. The grantee also is responsible for providing the technical assistance required to successfully complete the project. NRCS will provide technical oversight for each project receiving an award.

How to Apply:

Once funds for CIG become available, an RFP will be published in the Federal Register and on the federal eGrants portal, www.grants.gov. The RFP also may be accessed from the NRCS website at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig>. The RFP will specify the information required from applicants. Complete applications must be mailed to the NRCS National office at the address identified in the RFP

Deadlines:

As announced in request for proposals each year.

Contact Info:

Carl Lucero

5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Mail Stop 5473, Beltsville, MD 20705,
phone: (301) 504-2222, fax: (301) 504-2264.

Duration of Grant:

Contract period is between 2 to 10 years, depending on the conservation systems that need to be applied. Obligations for assistance are tied to the schedule for applying conservation practices included in the conservation plan used as the basis for the 2 to 10 year contract. Payments are made when the participant and NRCS certify that conservation practice is completed in accordance with contract.

Amounts:

CIG funds that are used to provide direct or indirect payments to individuals or entities to implement structural, vegetative, or management practices are subject to the \$450,000 EQIP payment limitation.

Uses and Restrictions:

CIG enables NRCS to work with other public and private entities and individuals to accelerate technology transfer and adoption of promising technologies and approaches to address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resource concerns. CIG will benefit agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

Subject Keywords: resource management, agriculture management, conservation, environmental protection

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig>.

Program Name: Conservation Reserve Program

Agency: Farm Service Agency

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To protect the Nation's long-term capability to produce food and fiber; to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality, and create a better habitat for wildlife.

CFDA Number: 10.069

Eligibility:

An individual, partnership, association, Indian Tribal ventures corporation, estate, trust, other business enterprises or other legal entities and, whenever applicable, a State, a political subdivision of a State, or any agency thereof may submit an offer to enroll acreage.

Beneficiary Eligibility

If their offer is accepted for enrollment, an individual, partnership, association, Indian Tribal ventures, corporation, estate, trust, other business enterprises or other legal entities and, whenever applicable, a State, political subdivision of State, or any agency thereof may earn benefits.

The land must be owned or operated for not less than 12 months prior to the close of the signup period, unless the land was acquired by will or succession or FSA determines that ownership was not acquired for the purpose of placing the land in the CRP. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-87.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

FSA has three methods for enrolling acreage in the CRP:

One method is a continuous signup process where acreage suitable for certain environmental priority practices, including but not limited to grass waterways, riparian buffers or filterstrips, and acreage within wellhead protection areas may be offered and accepted without going through a competitive offer process.

The second method is similar to continuous signup and is available only in distinct

geographic areas. These areas are targeted by FSA and State governments under partnership agreements.

The third method is to offer acreage during a general signup period where eligible offers to enroll highly erodible and other environmentally sensitive acreage are submitted and ranked competitively based on an environmental benefits index. Regardless of the method of enrollment, the local FSA office that serves the area in which the farm or ranch is located will provide the maximum payment rate Commodity Credit Corporation will accept to enroll certain acreage in the program. Producers may submit a rental rate per acre offered that may be equal to or less than CCC's maximum payment rate. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular Nos. A-102 and A-110.

Deadlines:

The offer must be filed at the county FSA office by the end of the announced signup period.

Contact Info:

Bob Stephenson
Director
Conservation and Environmental Programs Division
USDA/FSA/CEPD/Stop 0513
Washington, DC 20250-0513

Telephone: (202) 720-6221
Fax: (202) 720-4619

Duration of Grant:

Annual rental payments in cash or generic commodity certificates will be made for 10-15 years. If cost-share assistance to establish the appropriate cover was requested, a payment will be made after the practice is successfully established according to applicable guidelines. FSA may provide certain incentives for restoring wetlands or other lands.

Amounts:

From \$50 to \$50,000. Average: \$4,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Eligible owners or operators may place highly erodible or other environmentally sensitive land into a 10-15 year contract. The participant, in return for annual payments, agrees to implement a conservation plan approved by the local conservation district for converting highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive land to a longterm resource conserving cover, i.e., eligible land must be planted with a vegetative cover, such as perennial grasses, legumes, fobs, shrubs, or trees. The

participant agrees to reduce the aggregate total of allotments and quotas by an amount based on the ratio of the total cropland acreage on each farm, to the total acreage on each farm subject to the CRP contract. Financial and technical assistance are available to participants to assist in the establishment of a long- term resource conserving cover. Program participation is dependent on the county quotas on acreage enrollment.

Subject Keywords: conservation, resource management, erosion, water quality, wildlife habitat

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crpinfo.htm

Program Name: Emergency Conservation Program

Agency: Farm Service Agency

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To enable farmers to perform emergency conservation measures to control wind erosion on farmlands, to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters and to carry out emergency water conservation or water enhancing measures during periods of severe drought.

CFDA Number: 10.054

Eligibility:

Any agricultural producer who as owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm or ranch, including associated groups, and bears a part of the cost of an approved conservation practice in a disaster area, is eligible to apply for cost-share conservation assistance. This program is also available in Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Eligible persons may submit an application on Form AD-245, for cost-sharing, at the county FSA office for the county in which the affected land is located. The ECP cost-share assistance may be available to agricultural producers for all designated natural disasters. The FSA State Executive Director implements the ECP except when severe drought conditions exist. In the case of drought, the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs may authorize assistance.

Eligibility for ECP assistance is determined by county FSA committees, based on individual on-site inspections, taking into account the type and extent of the damage. Cost share assistance of up to 64 percent is available.

Requests for cost-sharing of \$20,000 or less per person per disaster are evaluated and approved by county committees. State FSA committees must approve all applications for assistance for more than \$20,000. Applications for amounts greater than \$62,500 must be approved by the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs.

Technical assistance for ECP may be provided by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Deadlines:

Applications for payment must be filed with the county FSA committee by a prescribed date. The conservation practice for which cost-shares have been approved must be completed during the program year, within the time specified by the county FSA committee, and such performance reported to the county office within a specified time.

Contact Info:

Farmers are advised to contact their local county FSA office after a natural disaster has occurred to determine whether the program is available in the county and to determine eligibility for emergency cost-share assistance. Consult the local telephone directory for location of the county FSA office.

National Office:

Bob Stephenson
Director
Conservation and Environmental Programs Division
USDA/FSA/CEPD/Stop 0513
Washington, DC 20250-0513

Telephone: (202) 720-6221
Fax: (202) 720-4619

Duration of Grant:

Practice cost-share approvals are given on a fiscal year basis. The approvals specify the time that the practice must be carried out. Payment is by check or electronic funds transfer following completion of the measure.

Amounts:

From \$50 to \$64,000. Average: \$2,681.

Uses and Restrictions:

Following a natural disaster, the county FSA committee determines, with concurrence from the State FSA committee, to make the program available in the county. Emergency cost sharing is limited to new conservation problems created by natural disasters which, if not treated will impair or endanger the land, materially affect the productive capacity of the land, represent damage that is unusual in character and, except for wind erosion, is not the type that would recur frequently in the same area and will be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is or will be required to return the land to productive agricultural use. Eligible drought situations for water enhancing measures must be determined by the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, FSA.

Subject Keywords: emergency assistance, conservation, land rehabilitation, natural disaster, water conservation

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/ecp.htm>

Program Name: **Emerging Markets Program (EMP)**

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The primary objective of the Emerging Markets Program is to promote, enhance or expand the exports of U.S. agricultural commodities to overseas emerging markets through cost-share assistance to eligible organizations that implement an Emerging Markets Program. The program supports the activities of U.S. agricultural and agribusiness firms-particularly those that may need assistance in obtaining or maintaining access in overseas markets. The program is aimed at improving market access opportunities for agricultural products or processes in low- to middle-income countries that are likely to emerge as promising export markets in the near to medium term.

CFDA Number: 10.603

Eligibility:

Applicants must be a: (1) U. S. agricultural or agribusiness organization - nonprofit, trade association, university, consultant group (under certain conditions), (2) State Department of Agriculture, or (3) USDA agency (or other Federal agency involved in agricultural issues).

Match required:

All applications must include an element of cost share. This is the amount of funding U.S. private organizations are willing to commit from their own resources along with those of the Program to seek export business in an emerging market.

How to Apply:

Application Procedure

Each year solicitation of proposals is announced in the Federal Register. At that time written project proposals should be submitted to the Director, Marketing Operations Staff, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

Award Procedure

FAS will notify each applicant in writing of the final disposition of its application. For approvals, letters will contain the notice of approval and any qualifications or adjustments made to the original proposal. For rejections, letters will contain details explaining the reasons why the proposals were not approved for funding. FAS will send an Agreement to each approved applicant. The Agreement will specify the terms

and conditions applicable to the project, including the levels of program funding and cost-share contribution. An applicant who accepts the terms and conditions contained in the Agreement should so indicate by having the appropriate authorizing officer sign the Agreement and submit it to the Director, Marketing Operations Staff, FAS, USDA. The Agreement will become effective when the Deputy Administrator signs the Agreement on behalf of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

Deadlines:

Application deadline is announced in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Marketing Operations Staff
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Room 4932 South Building, Stop 1042
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-1042

Telephone: (202) 720-4327
Fax: (202) 720-9361
E-mail: mosadmin@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Agreements generally include a beginning and end date. Projects are normally funded for one year although some multi-year projects may be funded by the Program, usually on a year-to-year basis.

Amounts:

Projects are funded on a project by project basis and generally range from \$5,000 to \$500,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Emerging Markets Program funds are authorized through project agreements that serve as binding instruments and create a legal obligation on the part of the CCC to make appropriated funds available to the participant. The agreement creates a cooperative relationship between CCC and the implementor with each side contributing resources to support achievement of mutual goals. Program funds help finance activities such as feasibility studies, market research, sectorial assessments, orientation visits, specialized training, and business workshops. The Program is not intended for projects targeted at end-user consumers. Ineligible activities include in-store promotions, restaurant promotions, branded product promotions, administrative and operational expenses for trade shows and advertising, except in connection with specific technical assistance activities such as training seminars.

Subject Keywords: international trade, exporting, marketing, business development, overseas markets

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em-markets/em-markets.html

Program Name: **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

Technical, education, and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. This program provides assistance to farmers and ranchers in complying with Federal, State, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement. The purpose of this program is achieved through the implementation of structural, vegetative, and land management practices on eligible land. This program is funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). NRCS provides overall program management and implementation leadership for conservation planning and implementation. The Farm Service Agency provides leadership for administrative processes and procedures for the program.

CFDA Number: 10.912

Eligibility:

Individual/family farmers and ranchers who face serious threats to soil, water, and related natural resources, or who need assistance with complying with Federal and State environment laws. A participant may be an owner, landlord, operator, or tenant of eligible agricultural lands. Limited resource producers, small-scale producers, producers of minority groups, Federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Alaska natives, and Pacific Islanders are encouraged to apply.

Match required:

Structural and vegetative practices can be funded by cost-sharing up to 75 percent of the total cost of establishing the practice. Incentive payments can be made for land management practices in an amount and rate that NRCS determines is necessary to encourage a participant to perform the practice that would not otherwise be initiated without government assistance. Other practices may be required to be installed without program payments.

How to Apply:

Application Procedure

Program participation is voluntary. The applicant applies at the local USDA Service Center on Form CCC-1200. Applications may be filed at any time during the year. The participant develops a conservation plan for the farm or ranching unit of concern. The participant's conservation plan serves as the basis for the EQIP contract. Technical

assistance, education assistance and cost-share or incentive payments may be provided to apply needed conservation practices and land use adjustments within a time schedule specified by the conservation plan. A contract with a participant may apply one or more land management practices or one or more structural or vegetative practices or both.

Award Procedure

Natural Resources Conservation Service may designate a watershed, an area, or a region of special environmental sensitivity or having significant soil, water, or related natural resource concern as a priority area. The priority areas are designated based on recommendations of local work groups which are convened by the local conservation district. NRCS will give special consideration to applicants in priority areas who have conservation plans that address the natural resource concerns for which the priority area was designated. Technical, education, and financial assistance may also be provided to participants with significant statewide natural resource concerns outside a priority area. Applications will be periodically ranked and selected for funding.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Gary Kobylski, National EQIP Manager
or
Edward Brzostek, Acting Program Manager
Conservation Operations Division
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th & Independence Ave., SW
Room 5243-S, P.O. Box 2890
Washington, DC 20013-0013

Gary Kobylski: (202) 720-1840
Edward Brzostek: (202) 720-1834
Fax: (202) 720-4265
E-mail: gary.kobylski@usda.gov
edward.brzostek@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Contract period is between 2 to 10 years, depending on the conservation systems that need to be applied. Obligations for assistance are tied to the schedule for applying conservation practices included in the conservation plan used as the basis for the 5 to 10 year contract. Payments are made when the participant and NRCS certify that conservation practice is completed in accordance with contract.

Amounts:

Cost-share and incentive payments are limited to \$10,000 per person per year and to \$50,000 over the length of the contract. Average contract payments are estimated to be \$15,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Technical assistance is provided in conservation planning for eligible participants. Education and financial assistance is provided for implementation of structural, vegetative, and land management practices. Cost-share payments may be made to implement one or more eligible structural or vegetative practices. Incentive payments can be made to implement one or more land management practices. Fifty percent of the funding available for technical, cost-share payments, incentive payments, and education shall be targeted at practices relating to livestock production.

Subject Keywords: soil, water, environmental compliance, environmental enhancement, resource management, conservation planning

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/OPA/FB96OPA/eqipfact.htm

Program Name: Farmlands Protection Program

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Farmlands Protection Program provides funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farmland in agricultural uses. Working through existing programs, USDA joins with State, tribal, or local governments to acquire conservation easements or other interests from landowners.

CFDA Number: 10.913

Eligibility:

Any local or State agency, county or groups of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that has a farmland protection program that purchases conservation easements for the purpose of protecting topsoil by limiting conversion to nonagricultural uses of land, and that has pending offers may apply for funds. This program is available in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Mariana Islands, and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands. Individuals must apply through their local agency that handles purchase of development rights programs. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Entities must provide documents indicating their commitment to long-term conservation of agricultural lands through legal devices, such as right-to-farm laws, agricultural districts, zoning, or land use planning; uses of voluntary approach to protect farmland from conversion to non-agricultural uses; and their capability to acquire, manage, and enforce rights or interests on land. Programs must have a systematic plan for acquiring conservation easements, have a proven commitment, and sufficient funds and staff to monitor easement stewardship.

Match required:

Each cooperating agency is to fund its own participation for easement acquisition. Non-Farmland Protection Program funds must be at least 50 of the purchase price of the conservation easement, not to exceed the fair market easement value. Each cooperating agency is to fund its own administrative costs in acquiring easements, such as survey or title search, and costs incurred in managing and enforcing the easements.

How to Apply:

Potential applicants must submit documents to the appropriate State Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and work with NRCS to develop a statewide priority list.

Application information is included in a Notice of Request for Proposals published in the Federal Register. It is available from the State Offices of the (NRCS), the Federal Register, and USDA NRCS home page, and the Farmland Information Library homepage.

NRCS State Offices work with the applicant entities to review their programs, evaluate the priority lists, and forward the proposals through the respective NRCS Regional Office to the NRCS National Headquarters for national consideration.

Deadlines:

Each year funds are available the deadline for applying is published in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Denise Coleman
National Manager
Farmland Protection and Community Planning Staff
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
14th and Independence Ave., SW
Room 6103A-S
Washington, DC 20250

Telephone: (202) 720-9476 or (202) 720-8851
Fax: (202) 720-0745
E-mail: denise.coleman@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Federal funds must be disbursed within two years after signing the cooperative agreement. Technical assistance to maintain the conservation plan, however, is provided by NRCS through the life of the easement.

Amounts:

From \$21,000 to \$75,000 per landowner. Average: \$48,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Funds are provided to establish partnerships with States, Tribes, or local government entities to leverage their purchase of development rights programs. Federal share for any easement acquisition is limited to a maximum of 50 [sic] of the purchase price of the easement, not to exceed the appraised fair market value of the easement. A conservation plan is required for each easement acquired. Acquisition of an easement or other interests on land is for a minimum duration of 30 years, preferably, in perpetuity. A contingent remainder right is incorporated in the easement deed for the

protection of the Federal investment. A failure of title would require the cooperating entity to reimburse the United States for the Federal share of the easement value.

Subject Keywords: farmland preservation, conservation easements

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.info.usda.gov/nrcs/fpcp/fpp.htm

Program Name: Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate Fellowship Grants

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To award grants to colleges and universities that have superior teaching and research competencies in the food and agricultural sciences to encourage outstanding students to pursue and complete a graduate degree at such institutions in an area of the food and agricultural sciences for which there is a national need for the development of scientific expertise. Therefore, institutions that currently have excellent programs of graduate study and research in the food and agricultural sciences dealing with targeted national needs are particularly encouraged to apply. Starting in fiscal year 1997, The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) will provide support on a biennial basis and combine appropriations from 2 fiscal years into one competition to be held during odd-numbered years.

CFDA Number: 10.210

Eligibility:

Proposals may be submitted by all U.S. colleges and universities that confer a master's or doctoral degree in at least one area of the food and agricultural sciences targeted for national needs fellowships. Eligibility also applies to research foundations maintained by eligible colleges or universities.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Formal proposal to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, USDA, as outlined in the guidelines. Application procedures are contained in the Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate Fellowships Grant Application Kit.

CSREES Higher Education Program staff members review and evaluate all proposals with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified scientists, administrators, and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the field covered by the proposal. Proposals are accepted in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

Starting in fiscal year 1997, CSREES will provide support on a biennial basis and combine appropriations from two fiscal years into one competition to be held during

odd-numbered years. All deadlines are announced in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Ms. Wendy Colbert

Program Assistant for the National Needs

Graduate Fellowship Grants Program

CSREES/Higher Education Programs

U.S. Department of Agriculture

1400 Independence Ave., SW Stop 2251

Washington, DC 20250-2251

Telephone: (202) 720-1973

Fax: (202) 720-2030

e-mail: Wcolbert@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants cover a 5-year period, however, fellows are supported for 3 years for a doctoral degree or 2 years for a masters during that 5-year period.

Amounts:

Minimum and maximum amounts of funding per grant, as well as stipend levels, are established by the annual program announcement.

Uses and Restrictions:

Competitive annual grants providing for a limited number of graduate stipends are awarded to selected United States institutions of higher education so as to distribute support for graduate study to promising food and agricultural scientists and professionals. Individuals selected initially by the institution must enroll in a program leading to a graduate, master's or doctoral degree in one of the targeted national needs areas of the food and agricultural sciences. Such persons may not have been enrolled previously in the program at the same degree level. Current fellows are eligible to receive supplemental grants of \$3,000.00 to cover travel and living expenses for special international study or thesis/dissertation research experiences. Funding for the supplemental grants will be awarded on a competitive basis using no-year funds drawn from expired fellowship grants with unspent funds remaining as set forth in the annual program guidelines.

Subject Keywords: research, education, graduate students, fellowship, food science, agricultural science

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfannf.htm

Program Name: **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations**

Agency: Food and Nutrition Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To improve the diets of needy persons in households on or near Indian reservations through the distribution of commodities.

CFDA Number: 10.567

Eligibility:

Authorized Indian Tribal Organizations and State agencies designated by the Governor, legislature, or other authority may receive and distribute donated foods. State agencies that administer the program are eligible to receive Federal cash assistance (administrative funds) to assist in meeting operating expenses incurred in administering the program. Indian Tribal Organizations may be their own State agency for the administration of the program on reservations if determined capable by FNS.

Households must be living on an Indian reservation, or be Indian households living in a designated area near an Indian reservation or in Indian country for Oklahoma and must be certified by local authorities as having inadequate income and resources. Upper limits of allowable income vary with family size. Household resources for all household sizes are set by FNS.

Match required:

Not applicable to food donations. Administrative expense funds are allocated on basis of need for funds. There is a 25 percent matching requirement except with compelling justification.

How to Apply:

An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations that want to administer the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations must submit a completed Form SF-424 (application) to the appropriate FNS regional office in their area. The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, as implemented by 7 CFR part 3016, must be used for this program.

Cash assistance is provided by the Department to State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations for use in administering the program.

Deadlines:

State agencies and Indian Tribal Organizations applying to administer the program must begin program operation within 120 days of FNS' determination that they are capable of administering the program. Extensions to this time frame may be granted if there is compelling justification.

Contact Info:

Nancy Theodore
Program Analyst
Food Distribution Division
Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Alexandria, VA 22302

Telephone: (703) 305-2675
Fax: 703-305-1410
nancy.theodore@fns.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Food donations continuous; cash assistance released quarterly by the electronic transfer system to the Department of Treasury. Funds may be withdrawn as needed.

Amounts:

From \$79,031 to \$4,937,577 in administrative funds for fiscal year 2001.

Uses and Restrictions:

Indian Tribal Organizations and State Distributing Agencies make food available for distribution to qualifying households. Households may not be charged. Donated foods may not be sold, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of (authorized distribution excepted) without prior, specific approval of the Department. FNS administrative funds must be expended to meet expenses incurred in operating the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. These funds may not be used to purchase real property (land or buildings).

Subject Keywords: food distribution, food assistance, nutrition, commodities

Categories: Project grants, sale, exchange, or donation of property and goods.

Website: www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/fdpir/

Program Name: Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To create, maintain and expand long-term export markets for U.S. agricultural products through cost-share assistance and the opportunity to work closely with FAS and its overseas offices.

CFDA Number: 10.600

Eligibility:

USDA's Cooperative Credit Corporation (CCC) enters into agreements with those nonprofit U.S. trade organizations that have the broadest possible producer representation of the commodity being promoted. To be approved, an applicant's proposal must indicate how it can effectively contribute to the creation, expansion, or maintenance of markets abroad. FAS considers a number of factors when reviewing proposed projects. These factors include: (1) The applicant's willingness to contribute resources including cash and goods and services of the U.S. industry and foreign third party; (2) the ability of the organization to provide an experienced U.S.-based staff and with technical and international trade expertise to ensure adequate development, supervision and execution of the proposed project; (3) the degree to which the proposed project is likely to contribute to the development, expansion, or maintenance of foreign markets; and (4) the degree to which the strategic plan is coordinated with other private or U.S. government-funded market development projects.

Beneficiary Eligibility

Preference is given to nonprofit U.S. trade organizations which are nationwide in membership and scope.

Credentials/Documentation

U.S. applicants must prove the ability to provide a competent experienced staff and other resources to assure adequate development, supervision, and execution of promotional activities. Applicants must submit a written export strategy which provides a brief discussion of the commodity for which an agreement is being requested and a description of proposed activities including the foreign countries in which they will be conducted. Applicants must also submit their Internal Revenue Service tax exempt identification number, a description of the membership of the applicant organization, a description of the organizations management and administrative capability, the degree to which membership represents national production, an estimate of the level of Government funds required, and the extent to

which industry resources are available to match Government expenditures. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-87.

Match required:

A cooperator's contribution requirement will be specified in the export strategy approval letter. Cooperators must contribute at least 50 percent of the value of resources provided by CCC for activities conducted under the project agreement. Such contribution may be in the form of cash, goods or services.

How to Apply:

Each year the availability of funds is announced in a Federal Register notice. At this time a written export strategy should be submitted to the Director, Marketing Operations Staff, FAS. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110.

Award Procedure

Applications are reviewed against the allocation criteria and factors set forth in 7 CFR part 1484 and the Federal Register program announcement. CCC notifies each applicant of the final disposition of its application and also issues a public announcement concerning the allocation of resources among the applicant organizations. Each approved applicant receives a program agreement and an allocation/marketing plan approval letter which specifies any special terms and conditions applicable to a cooperator's program. Final agreement occurs when both the participating organization and the Administrator of FAS in the Administrator's capacity as Vice President, and the CCC, sign the program agreement.

Deadlines:

Application deadline is announced in the form of a Federal Register notice.

Contact Info:

Marketing Operations Staff
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Room 4932-South, Stop 1042
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1042

Telephone: (202) 720-4327
Fax: (202) 720-9361
E-mail: mosadmin@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Agreements generally include a twelve-month promotional effort and a provision for

program evaluation by an independent third party. Funds awarded in any given fiscal year are typically available for two additional years.

Amounts:

From \$11,000 to \$7,000,000. Average \$1,243,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Cooperator funds are authorized through program agreements with nonprofit U.S. trade associations called Cooperators, that provide for partial reimbursement of generic promotional activities in a Unified Export Strategy application approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), the agency which administers the program for the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). In general, Cooperator funds may be used only in direct support of activities conducted outside the United States. Types of activities that may be funded include trade servicing, market research, and technical assistance to actual or potential foreign purchasers of U.S. commodities.

Subject Keywords: international trade, exporting, marketing, business development

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/fmd.html

Program Name: Fund for Rural America - Research, Education, and Extension Activities

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The funding for Rural America (FRA) provides funds for rural development programs and for a competitive grant program to support research, education, and extension activities. CSREES administers the competitive grant program for the research, education, and extension component of the Fund for Rural America. The competitive grant program supports unique, innovative, and high-impact research, education, and extension projects to aid farmers, ranchers, and rural communities to address changes and challenges facing agriculture and rural communities as a result of fundamental reforms to Federal farm programs. The broad range of purposes of these projects are to: increase international competitiveness, efficiency, and farm profitability; reduce economic and health risk; conserve and enhance natural resources; develop new crops, new crop uses, and new agricultural applications of biotechnology; enhance animal agricultural resources; preserve plant and animal germplasm; increase economic opportunities in farming and rural communities; and expand locally-owned, value-added processing. The information provided under this Catalog entry applies only to the competitive grant program administered by CSREES for research, education, and extension activities supported by the Fund for Rural America.

CFDA Number: 10.224

Eligibility:

Proposals may be submitted by Federal research agencies, national laboratories, colleges and universities and research foundations maintained by a college or university, and private research organizations. National laboratories include Federal laboratories that are government-owned contractor-operated or government-owned government-operated. If the applicant is a private organization, documentation must be submitted evidencing that the private organization has an established and demonstrated capacity to perform research or technology transfer. Documentary evidence shall provide specific information regarding relevant staff or organizational experience, including publications, credentials, and past or current projects. A programmatic decision on the eligibility status of the private organization will be made based on the information submitted.

Match required:

A grant awarded for applied research that is commodity-specific and that is not of national scope must be matched by the grant recipient with equal funds from a nonfederal source. The matching requirement may be met through allowable costs

incurred by the recipient or subrecipient and through third party in-kind contributions.

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

All proposal solicitations are published in the Federal Register. Any preapplication requirements will be specified in the program guidelines and/or proposal solicitations. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure

Application procedures are outlined in the annual program guidelines and/or proposal solicitations.

Award Procedure

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by CSREES staff members with the assistance and advice of peer panels of specialists who are uniquely qualified by training and experience in their respective fields to render expert advice on the merit of proposals being reviewed. Proposals are recommended for funding in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds. The National Agricultural Research, Education and Economics Advisory Board will review collective groups of proposals recommended for funding to ensure the relevance of the work proposed for funding toward achieving the programmatic goals of the Fund for Rural America. Proposals recommended for funding as a results of the merit and programmatic relevance evaluations then undergo a financial and administrative review. Upon the satisfactory completion of all reviews and evaluations, a grant award is issued.

Deadlines:

All proposal submission deadlines are announced in the program guidelines and/or proposal solicitations, which are published in the Federal Register.

Contact Info:

Dr. Phillip Schwab, Co-Program Director or
Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty, Co-Program Director
Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250

Dr. Phillip Schwab
Telephone: 202-720-4423
E-mail: pschwab@csrees.usda.gov

Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty
Telephone 202-205-0241
Fax: 202-401-6488
E-mail: etuckermanty@csrees.usda.gov

Main line: (202) 401-1761

Duration of Grant:

From 6 months to 4 years

Amounts:

The range of assistance is \$25,000 to \$600,000; the average amount for Standard Grants is \$271,000; the average amount for Center Planning Grants is \$25,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

The CSREES Fund for Rural America competitive grants program will support applied, developmental, and adaptive research; technology transfer; extension and related outreach activities; and education. The program will emphasize biological, physical, and social sciences to address systems-based problems. This requires involvement of affected parties within the system (such as producers, commodity groups, environmental interests, rural communities, and other program beneficiaries); therefore, this program will give priority to projects that are designed and proposed by eligible grant recipients in collaboration with institutions, organizations, and communities of interest. Strong partnerships will be critical to leverage and apply research, education, and extension investments to address user needs and solve community-defined problems. The program is segmented into two initiatives: (1) The Fund Core Initiative, which addresses and links international competitiveness, profitability, and efficiency; environmental stewardship; and rural community enhancement; and (2) the Secretary's Initiative to Ensure a Safe, Competitive, Nutritional and Accessible Food System. Examples of potential research, education, and extension activities to be funded under the Fund Core Initiative include, but are not limited to: extension to improve producers' risk management knowledge, skills, and practices; adaptive research to develop new strategies for animal waste management to reduce environmental contaminants in animal waste; and innovations in delivery of education and information in rural areas. As part of the Fund Core Initiative, CSREES also intends to provide funding for FRA Center Grants which are aimed at bringing together individuals, institutions, States, and/or regions in support of research, education, and extension in a collaborative process towards a common goal. Initially, CSREES will award FRA Center Planning Grants to support only the planning stages of FRA Centers, and only those organizations successful in receiving an FRA Center Planning Grant will be eligible to receive follow-on funding for an FRA Center. Proposals for an FRA Center Planning Grants and for follow-on FRA Center Grants may be solicited in separate announcements. Examples of research, education, and extension activities to be funded under the Secretary's Initiative to Ensure a Safe,

Competitive, Nutritional and Accessible Food System include, but are not limited to: assessment of educational needs of small and very small meat and poultry processing plants to achieve Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) implementation; research, development and on-farm extension education about low-cost production facilities, such as hoop housing for swine production, combined with management systems and genetics appropriate to these facilities; research to create foods that have increased amounts of the beneficial components found in fruits, vegetables and grains; and research and extension efforts to develop and implement mechanisms such as community-operated canneries or dehydration facilities to extend the "shelf-life" of food available through gleaning and food recovery programs. Funds provided under the CSREES Fund for Rural America competitive grants program may not be used for the construction of a new building or for the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building (including site grading and improvement and architect fees), or for the purchase of fixed equipment.

Subject Keywords: rural development, research, education, extension

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/fra/

Program Name: Grassland Reserve Program

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners and operators restore and protect grassland, including rangeland, and pastureland, and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. The program emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland and land containing shrubs and forbs under the greatest threat of conversion. Restoring and protecting grasslands contributes positively to the economy of many regions, provides biodiversity of plant and animal populations, and improves environmental quality.

CFDA Number: 10.920

Eligibility:

Eligible land includes grassland or land that contains forbs or shrubs (including improved rangeland and pastureland); and grassland or land that is located in an area that historically has been dominated by grassland, forbs, and shrubs and has potential to provide habitat for animal or plant populations of significant ecological value if the land is retained in its current use or restored to a natural condition. Incidental lands may be included to allow for the efficient administration of an agreement or easement.

Match required:

If restoration is determined necessary by NRCS, a restoration agreement will be incorporated within the rental agreement or easement. CCC will provide up to 90 percent of the restoration costs on lands that have never been cultivated, and up to 75 percent of the cost on restored grasslands. Participants will be paid upon certification of the completion of the approved practice(s) by NRCS or an approved third party. Participants may contribute to the application of a cost-share practice through in-kind contributions.

How to Apply:

Applications may be filed for an easement or rental agreement with NRCS or FSA at any time. Participants voluntarily limit future use of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices; produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production (subject to certain restrictions during the nesting season of bird species that are in significant decline or those that are protected under Federal or State law); conduct fire rehabilitation; and construct firebreaks and fences. Enrollment options are: 30-year and permanent easements; 15-year, 20-year, or 30 year rental agreements and restoration agreements which may be used in conjunction with any easement or rental agreement.

Deadlines:

N/A

Contact Info:

If you need more information about GRP, please contact your local USDA Service Center, listed in the telephone book under U.S. Department of Agriculture, or your local conservation district.

Duration of Grant:

The program offers several enrollment options:

Permanent Easement

This is a conservation easement in perpetuity. Easement payments for this option equal the fair market value, less the grazing value of the land encumbered by the easement. These values will be determined using an appraisal.

Thirty-year Easement

USDA will provide an easement payment equal to 30 percent of the fair market value of the land, less the grazing value of the land for the period during which the land is encumbered by the easement.

For both easement options, USDA will provide ALL administrative costs associated with recording the easement, including appraisal fees, survey costs, title insurance, and recording fees. Easement payments may be provided, at the participant's request, in lump sum or annual payments (equal or unequal amounts) for up to 10 years.

Rental Agreement

Participants may choose a 10-year, 15-year, 20-year, or 30-year contract. USDA will provide annual payments in an amount that is not more than 75 percent of the grazing value of the land covered by the agreement for the life of the agreement. Payments will be disbursed on the agreement anniversary date each year.

Restoration agreement

If restoration is determined necessary by NRCS, a restoration agreement will be incorporated within the rental agreement or easement. CCC will provide up to 90 percent of the restoration costs on lands that have never been cultivated, and up to 75 percent of the cost on restored grasslands. Participants will be paid upon certification of the completion of the approved practice(s) by NRCS or an approved third party. Participants may contribute to the application of a cost-share practice through in-kind

contributions.

Amounts:

There is no national maximum limitation on the amount of land that may be offered for the program. However, there is a minimum requirement established in law. Offers for enrollment must contain at least 40 contiguous acres, unless special circumstances exist to accept a lesser amount. These special circumstances are determined by the NRCS State Conservationist.

Uses and Restrictions:

The program goals are to help conserve and protect 2 million acres of restored or improved grassland, rangeland, and pastureland by purchasing easements, entering into long-term rental agreements and providing technical and financial assistance to participants for restoring the functions and values of grasslands and shrublands.

Subject Keywords: grassland protection, rangeland protection, pastureland protection, biodiversity, conservation easement

Categories: Conservation easement

Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/GRP/>

Program Name: Higher Education Challenge Grants

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To increase institutional capacities to respond to State, regional, national, or international educational needs by strengthening college and university teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences.

CFDA Number: 10.217

Eligibility:

All U.S. public and private nonprofit colleges and universities offering a baccalaureate or first professional degree in at least one discipline or area of the food and agricultural sciences.

Each first-time recipient must furnish organizational management information requested by the funding agency, and each applicant must provide assurances specified in the annual solicitation of applications.

Match required:

Dollar-for-dollar matching funds from nonfederal sources is required.

How to Apply:

Formal proposals should be submitted to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, as outlined in the solicitation of applications. Application procedures are contained in the program regulations and required forms are contained in the Grant Application Kit. This program is subject to the regulatory provisions of USDA, 7 CFR Part 3015, et seq., and all successor regulations.

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by CSREES staff members with the assistance and advice of peer panels of qualified educators, administrators, industrialists, and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the fields covered by the proposals. Proposals are supported in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds. Grant payments may be made by the electronic transfer system, advance by Treasury check, or reimbursement by Treasury check.

Deadlines:

All deadlines are announced in the Federal Register. The deadline for submission of fiscal year 2004 proposals was February 4, 2004.

Contact Info:

Mr. P. Gregory Smith
National Program Leader
CSREES/Higher Education Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW Stop 2251
Washington, DC 20250-2251

Phone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
e-mail: gsmith@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants are awarded for a 1 to 3-year period and may receive no-cost extensions as appropriate up to a maximum of 5 years.

Amounts:

From \$47,936 to \$152,000. Average: \$89,479.

Uses and Restrictions:

Funds may be used only in targeted areas, e.g., curricula design and materials development, faculty preparation and enhancement for teaching, instruction delivery systems, scientific instrumentation for teaching, student experiential learning, and student recruitment and retention, as cited in the annual program announcement in the Federal Register.

Subject Keywords: food science, agriculture science, education

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfahec.htm

**Program Name: Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program
(Minority Scholars Program)**

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To increase the ethnic and cultural diversity of the food and agricultural scientific and professional work force, and to advance the educational achievement of minority Americans, by providing grants to colleges and universities that have a demonstrable capacity to attract, educate, and graduate minority students for careers as agriscience and agribusiness professionals, and have unique capabilities for achieving the objective of full representation of minority groups in the fields of agriculture, natural resources, forestry, veterinary medicine, home economics, and disciplines closely allied to the food and agricultural system.

CFDA Number: 10.220

Eligibility:

Proposals may be submitted by all U.S. colleges and universities with baccalaureate or higher degree programs in agriculture, natural resources, forestry, veterinary medicine, home economics, and disciplines closely allied to the food and agricultural system, including land-grant colleges and universities, colleges and universities having significant minority enrollments and a demonstrable capacity to carry out the teaching of food and agricultural sciences, and other colleges and universities having a demonstrable capacity to carry out the teaching of food and agricultural sciences.

Funds awarded under this program are used to support full-time undergraduate students pursuing a baccalaureate degree in an area of the food and agricultural sciences or a closely allied field. Persons eligible to receive scholarships under this program are students, who either are enrolled or have been accepted for full-time baccalaureate degree candidates, and who are members of minority groups traditionally under-represented in food and agricultural scientific and professional fields including African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native-Americans, Alaskan Natives, and Pacific Islanders.

Each prospective grantee institution must furnish the information and assurances specified in the program guidelines and the Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-87.

Match required:

For each scholarship supported under this program, a college or university receiving a

grant must provide 25 percent of the scholarship funds from their own or other non-Federal sources.

How to Apply:

Proposals are accepted every other year and should be submitted to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, in accordance with instructions provided in a Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards. Application guidelines are contained in the CSREES Application Kit. This program is subject to the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-110 as implemented by 7 CFR Part 3019.

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by Higher Education Programs staff and other CSREES professional staff members with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified educators, scientists, administrators, and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the fields covered by the proposals. Proposals are supported in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

All deadlines are announced in the Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards.

Contact Info:

Dr. Jeffrey L. Gilmore
Director, Higher Education Programs
CSREES/Higher Education Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Stop 2251
Washington, DC 20250-2251

Telephone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
email: wcolbert@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants are awarded for a five-year period; however, scholars are supported for four years during that five-year period. One year of the grant period is available for student recruitment and for short interruptions of a scholar's educational advancement due to personal circumstances or emergencies

Amounts:

Minimum and maximum amounts of funding per grant, as well as stipend levels for scholarships, will be announced each year in the Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards. Awards ranged from \$20,000 to \$80,000 with the average award being \$52,004.

Uses and Restrictions:

Competitive annual grants to selected U.S. institutions of higher education provide for a limited number of four-year undergraduate scholarships to support minority students pursuing baccalaureate degrees in the food and agricultural sciences. Institutions also receive an annual cost-of-education allowance for each scholar supported by a grant. The scholars are selected by the institutions and students must apply for the scholarships through procedures established by the individual institutions. No scholarship grants are made directly to students and students cannot apply directly to USDA for scholarships. Scholarship monies may be used for tuition, fees, room, board, and other educational expenses as announced in a Federal Register notice inviting applications for new awards. The institutional cost-of-education allowance may be used by the selected institutions to defray program expenses including, but not limited to, travel and publications costs incurred for student recruitment, and salaries of project personnel.

Subject Keywords: food education, agriculture education, careers

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfamulti.htm

**Program Name: Integrated Research, Education, and Extension
Competitive Grants Program - Integrated Pest
Management**

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Integrated Pest Management Program seeks to solve critical agricultural issues, priorities, or problems through the integration of research, education, and extension activities. The Program is designed to fund the development of new Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches or the improvement of existing IPM systems. The program areas included in the IPM Program are:

1. Crops at Risk (CAR);
2. Risk Avoidance and Mitigation (RAMP); and
3. Methyl Bromide Transitions (MBT).

Projects funded within these program areas will cover a broad range of new methodologies, technologies, systems and strategies for implementing integrated crop and pest management programs.

CFDA Number: 10.303

Eligibility:

Applications may be submitted by colleges and universities (as defined in Section 1404 of NARETPA (National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act)) (7 U.S.C. 3103). For purposes of this program, the terms “college” and “university” mean an educational institution in any State that (1) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate, from a school providing secondary education; (2) is legally authorized within such State to provide a program of education beyond secondary education; (3) provides an educational program for which a bachelor’s degree or any other higher degree is awarded; (4) is a public or other nonprofit institution; and (5) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association. Applications also may be submitted by 1994 Land-Grant Institutions (as defined in Part VIII, E.). A research foundation maintained by a college or university is not eligible to receive an award under this program.

Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project.

Match required:

Match required, but may be waived.

If a grant provides a particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, the grant recipient is required to match the USDA funds awarded on a dollar-for-dollar basis from non-Federal sources with cash and/or in-kind contributions.

CSREES may waive the matching funds requirement for a grant if CSREES determines that: (1) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural commodities generally; or (2) the project involves a minor commodity, the project deals with scientifically important research, and the grant recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

How to Apply:

Program application materials are available at the CSREES Funding Opportunities website (<http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/ourfund.htm>). If you do not have access to the web page or have trouble downloading material and you would like a hard copy, you may contact the Proposal Services Unit, Competitive Programs, USDA/CSREES at (202) 401-5048. When calling the Proposal Services Unit, please indicate that you are requesting the Request For Application (RFA) and associated application forms for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – Integrated Pest Management. These materials also may be requested via Internet by sending a message with your name, mailing address (not e-mail) and phone number to psb@csrees.usda.gov. State that you want a copy of the RFA and the associated application forms for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – Integrated Pest Management.

Deadlines:

As announced in the Federal Register for each fiscal year.

Contact Info:

Specific program contacts:

CAR:

Dr. Rick Meyer

National Program Leader

Plant and Animal Systems Unit

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Stop 2220

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20250-2220

Telephone: (202) 401-4891

Fax: (202) 401-4888
E-mail: hmeyer@csrees.usda.gov

RAMP:

Dr. Robert Nowierski
National Program Leader
Plant and Animal Systems Unit
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 2220
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-2220
Telephone: (202) 401-4900
Fax: (202) 401-4888
E-mail: rnowierski@csrees.usda.gov

MBT:

Dr. Dennis Kopp
National Program Leader
Plant and Animal Systems Unit
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 2220
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-2220
Telephone: (202) 401-6437
Fax: (202) 401-4888
E-mail: dkopp@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Crops at Risk projects: 2-4 years;
Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program projects: up to 4 years;
Methyl Bromide Transitions projects: up to 3 years.

Amounts:

Awards range from \$200,000 to \$2,397,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

This research, education, and extension competitive grants program provides funding for integrated, multi-functional agricultural research, extension, and education activities which addresses priorities in United States agriculture.

Subject Keywords: integrated pest management, IPM, research, education

Categories: Project grants

Website: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/pest/in_focus/ipm_if_integrated.html

**Program Name: Integrated Research, Education, and Extension
Competitive Grants Program - National Integrated
Food Safety Initiative**

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The purpose of the National Integrated Food Safety Initiative is to support competitive projects that address priority issues in food safety that are best solved using an integrated approach. Integrated food safety programs in CSREES support multi-state, multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary, and multi-functional research, extension, and education activities. Special emphasis is given to research describing multi-functional activities (i.e., research that contains research, education, and extension components). The research component of the National Integrated Food Safety Initiative focuses on applied food safety research. The education component focuses on education and training in a formal classroom setting, which may include elementary, secondary, undergraduate, or graduate education. The extension component addresses education and training outside of the classroom. Where there is no extension program, outreach activities that deliver science-based and informational education to people in a variety of non-formal settings are appropriate.

CFDA Number: 10.303

Eligibility:

Colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of NARETPA (National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977)) (7 U.S.C. 3103) are eligible to submit applications for the National Integrated Food Safety Initiative. For the purposes of this program, the terms “college” and “university” mean an educational institution in any state which (1) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate; (2) is legally authorized within such state to provide a program of education beyond secondary education; (3) provides an educational program for which a bachelor’s degree or any other higher degree is awarded; (4) is a public or other nonprofit institution; and (5) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association.

Applications also may be submitted by 1994 Land-Grant Institutions.

A research foundation maintained by a college or university is not eligible to receive an award under this program.

Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project.

Match required:

Match required, but may be waived.

If a grant provides a particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, the grant recipient is required to match the USDA funds awarded on a dollar-for-dollar basis from non-Federal sources with cash and/or in-kind contributions.

CSREES may waive the matching funds requirement for a grant if CSREES determines that: (1) the results of the project, while of particular benefit to a specific agricultural commodity, are likely to be applicable to agricultural commodities generally; or (2) the project involves a minor commodity, the project deals with scientifically important research, and the grant recipient is unable to satisfy the matching funds requirement.

How to Apply:

Program application materials are available at the CSREES Funding Opportunities web site (<http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/ourfund.htm>). If you do not have access to the web page or have trouble downloading material and you would like a hard copy, you may contact the Proposal Services Unit, Competitive Programs, USDA/CSREES at (202) 401-5048. When calling the Proposal Services Unit, please indicate that you are requesting the Request for Application (RFA) and associated application forms for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – National Integrated Food Safety Initiative. These materials also may be requested via Internet by sending a message with your name, mailing address (not e-mail) and phone number to psb@csrees.usda.gov. State that you want a copy of the RFA and the associated application forms for the Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – National Integrated Food Safety Initiative.

Deadlines:

As announced in the Federal Register for each fiscal year.

Contact Info:

Dr. Jan Singleton
National Program Leader
Food Science and Food Safety
Plant and Animal Systems Unit
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 2220, Room 3434
Waterfront Centre
800 9th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2220

Telephone: (202) 401-1954

Fax: (202) 401-9862

E-mail: jsingleton@reeusda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Standard grants: 3 years; Conference grants: 2 years.

Amounts:

\$600,000 per year maximum for standard grants; \$50,000 total for conference grants.

Uses and Restrictions:

The National Integrated Food Safety Initiative addresses, but is not limited to, the following priority issues in food safety:

- Qualitative and Quantitative Risk Assessments
- Control Measures for Food-borne Microbial Pathogens
- Sources and Incidence of Microbial Pathogens
- Antibiotic Resistant Microbial Pathogens;
- Improving the Safety of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- National Coordination of Integrated Food Safety Programs and Resources
- Food Handler Education and Training for Consumers and Youth
- Food Handler Education for High-risk and Hard-to-reach Audiences
- Food Handler Education for Commercial and Non-commercial Audiences, Including Food Handler Certification Training and Other Train-the-trainer Programs
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) Model Development, Testing, and Implementation
- Home Food Processing and Preservation
- Integrating Food Safety into Related Agricultural Programs
- Alternative Food Processing Technologies that Improve the Safety of Food
- Food Security

In addition, applications are being solicited for professional meetings that bring together food safety researchers, educators, and extension professionals to identify targeted areas in food safety that can best be addressed using an integrated approach. Professional meetings will focus on: (1) enhancing collaboration among food safety researchers, educators, and extension professionals; (2) updating information and advancing the field of food safety; and (3) identifying future research, outreach, and educational needs. An evaluation plan for the conference should be included.

Subject Keywords: food safety, research, education, extension

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/pas/programs/foodsafety/

Program Name: International Training - Foreign Participant

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To assist U.S. colleges and universities in strengthening their capabilities for food, agricultural, and related research training and extension relevant to agricultural development activities in other countries.

CFDA Number: 10.962

Eligibility:

U.S. institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations included with agricultural development and education activities.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Instructions for requests for proposals will be published in the Federal Register. This program is subject to the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-110. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-102.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Dr. Frank A. Fender
FAS/International Cooperation and Development
Food Industries Division
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington DC 20250-1086

Telephone: (202) 690-1339

Fax: (202) 690-0349

Duration of Grant:

Assistance is phased according to the requirements of individual projects.

Amounts:

From \$10,000 to \$40,000. Average: \$18,900.

Uses and Restrictions:

Reimbursable agreements are used to fund projects involved with international training activities, including course development and/or evaluation.

Subject Keywords: research, international trade, education

Categories: Project grants, cooperative agreements

Website: www.fas.usda.gov

Program Name: Klamath Basin - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP-KB)

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

Technical and financial assistance and training to eligible farmers and ranchers to address water conservation natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. This program provides assistance to farmers and ranchers in complying with Federal, State, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement. The purpose of this program is achieved through the implementation of structural and land management conservation practices on eligible land. This program is funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). NRCS provides overall program management and implementation leadership for conservation planning and implementation. The Farm Service Agency provides assistance for administrative processes and procedures for the program.

CFDA Number: 10.919

Eligibility:

Agricultural producers who are addressing water conservation natural resource issues. A participant may be an owner, landlord, operator, or tenant of eligible agricultural lands. Limited resource producers, small-scale producers, producers of minority groups, Federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Alaska natives, and Pacific Islanders are encouraged to apply. This program is only available in the Klamath Basin of California and Oregon.

To be eligible the agricultural producers must be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions and in compliance with the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) payment limitations.

Match required:

Conservation practices may be eligible for cost-sharing up to 75 percent of the total cost of establishing the practice. Incentive payments can be made for land management practices in an amount and rate that NRCS determines is necessary to encourage a participant to perform the practice that would not otherwise be initiated without government assistance. Limited resource producers and beginning farmers may be eligible for cost-sharing up to 90 percent.

How to Apply:

Application Procedure

Program participation is voluntary. The applicant applies at the local USDA Service Center on Form CCC-1200. Applications may be filed at any time during the year. The participant develops an EQIP plan of operations that identifies what conservation practices they are proposing to implement. Technical assistance and cost-share or incentive payments may be provided to apply needed conservation practices and land use adjustments within a time schedule specified by the EQIP plan of operations. A contract with a participant may apply one or more land management practices or one or more structural practices.

Award Procedure

NRCS will give special consideration to applicants who have a EQIP plan of operations that address the locally designated priority natural resource concerns designated. Applications will be periodically ranked and selected for funding based on locally developed ranking process. These criteria can be found at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/EQIP_signup.html.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Gary Kobylski, National EQIP Manager
or
Edward Brzostek, Acting Program Manager
Conservation Operations Division
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th & Independence Ave., SW
Room 5243-S, P.O. Box 2890
Washington, DC 20013-0013

Gary Kobylski: (202) 720-1840
Edward Brzostek: (202) 720-1834
Fax: (202) 720-4265
E-mail: gary.kobylski@usda.gov
edward.brzostek@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

An EQIP contract expires one year after the last planned practice is implemented but cannot be longer than 10 years. Obligations for assistance are tied to the schedule for applying conservation practices included in the EQIP plan of operations used as the basis for the contract. Payments are made when the participant and NRCS certify that conservation practice is completed in accordance with contract. Technical assistance may be provided by a certified Technical Service Provider. This assistance will be

reimbursed based upon not-to-exceed rates. These payments will be made after the services of the certified Technical Service Provider have been provided in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.

Amounts:

An individual or entity may not receive, directly or indirectly, cost-share or incentive payments under this chapter that, in the aggregate, exceed \$450,000 for all contracts entered into under this chapter by the individual or entity during the period of fiscal years 2002 through 2007, regardless of the number of contracts entered into under this chapter by the individual or entity.

Uses and Restrictions:

Technical assistance is provided in conservation planning for eligible participants. Financial assistance is provided for implementation of structural and land management practices. Cost-share payments may be made to implement one or more eligible structural practices. Incentive payments can be made to implement one or more land management practices. The funding available is for technical, cost-share payments and incentive payments that will assist participants achieve a net-water savings on their agricultural land.

Subject Keywords: water conservation, environmental compliance, resource management

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/OPA/FB96OPA/eqipfact.htm

Program Name: **Loans for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers**

Agency: Farm Service Agency

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides direct and guaranteed loans to beginning farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources.

CFDA Number: Check www.cfda.gov

Eligibility:

A beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who:

1. Has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years;
2. Meets the loan eligibility requirements of the program to which he/she is applying;
3. Substantially participates in the operation; and,
4. For Farm Ownership for loan purposes, does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the county. (Note: all applicants for direct Farm Ownership loans must have participated in business operation of a farm for at least 3 years)

Match required:

FSA has a special down payment FO loan program to assist beginning farmers and ranchers to purchase a farm or ranch. This program also provides a means for retiring farmers and ranchers to transfer their land to a future generation.

To qualify:

- An applicant must make a cash down payment of at least 10 percent of the purchase price.
- FSA may provide a maximum amount equal to 40 percent of the purchase price or appraised value, whichever is less. The term of the loan is 15 years at a fixed interest rate of 4 percent.
- The remaining balance may be obtained from a commercial lender or private party. FSA can provide up to a 95 percent guarantee if financing is obtained from a commercial lender. Participating lenders do not have to pay a guarantee fee.
- The purchase price or appraised value, whichever is lower, may not exceed \$250,000.

How to Apply:

Applications for direct loan assistance may be submitted to the FSA local office serving the area where the operation is located. Local FSA offices are listed in the telephone directory under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture, Farm Service

Agency. For guaranteed loans, applicants must apply to a commercial lender who participates in the Guaranteed Loan Program. Local FSA offices have lists of participating lenders.

Deadlines:

N/A

Contact Info:

Information not available

Duration of Grant:

N/A

Amounts:

May not exceed \$250,000

Uses and Restrictions:

Purchase farm or ranch property by beginning farmers or ranchers.

Subject Keywords: government loan, beginning farm loan

Categories: Farm ownership loan

Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

Program Name: Loans For Socially Disadvantaged Persons

Agency: Farm Service Agency

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year. Non-reserved funds can also be utilized.

A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is one of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as Members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

This program:

- Targets direct and guaranteed loan assistance to socially disadvantaged persons;
- Discovers and removes barriers that prevent full participation of those persons in FSA's farm loan programs; and
- Provides information and assistance to applicants to help them develop sound farm management practices, analyzes problems, and plans the best use of available resources essential for success in farming or ranching.

CFDA Number: Check www.cfda.gov

Eligibility:

Individuals and entities primarily and directly engaged in farming and ranching on family-size operations may apply. A family-size farm is considered to be one that a family can operate and manage itself. In addition to being members of a socially disadvantaged group, individual applicants under this program must meet all requirements for FSA's regular farm loan program assistance, including:

- Have a satisfactory history of meeting credit obligations;
- Have sufficient education; training, or at least 1-year's experience in managing or operating a farm or ranch within the last 5 years for a direct operating loan, or, for a direct farm ownership loan, have participated in the business operation of a farm or ranch for 3 years;
- Is a citizen of the United States (or a legal resident alien) including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and certain former Pacific Island Trust Territories;
- Be unable to obtain credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms to meet actual

needs; and

- Possess legal capacity to incur loan obligations.

Match required:

N/A

How to Apply:

Applications for all FSA direct loan programs are made through FSA's local county offices. These are listed in telephone directories under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture."

Guaranteed loan applications are made with the lender. In cases where an applicant does not know a lender, local FSA office personnel will assist the applicant.

Deadlines:

N/A

Contact Info:

Additional information may be obtained at local FSA county offices. These are listed in telephone directories under "United States Government, Department of Agriculture."

Duration of Grant:

N/A

Amounts:

May not exceed \$250,000

Uses and Restrictions:

Farm ownership and farm operating loans for socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher.

Repayment terms for direct operating loans depend on the collateral securing the loan and usually run from 1 to 7 years. Interest rates for direct loans are set periodically according to the Government's cost of borrowing. Repayment terms for direct farm ownership loans are up to 40 years.

Interest rates for guaranteed loans are established by the lender, but may not exceed the rate the lender charges its average farm loan customer. The lender sets guaranteed loan terms.

Subject Keywords: socially disadvantaged loan, minority loan, Government loans.

Categories: Farm operations loan

Website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

Program Name: **Market Access Program**

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Market Access Program (MAP) uses funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to aid in the creation, expansion, and maintenance of foreign markets for U.S. agricultural products. The MAP is authorized by Section 203 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, and is administered by the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

The MAP forms a partnership between non-profit U.S. agricultural trade associations, U.S. agricultural cooperatives, non-profit state-regional trade groups, small U.S. businesses, and USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation to share the costs of overseas marketing and promotional activities such as consumer promotions, market research, trade shows, and trade servicing.

CFDA Number: 10.601

Eligibility:

To be approved, applicants must be: (1) A nonprofit U.S. agricultural trade organization; (2) a nonprofit State regional trade group; (3) a U.S. agricultural cooperative; (4) a State agency; or (5) a U.S. commercial entity that is a small-sized entity (other than a cooperative or producer association).

USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will enter into MAP agreements only where the eligible agricultural commodity is comprised of at least 50 percent U.S. origin content by weight, exclusive of added water.

Applicants are required to provide a competent, experienced staff and other resources to assure adequate development, supervision, and execution of promotion activities. All applicants must submit a written proposal which provides a brief discussion of the commodity for which assistance is requested; the proposed program with a justification; and a strategic plan. In addition, all applicants must submit a statement certifying that any CCC resources received will supplement, but not supplant, any private or third party funds or other contributions to program activities.

Match required:

A participant's contribution requirement will be specified in the export strategy approval letter. Participants must contribute at least 10 percent of the value of resources provided by CCC for generic promotions. Such contributions may be in the form of cash, goods or services. In the case of brand promotions, a participant must contribute

at least 50 percent of the total cost of such brand promotions. The brand promotion program is by its very nature a matching funds program.

How to Apply:

Each year the availability of funds is announced in a Federal Register notice. At this time a written export strategy should be submitted to the Director, Marketing Operations Staff, FAS.

Applications are reviewed against the allocation criteria and factors set forth in 7 CFR Part 1485. USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) notifies each applicant of the final disposition of its application and also issues a public announcement concerning the allocation of resources among the applicant organizations. Each approved applicant receives a program agreement and allocation approval letter which specifies any special terms and conditions applicable to a participant's program. Final agreement occurs when both the participating organization and the Administrator of FAS in the Administrator's capacity as Vice President, CCC, sign the program agreement.

Deadlines:

Application deadline is announced in the form of a Federal Register notice.

Contact Info:

Marketing Operations Staff
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Room 4932 South Building, Stop 1042
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-1042

Telephone: (202) 720-4327
Fax: (202) 720-9361
E-mail: mosadmin@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Agreements generally include a twelve-month promotional effort and a provision for program evaluation by an independent third party. Funds awarded in any given fiscal year are typically available for two additional years.

Amounts:

From \$22,000 to \$9,611,000. Average: \$1,375,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Market Access Program (MAP) funds are authorized through program agreements that provide for partial reimbursement of eligible promotional expenses in a Unified Export Strategy application approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), the agency which administers the program for the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). MAP participants may receive assistance for either generic or brand promotion activities. Program funds help finance activities such as consumer advertising, point of sale demonstrations, public relations, trade servicing activities, participation in trade fairs and exhibits, market research, and technical assistance.

Subject Keywords: international trade, overseas marketing, exporting, business development

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/mapprog.html

Program Name: National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To promote research in food, agriculture, and related areas to further the programs of USDA through the award of research grants on a competitive basis.

CFDA Number: 10.206

Eligibility:

State Agricultural Experiment Stations, U.S. colleges/universities, other U.S. research institutions and organizations, Federal agencies, private organizations or corporations, and individuals. Proposals from scientists at non-U.S. organizations will not be considered for support. Each prospective grantee organization must furnish the organizational information and assurances specified in the guidelines. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-87.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Formal proposal to National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program, USDA/CSREES as outlined in the guidelines. Application procedures are contained in CSREES Research Grant Application Kit. National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program staff members review and evaluate all proposals with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified scientists and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the field covered by the proposal. Proposals are accepted in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

Announced in the Federal Register each fiscal year.

Contact Info:

Chief Scientist
National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Ag Box 2241
14th and Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20250-2241

Telephone: (202) 401-5022

Fax: (202) 401-6488

E-mail: nricgp@reeusda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Up to 3 years.

Amounts:

From \$4,000 to \$491,100. Average: \$119,790.

Uses and Restrictions:

The selected areas for research include plants, animals, natural resources and environment, nutrition, food quality and health, markets, trade and rural development, and new products and processes. Grant funds may be used for costs necessary to conduct research (salaries and wages, scientific equipment, materials and supplies, travel, publication costs, and other allowable direct and indirect costs). Applicants should check annual proposal solicitation for limitation on indirect costs. Primary responsibility for general supervision of all grant activities rests with the grantee organization; the principal investigator is responsible for the scientific work. Funds may not be used for purposes other than those specified in the grant.

Subject Keywords: food research, agriculture research

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/nri

Program Name: National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

Agency: National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To assist the U.S. sheep and goat industries by strengthening and enhancing the production and marketing of sheep and goats and their products in the United States.

The National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC), or Sheep Center, is authorized under 7 U.S.C. 2008j. NSIIC is a fund established in the Treasury, without fiscal year limitation, to provide seed-money for a revolving fund that will provide financial assistance through a variety of mechanisms for the enhancement and marketing of sheep or goat products in the United States with an emphasis on infrastructure development. The NSIIC is a unique pilot program that will eventually be privatized.

The management of NSIIC is vested in a Board of Directors that is appointed by, and reports to, the Secretary of Agriculture. The Board of Directors consists of 7 voting members chosen from the sheep and goat industries. The respective Under Secretaries for Rural Development and Research, Education, and Economics also serve as non-voting members of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director serves as the CEO and NSIIC relies on RD and CSREE for staff support in areas such as budget, OGC and personnel.

Congress saw the need to address these declines and created the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) as an innovative new approach of addressing the needs of the sheep and goat industries. The NSIIC provides a mechanism for much needed capital to the sheep and goat industries in a way that will help the industry into perpetuity.

CFDA Number: 10.774

Eligibility:

Eligible entities include public, private, or cooperative organizations, association, including corporations not operated for profit, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes or public or quasi-public agencies. An individual is not considered an eligible entity. Fifty-one percent of the entity must be owned by citizens of the United States or reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence.

Applicants must demonstrate that a competent management team is in place, clearly defining each management team member's role, responsibilities and credentials. Applicants must demonstrate that the management team has the technical, marketing and financial expertise to manage all aspects of the proposed project or program.

Match required:

NSIIC will: (1) Not exceed 50 percent of the project cost on equity investments included in Direct Payments for Specified use; (2) not exceed \$1 million for a direct loan; and (3) require that loan guarantees: (a) have an eligible lender, as defined in the NSIIC Strategic Plan; (b) not exceed \$ 1 million; (c) not exceed 80 percent of the guaranteed loan; and (d) be assessed a 1 percent per annum guarantee fee by NSIIC.

How to Apply:

Eligible applicants should submit proposed projects on the "Proposal Application, National Sheep Industry Improvement Center" form.

Proposal Application, NSIIC, may be submitted at any time to: NSIIC, PO Box 23483, Washington, DC 20026-3483 (Physical location: NSIIC, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, (Room 2117), Washington DC 20250). Funding and policy decisions are made by the NSIIC Board of Directors. Board of Directors application review sessions are held following the end of each calendar quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31). Applications must be received on or before the end of each calendar quarter to be considered. Applications not received within the allotted time period will be considered in the next review session.

Deadlines:

March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.

Contact Info:

Jay B. Wilson, Executive Director and CEO
National Sheep Industry Improvement Center
U.S. Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 23483
Washington DC 20026-3483

Physical location:
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Room 2117
Washington DC 20250-2352

Telephone: (202) 690-0632
Fax: (202) 720-1053
E-mail: jaywilson@nsiic.org

or

Steven Lee, Administrative Officer
Telephone: (207) 236-6567

Fax: (207) 236-6576

E-mail: stevelee@nsiic.org

Duration of Grant:

Terms are negotiable between applicants and the NSIIC Board of Directors. The term of a loan may not exceed the shorter of: (i) The useful life of the activity financed; or (ii) 40 years.

Amounts:

Negotiated with the Board of Directors under the limitations set forth in the annual NSIIC Strategic Plan. Each program or project loan may not exceed \$1 million.

Uses and Restrictions:

(1) Making capital available for increasing production or improving production efficiency; (2) improving marketing efficiency or product quality; (3) promoting coordination in marketing systems and between industry participants; (4) communicating to meet the information needs of the industry and to inform the public and industry of the Center's activities; and (5) taking actions that will maintain the viability of the Center.

Subject Keywords: sheep, goats, production and marketing, business development, economic development

Categories: Direct payments for specified use; Project grants; Direct loans; Guaranteed/insured loans

Website: www.nsiic.org
or
www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/cssheep.htm

Program Name: **Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)**

Agency: Farm Service Agency

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To provide crop loss assistance comparable to the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance to producers of commercial crops or other agricultural commodities for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available.

CFDA Number: 10.451

Eligibility:

Eligible crops include each commercial crop or other agricultural commodities (except livestock and their by-products; tobacco; and trees grown for wood, paper, or pulp products) that is produced for food or fiber and specifically includes: Sea oats, sea grass, floricultural, ornamental nursery, and Christmas tree crops, turfgrass sod, seed crops, aquaculture (including ornamental fish), and industrial crops. An eligible producer is an owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper: (1) Who shares in the risk of producing the crop; (2) who is entitled to share in the crop available for marketing or would have shared had the crop been produced; and (3) whose qualifying gross revenue is less than \$2 million for the preceding tax year for which an application for coverage is filed.

Applicants must provide to the local administrative FSA office, annual certifications of acreage, yield, and production. Randomly selected producers and producers requesting program payments must also provide acceptable records of production. Applicants must provide evidence as necessary for a proper determination of their eligibility.

Match required:

No match, but there is a service fee.

How to Apply:

Applicants must file an application for coverage in the local administrative FSA office. An applicable service fee must accompany the application. Coverage is effective the later of:

- (1) 30 days after the application for coverage is filed;
- (2) date the crop is planted for yield-based crops or the beginning of the crop year for all other eligible crops.

Other documentation required to fulfill the application requirements include:

- (1) A report of acreage, facility, etc.;

- (2) a notice of loss when the eligible crop is prevented from being planted as a result of eligible natural disaster or the eligible planted crop or commodity suffers loss of yield due to eligible natural disaster;
- (3) if the crop is harvested, a certification of production, and in the crop year for which an application for payment is filed, acceptable evidence of production;
- (4) if the crop will not be harvested, a request to the local county FSA office for appraisal; and
- (5) a certification of gross revenue.

Deadlines:

Applications for coverage to include both prevented planting and low-yield coverage must be filed at least 30 calendar days prior to the final planting date for yield-based crops or in the case of multiple planted crops, 30 calendar days prior to the beginning of the respective planting period. Applications for coverage to include only low-yield coverage may be filed until the final planting date for yield-based crops or in the case of multiple planted crops, the beginning of the respective planting period. Applications for all other eligible crops must be filed no later than the beginning of the crop year. Other reporting requirements and deadlines will become applicable upon acceptance of the application for coverage.

Contact Info:

Contact your local FSA county office, which may be found in the telephone directory or online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/wherapply.htm>

National Office contact information:

Steve Peterson
Branch Chief
Farm Service Agency
Production, Emergency and Compliance Division
Noninsured Assistance Program Branch
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 0517
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250-0526

Telephone: 202-720-5172
Fax: 202-690-3646

Duration of Grant:

Assistance is normally provided in a single payment following approval of the application for payment.

Amounts:

N/A

Uses and Restrictions:

None

Subject Keywords: emergency assistance, disaster relief, crop loss

Categories: Direct payments with unrestricted use

Website: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/nap.htm>

Program Name: Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To reverse the decline of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers across the United States. The intended outcome is to encourage and assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to own and operate their own farms and ranches, participate in agricultural programs, and thus allow them to become an integral part of the agricultural community and strengthen the rural economy.

CFDA Number: 10.443

Eligibility:

Indian Tribal Community Colleges, Alaska Native cooperative colleges, Hispanic-serving post-secondary educational institutions, 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, including Tuskegee University, other post-secondary educational institutions providing Agricultural education or other agriculturally-related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in their region and community-based organizations that: (1) Have demonstrated experience in providing agricultural education or other agriculturally related services to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in their region; (2) provide documentary evidence of its past experience in working with socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers during the 2 years preceding its application for assistance; and (3) do not engage in activities prohibited under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Beneficiaries include farmers or ranchers who are members of one or more of the following groups whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Groups include, but are not limited to, African-Americans, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asians, and Pacific Islanders. The Secretary of Agriculture will determine on a case-by-case basis whether additional groups qualify under this definition, either at the Secretary's initiative or in response to a written request with supporting explanation.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

Notice of fund availability and request for proposals will be published in the Federal Register. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure

Formal proposals should be submitted as outlined in the solicitation of proposals/applications. Application procedures are contained in the 2501 Program Application booklet. This program is subject to the Administrative procedures of 7 CFR Part 26.

Award Procedure

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by the 2501 Program staff members with the assistance and advice of a review panel of appropriate persons that are specialists who are qualified by training and experience in the fields covered by the proposals. Proposals are ranked and recommended in order of merit and funded to the extent permitted by available funds. Final approval for those proposals selected will be made by the Awarding Official.

Deadlines:

Dates governing the acceptance, review, and selection of projects will be published in the Federal Register Notice or other applicable publication announcing the request for proposals.

Contact Info:

Geraldine Herring
Office of Outreach
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
AG Stop 1710
Washington, DC 20250
Telephone: (202) 720-1637
Fax: (202) 720-7489

Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty
Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250
Telephone 202-205-0241
Fax: 202-401-6488
E-mail: etuckermanty@csrees.usda.gov

Main line: (202) 401-1761

Duration of Grant:

One to five years as stipulated by the current request for proposals notification published in the Federal Register.

Amounts:

FY 2001, 27 recipients - \$62,941 to \$550,000, average was approximately \$225,000; and FY 2002, 30 recipients - \$66,437 to \$276,822, average was approximately \$200,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

To provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers on agricultural programs

Subject Keywords: outreach, training, technical assistance to small and disadvantaged farmers

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/crgam/oasdf/

Program Name: **Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control, and Animal Care**

Agency: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To protect U.S. agriculture from economically injurious plant and animal diseases and pests, ensure the safety and potency of veterinary biologic, and ensure the humane treatment of animals.

CFDA Number: 10.025

Eligibility:

Foreign, State, local, and U.S. Territorial government agencies, nonprofit institutions of higher education, and nonprofit associations or organizations requiring Federal support to eradicate, control, or assess the status of injurious plant and animal diseases and pests that are a threat to regional or national agriculture and conduct related demonstration projects.

Match required:

Recipients share some project or program costs. The cost-sharing arrangements are developed between USDA and the recipients in advance of the program unless otherwise stated by Congress.

How to Apply:

A letter from applicants seeking support or cooperation with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Applicants must indicate the nature and severity of the problem to be considered and explain how they will address the problem. This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. Applicants must comply with E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," and submit a completed Standard Form 424.1, "U.S. Department of Agriculture, Application for Federal Assistance (Non-construction)" and project proposal (work plan), financial plan, curriculum vitae, and other required certifications to the appropriate APHIS area, regional, or Headquarters Office. See Regional and Local Office Address Listing. Applications are approved by the Administrator or Authorized Departmental Officers (ADOs) upon determination that the project will contribute toward accomplishment of the Agency's overall mission and meet any established project evaluation/selection criteria.

All proposal solicitations are published in the Federal Register. Formal proposal to National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program, USDA/CSREES as outlined in the guidelines. Application procedures are contained in CSREES Research Grant Application Kit. National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program staff members review and evaluate all proposals with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified scientists and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the field covered by the proposal. Proposals are accepted in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Agreement Services Center
Marketing and Regulatory Programs
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
USDA Center
4700 River Road, Unit 55, Station 4B80
Riverdale, MD 20737
Contact: Anita S. Ridley
Telephone: (301) 734-8792

Duration of Grant:

Up to 1 year from the date of award. Funds are made available as required to cover expenditures.

Amounts:

Obligations: (Grants) FY03 \$169,056,837, FY04 est \$147,780,260, FY05 est \$109,637,430

Uses and Restrictions:

Conduct surveys, inspections to detect and appraise infestations, eradication and control activities, and carry out regulatory actions to prevent interstate spread of infestations and diseases.

Subject Keywords: safety, plant health, animal health, protection plant diseases, animal diseases

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.aphis.usda.gov

Program Name: **Quality Samples Program (QSP)**

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Quality Samples Program is designed to encourage the development and expansion of export markets for U.S. agricultural commodities by assisting U.S. entities in providing commodity samples to potential foreign importers to promote a better understanding and appreciation for the high quality of U.S. agricultural commodities.

CFDA Number: 10.605

Eligibility:

An applicant must be a U.S. entity, and must submit a written proposal which includes, but is not limited to, the following: a description of the organization and its membership; a description of the organization's prior export promotion experience; a description of the organization's experience in implementing an appropriate trade/technical assistance component; an assessment of the market; a long-term strategy in the market; amount of funding requested; a brief description of the specific market development trade constraint or opportunity to be addressed by the project; a sample description; and the importer's role in the project regarding handling and processing the commodity samples.

Match required:

Although highly encouraged, financial and in-kind support from the participant is not required. Such contributions may be in the form of cash or goods and services.

How to Apply:

Each year the availability of funds is announced in a Federal Register notice. At that time, proposals should be submitted to the Director, Marketing Operations Staff, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

Deadlines:

Application deadline is announced in the form of a Federal Register notice.

Contact Info:

Marketing Operations Staff
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Room 4932 South Building, Stop 1042
1400 Independence Ave. SW

Washington, DC 20250-1042

Telephone: (202) 720-4327

Fax: (202) 720-9361

E-mail: mosadmin@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Agreements generally include a 12-month promotional effort and a requirement for program evaluation. Funds awarded in any given fiscal year may be made available for a longer period.

Amounts:

Projects funded on a project by project basis for up to \$75,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Quality Samples Program funds are authorized through project agreements that include the maximum amount that may be reimbursed and identify terms and conditions pursuant to which Commodity Credit Corporation will reimburse costs. Under the QSP, participants may be reimbursed for certain costs of purchasing and transporting commodity samples. Although providing technical assistance is required for all projects, costs of providing the actual technical assistance is not reimbursed under the QSP.

Subject Keywords: international trade, exporting, business development

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/qspfact.html

Program Name: Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG)

Agency: Rural Business - Cooperative Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The purpose is to promote sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs. This is accomplished by making grants to pay costs of providing economic planning for rural communities, technical assistance for rural businesses, or training for rural entrepreneurs or economic development officials.

CFDA Number: 10.773

Eligibility:

To be eligible for a Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) applicants must be a public body, nonprofit corporation, Indian tribe, or cooperative with members that are primarily rural residents. You must have significant expertise in the activities you propose to carry out with the grant funds and financial strength to ensure you can accomplish the objectives of the proposed grant. You must be able to show that the funding will result in economic development of a rural area (which is defined as any area other than a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants and the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to such a cities or towns). Your project must include a basis for determining the success or failure of the project and assessing its impact.

Match required:

This program has no statutory formula or matching requirements, although availability of matching funds is considered in determining priority.

How to Apply:

An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in the State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. This program is subject to environmental review requirements; however, most applications are expected to qualify as general exclusions.

Potential applicants should file Standard Form 424.1, "Application for Federal Assistance (For Nonconstruction)," and additional material required by Agency regulations with the USDA Rural Development State Office. The application will include a written narrative and scope of work. More details are available from the Headquarters Office or any Rural Development State Office.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Contact should be made with the U.S.DA Rural Development State Office first. For general information, you may contact the national office at:

Rural Business-Cooperative Service
Specialty Lenders Division
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 3225, Room 6867
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-1521

Telephone: (202) 720-7287
General information (recorded): (202) 720-1400

Duration of Grant:

Funding for complete projects is limited to projects that can be completed within 2 years. Projects of longer duration may only be funded for 1 year at a time.

Amounts:

A maximum of \$50,000 per grant is authorized by the legislation creating this program.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grant funds may be used to assist in the economic development of rural areas by providing technical assistance, training, and planning for business and economic development.

Grant funds may be used to:

- Identify and analyze business opportunities.
- Identify, train, and assist existing or prospective rural entrepreneurs.
- Establish business support centers.
- Conduct community or multi-county economic development planning.
- Establish centers for training, technology, and trade.
- Conduct leadership development training.

Grant funds may not be used for:

- Duplication of current services or replace or substitute support previously provided.
- Pay costs of preparation of application.
- Costs incurred prior to effective date of the grant.
- Fund political activities.
- Acquisition of real estate, building construction or development.

Subject Keywords: technical assistance, training, planning , business development, economic development.

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbog.htm

Program Name: Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program (RCDG)

Agency: Rural Business - Cooperative Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To establish and operate centers for rural cooperative development to improve economic conditions in rural areas by promoting the development of new cooperatives and/or improvement of existing cooperatives.

CFDA Number: 10.771

Eligibility:

Applicants eligible are nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education. Rural area for this program is defined as all territories of a State, that is not within the outer boundary of any city having a population of 50,000 or more according to the latest decennial census of the United States.

Match required:

The total allocation is controlled by the National Office. Grant funds may be used to pay 75 percent of a project cost and administrative cost associated with the project. Applicants will be required to contribute at least 25 percent in cash or in kind contributions.

How to Apply:

An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

Preapplication Form SF-424 is filed at the Rural Development (RD) State office. The preapplication should be submitted to the RD State Office. The funding request is submitted to the National Office for scoring and funding authority. Final processing of the awards will be given to the designated State.

Deadlines:

Published in Federal Register

Contact Info:

Marc Warman
Program Leader
or

Gail Thuner
Management and Program Analyst
Cooperative Services, Rural Business-Cooperative Services
Stop 3250, Room 4016
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

Telephone:
Marc Warman: (202) 690-1431
Gail Thuner: (202) 690-2426
Fax: (202) 720-4641
Email: marc.warman@usda.gov
gail.thuner@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

1 year

Amounts:

From \$65,000 to \$200,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grant funds may be used, among other things, for basic feasibility studies and providing technical assistance or advisory services; to individuals, small businesses, cooperatives, or rural industries in efforts to develop new cooperatives or improve existing cooperatives.

Subject Keywords: economic development, community development, cooperatives

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/rcdg.htm

Program Name: **Scientific Cooperation and Research (International Collaborative Research and Scientific Exchanges, Scientific Cooperation Program)**

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To promote international cooperation in research efforts that benefit U.S. food, agriculture and the environment through short term scientific exchanges and longer term collaborative research projects linking scientists in the U.S. and countries worldwide.

CFDA Number: 10.961

Eligibility:

U.S. institutions of higher learning, U.S. Federal or State agencies, and public/private nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is scientific and agricultural research, including those located in U.S. territories. U.S. scientists may collaborate with an appropriate research institution in any country with which the United States has diplomatic relations. International Agricultural Research Centers of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) are considered foreign cooperating institutions.

Credentials/Documentation

Proposal selection criteria includes an assessment of the professional qualifications and competence of the proposal's principal investigators and the adequacy of the institutional resources related to the proposed scientific cooperation activity. This program is subject to the provisions of OMB Circular Nos. A-21 and A-122. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-87.

Match required:

For Research Collaboration Projects, participating U.S. institutions are expected to share a portion of project costs or arrange supplemental funding from other sources. For the U.S.-China Scientific and Technical Exchanges operated under a receiving side pays arrangement with the People's Republic of China, U.S. program participants are responsible for their international airfare [sic].

How to Apply:

Formal Scientific Cooperation and Research Program proposals should be submitted to the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service's International Cooperation and Development Research and Scientific Exchanges Division as outlined in the program guidelines

which detail application procedures. Guidelines for the Scientific Cooperation and Research Program are available directly from the Foreign Agricultural Services's Research and Scientific Exchanges Division, USDA/FAS/ICD/RSED/SCRP, Mail Stop 1084, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1084. Program guidelines are also on the internet through the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service's web site at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/icd/grants/scrp.htm> as well as from links at other sites concerning USDA funding programs. This program is subject to the provision of OMB Circular No. A-110. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-102.

Award Procedure

Program staff members review and evaluate all proposals with the assistance and advice of peer panels of qualified U.S. scientists. Proposals are selected according to how well they meet criteria that includes scientific or technical merit of the proposed activity; suitability of the investigators and institutions; feasibility of achieving proposal objectives; relevance to priority issues in U.S. food, agriculture and the environment; and potential for furthering international cooperation. Proposals are funded to the extent permitted by available funds.

Deadlines:

Annual deadlines for proposal submissions are generally in the fall or winter to be considered for funding the following spring. Consult current program guidelines for specific dates.

Contact Info:

Carol Kramer-LeBlanc
Director
or
Calvina Dupre
Program Specialist
USDA/FAS/International Cooperation and Development
Research and Scientific Exchanges Division
S-3229
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250-1084

Telephone: (202) 690-4872
Fax: 202-690-0892
E-mail: calvina.dupre@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Long-term research project agreements range from 1 to 3 years, with funds provided annually. Short-term exchange visits are limited to 2 to 4 weeks.

Amounts:

For research projects, up to a maximum total of \$45,000 for a 3-year project. Partial support is available for short-term exchanges up to 4 weeks.

Uses and Restrictions:

Funds may not be used to pay indirect costs, general communication, clerical and publication costs, tuition, expenses solely for conferences or sabbaticals, or salary for principal investigators. Funds may be used for direct costs of conducting approved activities such as research associates, travel, supplies, and equipment.

Subject Keywords: international cooperation, food research, agriculture research, professional exchange, education

Categories: Project grants (cooperative agreements); Direct payments for specified use.

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/icd/grants/scrp.htm

Program Name: Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To promote excellence in agriscience and agribusiness education, and to encourage more young Americans to pursue baccalaureate and higher degrees in the food and agricultural sciences.

CFDA Number: 10.226

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility

Public secondary schools or public or private nonprofit junior and community colleges.

Beneficiary Eligibility

Public secondary schools or public or private nonprofit junior and community colleges.

Credentials/Documentation

Each first-time recipient must furnish organizational management information requested by the funding agency, and each applicant must provide assurances specified in the annual solicitation of applications.

Match required:

Dollar-for-dollar matching funds from nonfederal sources is required.

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

All proposals/solicitations are published in the Federal Register. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure

Formal proposals should be submitted to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, as outlined in the solicitation of applications. Application procedures are contained in the program regulations and required forms are contained in the Grant Application Kit. This program is subject to the regulatory provisions of USDA, 7 CFR Part 3015, et

seq., and all successor regulations.

Award Procedure

Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by CSREES staff members with the assistance and advice of peer panels of qualified educators, administrators, industrialists, and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the fields covered by the proposals. Proposals are supported in order of merit to the extent permitted by available funds. Grant payments may be made by the electronic transfer system, advance by Treasury check, or reimbursement by Treasury check.

Deadlines:

All deadlines are announced in the Federal Register. The deadline for submission of fiscal year 2004 proposals is January 14, 2004.

Contact Info:

Mr. P. Gregory Smith
National Program Leader
CSREES/Higher Education Programs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Stop 2251
1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250-2251
Phone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
E-mail: gsmith@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants are awarded for a 1 to 2-year period and may receive no-cost extensions as appropriate up to a maximum of 5 years.

Amounts:

From \$15,000 to \$40,000. Average: \$20,900.

Uses and Restrictions:

Funds may be used only in targeted areas, e.g., curricula design and materials development, promotion of teaching competencies, promotion of agriscience and agribusiness career information, instruction delivery systems, student experiential learning, and educational activities that increase the diversity of students pursuing degrees in agriscience and agribusiness.

Subject Keywords: food and agriculture education, food and agriculture science

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/1700/funding/rfaspec.htm

Program Name: Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)

Agency: Food and Nutrition Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

(1) To provide fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables and herbs from farmers markets, roadside stands and community supported agriculture programs to low-income seniors, and (2) to increase the consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding, developing, or aiding in the development and expansion of domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, and community supported agriculture programs.

CFDA Number: 10.576

Eligibility:

All States, United States territories, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments are eligible to apply for a grant.

Persons eligible for the program are low-income seniors, generally defined as individuals who are at least 60 years old and who have household income of not more than 185% of the Federal poverty income guidelines (published each year by the Department of Health and Human Services). Some State agencies accept proof of participation or enrollment in another means-tested program, such as the Commodity Supplemental Food Program or Food Stamps, for SFMNP eligibility.

In addition to submitting an application based on the requirements of the grant solicitation, potential grantees must submit a standard SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance form. In addition, potential grantees must submit forms in which they agree to comply with USDA regulations and Office of Management and Budget circulars, including: Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, Government-wide Debarment and suspension; Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace; and, New Restrictions on Lobbying.

Match required:

SFMNP grant funds are provided only to support the costs of the foods that are provided under the SFMNP; no administrative funding is provided.

How to Apply:

Each State applying for a SFMNP grant must designate a lead State agency. Each State may only submit one application on behalf of all interested State agencies, local governments, and non-profit organizations in the State. However, the lead State agency may make subgrants to other State agencies, Indian tribal governments, local

governments, and non-profit organizations. Also, Indian tribal governments may make subgrants to local governments and non-profit organizations in the areas they serve. Interested agencies are encouraged to contact the Governor's office or Indian tribal governments to work together on an application. If multiple applications are received from more than one agency within the same State, FNS reserves the right to contact the Governor's office in that State for a final designation of the lead State agency. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Under the competitive grant process, FNS announces the opportunity for States, including territories and Federally recognized Indian tribal governments, to submit grant applications for the SFMNP for each fiscal year. All applications are due by a specified date to FNS Headquarters.

Award Procedure

Applications are reviewed and evaluated by a panel of FNS staff to determine the technical merit of each grant application. Two separate panels evaluate applications; one panel reviews applications from current State agencies that are seeking expansion funds and another panel reviews applications from new State agencies. SFMNP funds are first provided to current State agencies that operated the program in the prior fiscal year, and that want to continue operations, at the level of funds that were actually expended during the prior fiscal year. Based on the evaluation of the applications and availability of funds, remaining funds are provided to current State agencies selected to receive expansion funds and to new State agencies selected to operate the program. Grant payments are made by a letter of credit.

Deadlines:

A deadline for the submission of grant applications is set forth in the announcement by FNS. In general, applications are due approximately 60 days after the announcement to request grant applications.

Contact Info:

Patricia Daniels, Director
Supplemental Food Programs Division Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 520
Alexandria, VA 22302

Telephone: (703) 305-2746
Fax: (703) 305-2196

Duration of Grant:

SFMNP funds are provided for the duration of the fiscal year using Federal Reserve Bank letters of credit.

Amounts:

For FY 2003, the range of funds provided to State agencies was from \$6,440 to \$1.5 million; the average amount of awards was just over \$420,500.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grants are made to State departments such as health, agriculture and aging, State territories and Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, or any other agency approved by the chief executive officer of the State. Grant funds may be used only to support the costs of the foods that are provided under the SFMNP; no administrative funding is available.

Subject Keywords: health, nutrition, farmers markets, community supported agriculture, market expansion

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.fns.usda.gov/wic/SeniorFMNP/SFMNPmenu.htm

Program Name: **Small Business Innovation Research**

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To stimulate technological innovation in the private sector, strengthen the role of small businesses in meeting Federal research and development needs, increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from USDA-supported research and development efforts, and foster and encourage participation, by women-owned and socially disadvantaged small business firms in technological innovation.

CFDA Number: 10.212

Eligibility:

Small businesses which: (a) Are organized for profit, independently owned or operated, are not dominant in the proposed research field, have their principal places of business located in the United States, have a number of employees not exceeding 500 in all affiliated firms owned or controlled by a single parent concern, and meet the other regulatory requirements outlined in 13 CFR Part 121, as amended; (b) are at least 51 percent owned, or in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned, by U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted permanent resident aliens; (c) are the primary source of employment for the principal investigator of the proposed effort at the time of award and during the actual conduct of proposed research; (d) are the primary performer of the proposed research effort. Because this program is intended to increase the use of small business firms in Federal research or research and development, the term "primary performer" means that a minimum of two-thirds of the research or analytical work, as determined by budget expenditures, must be performed by the proposing organization under Phase I grants. For Phase II awards, a minimum of one-half of the research or analytical effort must be conducted by the proposing firm.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Formal proposal to SBIR Program, CSREES, USDA, as outlined in the SBIR program solicitation. Application procedures are contained in the SBIR program solicitation. This program is excluded from coverage under OMB Circular No. A-110.

The SBIR Program staff reviews and evaluates all proposals with the assistance and advice of a peer panel of qualified scientists and other appropriate persons who are specialists in the field covered by the proposal.

Deadlines:

Deadlines are announced in the Federal Register and SBIR Program Solicitation for each fiscal year.

Contact Info:

Dr. Charles Cleland, Director
or
Dr. William Goldner, National Program Leader
CSREES/USDA
Stop 2243
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-2243

Telephone: (202) 401-4002
Fax: (202) 401-6070
E-mail: ccleland@csrees.usda.gov
wgoldner@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Phase I grants are normally limited to 6 months. Phase II grants are normally limited to 2 years.

Amounts:

From \$46,000 to \$300,000. Average: \$94,990.

Uses and Restrictions:

The selected areas for research are forests and related resources; plant production and protection; animal production and protection; air, water, and soils; food science and nutrition; rural and community development; aquaculture; industrial applications; and marketing and trade. The Small Business Innovation Research Program is carried out in three separate phases: Phase I projects are supported to determine the scientific or technical feasibility of ideas submitted by proposes on the selected research areas; Phase II awards are made to firms with approaches that appear sufficiently promising as a result of Phase I studies. Only those small businesses previously receiving Phase I awards in either of the two preceding fiscal years are eligible to submit Phase II proposals. Phase II projects are limited to \$300,000 for a period normally not to exceed 24 months; Phase III is to be conducted by the small business concern (including joint ventures and limited partnerships), and will be non-SBIR funded through the exercising of a follow-on funding commitment. The purpose of Phase III is to stimulate technological innovation and the national return on investment from research through the pursuit of commercialization objectives resulting from the USDA-supported work carried out in Phases I and II.

Subject Keywords: business development, research

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/sbir/

Program Name: **Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program)**

Agency: Food and Nutrition Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To provide low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children to age five determined to be at nutritional risk, at no cost, supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education, and referrals to health care providers.

CFDA Number: 10.557

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility

A local agency is eligible to apply to locally deliver the services of the WIC Program provided: 1) it serves a population of low-income women, infants, and children at nutritional risk; and 2) it is a public or private nonprofit health or human service agency. All local agencies must apply through the responsible State or U.S. Territory agency.

Beneficiary Eligibility

Pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants, and children up to 5 years of age are eligible if: 1) they are individually determined by a competent professional to be in need of the special supplemental foods supplied by the program because of nutritional risk; and 2) meet an income standard, or receive or have certain family members that receive benefits under the Food Stamp, Medicaid or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program. They must also reside in the State in which benefits are received.

Credentials/Documentation

Individuals are certified as meeting an income standard, or as participating in certain other means-tested Federal programs. Certification regarding nutritional need for supplemental foods is determined by local level professionals. As of April 1999, all State agencies were using uniform criteria to determine nutrition risk. Costs are determined in accordance with OMB Circular No. A-87 for State and local governments. The State designated official responsible for ensuring that the program is operated in accordance with program requirements must sign the State plan and Federal-State agreement pursuant to program regulations.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

Application is made through submission of a "State Plan of Program Operation and Administration," as required by legislation. This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. The standard application forms as furnished by FNS and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, as implemented by 7 CFR part 3016, must be used for this program by State and local agencies.

Application Procedure

Local agencies must apply to the state agency in writing. Individual participants apply for WIC benefits at an approved local agency.

Award Procedure

Funds are awarded by the Department on the basis of funding formulas to State agencies for distribution to approved local agencies subject to available funds.

Deadlines:

A State plan for the next fiscal year is required by August 15. Only substantive changes to the currently approved State plan must be submitted.

Contact Info:

Patricia Daniels, Director
Supplemental Food Programs Division Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 520
Alexandria, VA 22302

Telephone: (703) 305-2746
Fax: (703) 305-2196

Duration of Grant:

Grants are released for the fiscal year using an electronic transfer system. State agencies may withdraw funds only as needed.

Amounts:

From \$56,167 to \$718,922,206. Average: \$46,854,375 in fiscal year 2001 for the 88 State agencies.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grants are made to State health departments or comparable agencies, Indian tribes, bands, or intertribal councils, or groups recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, or the Indian Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These agencies distribute funds to participating local public or nonprofit private health or welfare agencies. Funds are expended to pay for supplemental foods, nutrition education and health care referrals for participants, as well as specified administrative costs, including certification services. State agencies are provided Federal funds according to legislative and regulatory formulas. Only local agencies qualifying under State agency applications with formal agreements may operate WIC programs.

Subject Keywords: women, infants and children, health, nutrition, nutrition education

Categories: Formula grants

Website: www.fns.usda.gov/wic

Program Name: Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To facilitate and increase scientific investigation and education in order to reduce the use of chemical pesticides, fertilizers and toxic materials in agricultural production; to improve management of on-farm resources to enhance productivity, profitability and competitiveness; to promote crop, livestock and enterprise diversification, and to facilitate the conduct of research projects in order to study agricultural production systems that are located in areas that possess various soil, climatic, and physical characteristics; to study farms that have been and continue to be managed using farm production practices that optimize the use of on-farm resources and conservation practices; to take advantage of the experience and expertise of farmers and ranchers through their direct participation and leadership in projects; to transfer practical, reliable and timely information to farmers and ranchers concerning sustainable practices and systems; and to promote a partnership between farmers, nonprofit organizations, agribusiness, and public and private research and extension institutions.

CFDA Number: 10.215

Eligibility:

Land-grant colleges or universities, other universities, State agricultural experiment stations, State cooperative extension services, nonprofit organizations, and individuals with demonstrable expertise, or Federal or State governmental entities.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Step. 1: Obtain a copy of a SARE call for proposal from the appropriate region and ask to be put on the regional mailing list for future calls.

North Central Region SARE
13-A Activities Bldg.
University of NE-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 68583-0840
(402) 472-7081
ncrsare@unl.edu

Northeast Region SARE

University of Vermont
Hills Bldg.
Burlington, VT 05405-0082
(802) 656-0471
nesare@zoo.uvm.edu

Southern Region SARE (includes Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands)
University of Georgia Ag Experiment Station
1109 Experiment St.
Griffin, GA 30223-1797
(770) 412-4787 groland@gaes.griffin.peachnet.edu

Western Region SARE (includes the Island Protectorates)
Utah State University Plants, Soils & Biomet. Dept.
Ag Science Bldg., UMC-4865
Logan, UT 84322-4865
(435) 797-2257
wsare@mendel.usu.edu

Step. 2: Determine the relevant deadline for the grant program(s) from which you seek funding.

Step. 3: Submit your proposal, following all guidelines specified by the region, prior to the specified deadline.

Deadlines:

Contact the Headquarters office for application deadlines.

Contact Info:

Jill S. Auburn, SARE Director
USDA-CSREES
Stop 2223
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-2223

Telephone: (202) 720-5384
Fax: (202) 720-6071
E-mail: jauburn@reeusda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Agreements will be supported for periods of 1 to 5 years. Funds are released by the electronic transfer system and reimbursement by Treasury check.

Amounts:

From \$8,000 to \$1,752,250. Average: \$855,540.

Uses and Restrictions:

SARE's four regional offices administer three grant programs: (1) SARE Research and Education grants, (2) SARE Producer Grants, and (3) SARE Professional Development grants. All grant programs have only one application period per year. However, each grant has its own application, deadline, and focus. Each region solicits proposals and awards grants.

SARE Research and Education Grants: Since 1988, competitive grants for sustainable agriculture research and education have been awarded by four regional administrative councils. Generally ranging from \$30,000 to \$200,000, they fund projects that usually involve scientists, producers and others in an interdisciplinary approach. Many funded projects involve on-farm research trials with crops and/or livestock; other projects have studied quality of life, agricultural marketing, integrated farming systems, and soil and water conservation. Successful proposals typically include economic analysis and outreach components. The program also funds education and demonstration projects, including the development of farmer-to-farmer networks. Producers can team up with one or more technical experts (such as a university researcher) to apply for this grant. Typically \$1.2 to \$1.4 million is available for each region.

SARE Producer Grants: Producers wanting to test an idea should consider this grant program for a research or education project. Many producer projects involve on-farm trials with crops or livestock, but some have focused on marketing or educational activities. Producers are expected to partner with an extension professional or other agricultural adviser and include a strategy for sharing their results with others. usually, \$150,000 to \$200,000 is available for each region.

Proposals that involve both extension personnel and producers are preferred, and partnerships of nonprofit organizations with extension and/or Natural Resource Conservation Service staff are welcome. Professional development activities are intended to be "train-the-trainer" programs, with a primary emphasis on CES staff, but they also provide opportunities for NRCS and other field agency staff. Typically, \$300,000 to \$400,000 is available for each region for grants.

Funds may not be used to pay indirect costs or tuition. Funds may be used for transportation, per diem, salaries, office supplies, printing, and other direct costs for conducting approved activities.

Subject Keywords: sustainable agriculture, farm research, education, professional development

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.sare.org/htdocs/sare/funding.html

Program Name: Trade Adjustment Assistance

Agency: Foreign Agricultural Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

Under the program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides technical assistance and cash benefits to eligible farmers and fishermen if increased imports have contributed importantly to a price decline of at least 20 percent. Technical assistance under the program can provide access to a wide variety of resources from USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), in partnership with a county Extension Service, to assist producers in exploring alternative crops and marketing techniques. The program's goal is to help producers respond proactively to import competition through training, cash benefits, and employment services.

CFDA Number: 10.609

Eligibility:

USDA's FAS will certify producers' eligibility for adjustment assistance if they can demonstrate that their prices are less than or equal to 80 percent of the national average price during the previous 5 marketing years and that increases in imports of like or competitive products "contributed importantly" to the decline in prices. They may then apply individually for benefits. Subsequently, a producer is eligible for TAA benefits once a petition has been certified and if: (1) that producer is an owner, operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing a crop and who is entitled to share in the crop availability for marketing from the farm, or qualified fishermen; (2) you are a producer of a raw agricultural commodity, including livestock, fish, and aquaculture products.

Beneficiaries are producers of raw commodities who have been adversely affected by import competition and are covered by a certification of eligibility.

When applying, producers must provide documentation that they produced the commodity during the most recent marketing year. To be eligible for cash payments, producers must certify that their net income from farming, aquaculture or fishing has declined, that their average adjusted gross income fell below \$2.5 million, and that they have received their free technical assistance from the Extension Service. Even if eligible for benefits under multiple petitions, a producer may receive no more than \$10,000 per year in TAA cash payments. Producers may receive no more than \$65,000 in combined counter-cyclical and TAA payments.

Match required:

USDA's FAS will compute and FSA or National Payment Service (NPS) will issue a payment that is equal to the product of the amount of the commodity produced in the most recent marketing year multiplied by one-half the difference between an amount equal to 80 percent of the average of the national average prices of the commodity for the 5 marketing years preceding the most recent marketing year and the national average price of the commodity for the most recent marketing year.

How to Apply:

Producers must first file a petition with USDA's FAS to establish eligibility for assistance. Petitions may be filed by a group of three or more producers or an authorized representative. The TAA petition form may be found on the Internet at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/taa/fas0930.pdf>. A copy may also be obtained from a USDA Farm Service Agency county office, or requested by phone at (202) 720-2916 or by writing to USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Stop 1021, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1021. The TAA regulation defines articles like or directly competitive as products falling generally under the same number in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Links to the HTS and a U.S. trade database are in the TAA Library. When preparing petitions, producers are encouraged to seek advice from the Trade Adjustment Assistance Office regarding how best to identify their commodity by HTS number. After an application is approved, producers are immediately eligible to request trade adjustment technical assistance from the Extension Service at no cost. The Extension Office will provide information regarding the feasibility and desirability of substituting one or more alternative commodities and technical assistance that will improve the competitiveness of the production and marketing of the adversely affected commodity. Furthermore, to qualify for a TAA cash payment, producers must complete Form FSA-229, meet with the county Extension Service, and submit all supporting documentation by September 30.

Award Procedure

FAS determined the eligibility of producers of raw commodities who have been adversely affected by import competition based on all information and supporting documentation provided. The Extension Service will make available to all producers who apply for TAA free technical assistance within 180 days of the petition certification date. The Extension Service will contact applicants with the times and dates of scheduled training sessions. Then, FAS will compute the amount of cash payment for certified eligible producers. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) or National Payment Service (NPS) will make direct deposit payments to certified eligible producers' checking accounts. The maximum cash benefit is up to \$10,000 per year. In some years, producers may receive less, if producer demands for TAA exceed funding levels.

Deadlines:

Use the link to access TAA Petition Registry in order to find out the filing date, approval date, and application period end date for each type of eligible commodity per impacted area: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa/registry.htm>. A certified eligible producer must apply for adjustment assistance within 90 days after the eligibility certification approval date. FSA county offices can help producers prepare and submit their applications. To qualify for a TAA cash payment, producers must complete Form FSA-229, meet with the county Extension Service, and submit all supporting documentation by September 30.

Contact Info:

Jean-Louis Pajot
Trade Adjustment Assistance Coordinator
Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers Program
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. SW
ITP/IPPD, Rm. 5531-S
Washington, DC 20250-1021

Telephone: (202) 720-2916
Fax: (202)720-0876
E-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Payment is made by direct deposit after determining applicant eligibility.

Amounts:

The maximum cash benefit is up to \$10,000 per year. In some years, producers may receive less, if producer demands for TAA exceed funding levels.

Uses and Restrictions:

This program makes payments to eligible farmers, ranchers, fish farmers, and fishermen competing with imported aquaculture products.

Subject Keywords: technical assistance, business development, economic development, alternative crops, marketing

Categories: Direct payments for unrestricted use

Website: www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa/taaindex.htm

Program Name: Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To enhance educational opportunities at the 30 Tribal Colleges designated as the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions by strengthening their teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences in targeted need areas.

CFDA Number: 10.221

Eligibility:

Bay Mills Community College, Blackfeet Community College, Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Cheyenne River Community College, Dine Community College, D-Q University, Dull Knife Memorial College, Fond Du Lac Community College, Fort Belknap Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, Fort Peck Community College, LacCourte Orielles Ojibwa Community College, Little Big Horn Community College, Nebraska Indian Community College, Northwest Indian College, Oglala Lakota College, Salish Kootenai College, Sinte Gleska University, Sisseton Wahpeton Community College, Sitting Bull College, Stone Child Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, United Tribes Technical College, Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, Institute of American Indian Arts, Crown Point Institute of Technology, Haskell Indian Nations University, Leech Lake Tribal College, College of the Menominee Nation, and Little Priest Tribal College.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

Formal application should be submitted to the Office of Extramural Programs, CSREES, as outlined in the application package submitted to the 29 institutions. Application procedures are contained in the program guidelines and required forms are contained in the Grant Application Kit. This program is subject to the regulatory provisions of USDA's 7 CFR 3015 et seq. and 7 CFR 3019, and all successor regulations.

Applications are reviewed and evaluated by USDA staff and by expert educators and scientist from other Federal agencies as needed. Grant payment may be made by the electronic transfer system or advance by Treasury check.

Deadlines:

As announced in requests for proposals each year

Contact Info:

Dr. George L. Godfrey
National Program Leader
U.S. Department of Agriculture
SERD
Stop 2251
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington , DC 20250

Phone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
E-mail: ggodfrey@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Grants are awarded for a 12-to 24-month period of assistance.

Amounts:

Approximately \$50,000 to each of the 30 1994 Institutions

Uses and Restrictions:

Public Law 103-382 targeted funds to benefit those schools specifically listed as the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions. Funds may be used to support teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences in the targeted need areas of: 1) Curricula design and instructional materials development; 2) faculty development and preparation for teaching; 3) instruction delivery systems; 4) student experiential learning; 5) equipment and instrumentation for teaching, and 6) student recruitment and retention.

Subject Keywords: food education, agriculture education, tribal colleges

Categories: Formula grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/serd/hep/hepgrants.htm#equity

Program Name: Tribal Colleges Endowment Program

Agency: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

To enhance educational opportunities at the 30 Tribal colleges designated as the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions by strengthening their teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences in targeted need areas.

CFDA Number: 10.222

Eligibility:

Bay Mills Community College, Black Feet Community College, Cankdeska Cikana Community College, Cheyenne River Community College, Dine Community College, D-Q University, Dull Knife Memorial College, Fond Du Lac Community College, Fort Belknap Community College, Fort Berthold Community College, Fort Peck Community College, LacCourte Orielles Ojibwa Community College, Little Big Horn Community College, Nebraska Indian Community College, Northwest Indian College, Oglala Lakota College, Salish Kootenai College, Sinte Gleska University, Sisseton Wahpeton Community College, Sitting Bull College, Stone Child Community College, Turtle Mountain Community College, United Tribes Technical College, Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, Institute of American Indian Arts, Crown Point Institute of Technology, Haskell Indian Nations University, Leech Lake Tribal College, College of the Menominee Nation, and Little Priest College.

Match required:

No match

How to Apply:

No applications necessary.

The Indian student count for the 1994 institutions (as defined in Section 390(3) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act) will be furnished to the agency by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium. using the formula specified, grant payments will be made through the office of Extramural Programs to each of the institutions by the electronic transfer system or by Treasury check.

Deadlines:

The information for the Indian student count is to be received by August 1. Interest will be disbursed within 45 days from termination of the fiscal year and notification of availability of interest funds.

Contact Info:

Dr. George L. Godfrey
National Program Leader
U.S. Department of Agriculture
SERD
Stop 2251
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington , DC 20250

Phone: (202) 720-1973
Fax: (202) 720-2030
E-mail: ggodfrey@csrees.usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

One year

Amounts:

From \$7,932 to \$40,191. Average: \$14,943.

Uses and Restrictions:

Public Law 103-382 established an endowment fund corpus, the interest of which was to be used to benefit the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions. Funds may be used to support teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences in the targeted need areas of: 1) curricula design and instructional materials development; 2) faculty development and preparation for teaching; 3) instruction delivery systems; 4) student experiential learning; 5) equipment and instrumentation for teaching, and 6) student recruitment and retention.

Subject Keywords: food education, agriculture education, tribal colleges

Categories: Formula grants

Website: www.reeusda.gov/serd/hep/hepgrants.htm

Program Name: Value-Added Producer Grants

Agency: Rural Business - Cooperative Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The primary objective of the Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) program is to help eligible independent agricultural producers of agricultural commodities, agricultural producer groups, farmer and rancher cooperatives, and majority-owned producer-based business ventures develop business plans for viable marketing opportunities and develop strategies to create marketing opportunities for value-added products.

CFDA Number: Check www.cfda.gov

Eligibility:

Independent producers, agricultural producer groups, farmer or rancher cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.

Match required:

Applicants must provide matching funds at least equal to the the grant.

How to Apply:

An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the single point of contact in the USDA Rural Development State Office for more information on the process the State requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

Deadlines:

Published in the Federal Register

Contact Info:

Please contact your USDA State Rural Development Office to obtain additional information and assistance.

Duration of Grant:

Not stated

Amounts:

Maximum amount of awards is \$500,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grants are limited to projects that focus on emerging markets, and can be determined to be economically viable and sustainable.

Funds may be used to fund one or the other of the following activities, but not both:

1. Develop feasibility studies or business plans (including marketing plans or other planning activities) needed to establish a viable value-added marketing opportunity for an agricultural product;
2. Acquire working capital to operate a value-added business venture or an alliance that will allow the producers to better compete in domestic and international markets.

Subject Keywords: business development, marketing, planning, cooperatives

Categories: Project grants

Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm

Program Name: Watershed Protection And Flood Prevention (Small Watershed Program; PL-566 Operations Phase)

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The purpose of the Watershed Program, including River Basin operations, is to assist Federal, State, local agencies, local government sponsors, tribal governments, and program participants to protect and restore watersheds from damage caused by erosion, floodwater, and sediment, to conserve and develop water and land resources, and to solve natural resource and related economic problems on a watershed basis. The program provides technical and financial assistance to local people or project sponsors, builds partnerships, and requires local and state funding contribution.

CFDA Number: 10.904

Eligibility:

Any State agency, county or groups of counties, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or flood control district, Indian tribe or tribal organization, or any other nonprofit agency with authority under State law to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed works of improvement may apply for assistance. This program is available in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Mariana Islands and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.

Match required:

Technical and financial assistance under which program funds provide certain prescribed services and costs and a percentage of other costs on the basis of a contract vary according to purpose of the works of improvement. For example, for construction costs under the Act, program funds provide 100 percent for flood prevention; up to 50 percent of agricultural water management, public recreation and fish and wildlife purposes; and none of the costs for certain other nonagricultural water management purposes. All of the applicants' installation costs are eligible for program loans. Reimbursable advances are available for preservation of sites and future municipal water supply.

How to Apply:

The standard application forms, as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, must be used for this program. Environmental assessments or an Environmental impact statements are required for all projects. This program is eligible for coverage under E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the office or official designated as the Single Point of Contact in his or her State for more information on the process the State

requires to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review.

Application forms and information are available in all NRCS offices and from designated State agencies.

Deadlines:

None

Contact Info:

Stuart Simpson
National Watershed Program Leader
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
14th & Independence Ave., SW
Room 6028-S, P.O. Box 2890
Washington, DC 20013-0013

Telephone: (202) 720-8770
Fax: (202)720-2143 or (202) 690-1462
E-mail: stuart.simpson@usda.gov

Duration of Grant:

Continues until all works of improvement are installed or their installation is terminated by mutual agreement.

Amounts:

From (per State) \$0 to \$2,164,000; Average: \$650,000.

Uses and Restrictions:

Technical assistance is provided in designing and installing watershed works of improvement.

Financial assistance is provided for sharing costs of measures for watershed protection, flood prevention, erosion and sediment control, water supply, water quality, opportunities for water conservation, wetland and water storage capacity, agricultural drought problems, rural development, municipal and industrial water needs, upstream flood damages, water needs for fish, wildlife, and forest-based industries, fish and wildlife habitat enhancement, wetland creation and restoration, public recreation in watersheds of 250,000 or fewer acres, and in extending long term credit to help local interests with their share of the costs. Watershed area must not exceed 250,000 acres. Capacity of a single structure is limited to 25,000 acre-feet of total capacity and 12,500 acre-feet of floodwater detention capacity.

Subject Keywords: watershed, restoration, erosion, conservation, resource management, technical assistance

Categories: Project grants, advisory services, and counseling

Website: www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed

Program Name: Wetlands Reserve Program

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to eligible landowners to address wetland, wildlife habitat, soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on private lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The program provides an opportunity for landowners to receive financial incentives to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal land from agriculture

CFDA Number: 10.072

Eligibility:

To offer a conservation easement, the landowner must have owned the land for at least 12 months prior to enrolling it in the program, unless the land was inherited, the landowner exercised the landowner's right of redemption after foreclosure, or the landowner can prove the land was not obtained for the purpose of enrolling it in the program. To participate in a restoration cost-share agreement, the landowner must show evidence of ownership.

To be eligible for WRP, land must be restorable and be suitable for wildlife benefits. This includes:

- Wetlands farmed under natural conditions;
- Farmed wetlands;
- Prior converted cropland;
- Farmed wetland pasture;
- Farmland that has become a wetland as a result of flooding;
- Range land, pasture, or production forest land where the hydrology has been significantly degraded and can be restored;
- Riparian areas which link protected wetlands;
- Lands adjacent to protected wetlands that contribute significantly to wetland functions and values; and
- Previously restored wetlands that need long-term protection.

Match required:

Restoration Cost-Share Agreement. This is an agreement (generally for a minimum of 10 years) to re-establish degraded or lost wetland habitat. USDA pays 75 percent of the cost of the restoration activity. This enrollment option does not place an easement on the property.

How to Apply:

Applications are accepted through a continuous sign-up process. Applications may be obtained and filed at any time with your local USDA Service Center or conservation district office. Applications also may be obtained through USDA's e-gov Internet site at: www.sc.egov.usda.gov. Enter "Natural Resources Conservation Service" in the Agency field, "Wetlands Reserve Program" in the Program Name field, and "CCC-1250" in the Form Number field.

Deadlines:

N/A

Contact Info:

If you need more information about WRP, please contact your local USDA Service Center, listed in the telephone book under U.S. Department of Agriculture, or your local conservation district.

Duration of Grant:

Restoration Cost-Share Agreement

This is an agreement (generally for a minimum of 10 years) to re-establish degraded or lost wetland habitat. USDA pays 75 percent of the cost of the restoration activity. This enrollment option does not place an easement on the property. Other agencies, conservation districts, and private conservation organizations may provide additional assistance for easement payments and wetland restoration costs as a way to reduce the landowners share of the costs. Such special partnership efforts are encouraged.

Amounts:

There is no national limitation on the amount of land that can be offered for the program. However, a State may establish an acreage enrollment limitation. Contact the local NRCS office to find out whether there are acreage limitations in your state.

Uses and Restrictions:

WRP participants benefit by:

- Receiving financial and technical assistance in return for restoring and protecting wetland functions and values;
- Seeing a reduction in problems associated with farming potentially difficult areas; and
- Having incentives to develop wildlife recreational opportunities on their land.

Wetlands benefit the Nation by providing fish and wildlife habitat; improving water quality by filtering sediments and chemicals; reducing flooding; recharging groundwater; protecting biological diversity; as well as providing opportunities for educational, scientific, and recreational activities.

Subject Keywords: riparian area restoration, wetlands restoration, wetlands, wildlife habitat, soil, water, environmental restoration, wetlands enhancement

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: [http://www.nres.usda.gov/programs/farmland/ 2002/](http://www.nres.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002/)

Program Name: Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.

Through WHIP, NRCS works with private landowners and operators; conservation districts; and Federal, State, and Tribal agencies to develop wildlife habitat on their property.

CFDA Number: 10.914

Eligibility:

Eligible lands under the program are:

- Privately owned land;
- Federal land when the primary benefit is on private or Tribal land;
- State and local government land on a limited basis; and
- Tribal land.

If land is determined eligible, NRCS places emphasis on enrolling:

- Habitat areas for wildlife species experiencing declining or significantly reduced populations;
- Practices beneficial to fish and wildlife that may not otherwise be funded; and
- Wildlife and fishery habitats identified by local and State partners and Indian Tribes in each State.

Match required:

Cost share rates vary according to the state-wide WHIP plan developed by the State Technical Committee.

How to Apply:

The WHIP application process consists of the following five steps:

- A landowner submits an application to an NRCS local office, conservation district office, or office of a designated cooperating entity.

- The conservation district convenes the local work group to identify local wildlife habitat priorities to the State Technical Committee. The NRCS State Conservationist consults with the State Technical Committee to rank the applications received based on the State WHIP plan, and the state established ranking criteria.
- When funds are available, NRCS makes allocations to the NRCS State offices based on the expressed unfunded demand for the program, the priorities of the State WHIP plan and the level of contribution by partner organizations.
- The NRCS State conservationist commits allocated funds to high-ranking landowner offers and enters into long-term agreements with selected participants.
- Following agreement signature by NRCS and the selected entity, funds are obligated to the project and the participant may begin to implement the wildlife habitat development plan.

Deadlines:

Applications are accepted through a continuous sign-up process. Applications may be obtained and filed at any time with your local USDA Service Center or conservation district office. Applications also may be obtained through USDA's e-gov Internet site at: www.sc.egov.usda.gov. Enter Natural Resources Conservation Service in the Agency field, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program in the Program Name field, and CCC-1250 in the Form Number field. Applications also may be accepted by cooperating conservation partners approved or designated by NRCS.

Contact Info:

If you need more information about WHIP, please contact your local USDA Service Center, listed in the telephone book under U.S. Department of Agriculture, or your local conservation district.

Duration of Grant:

NRCS works with the participant to develop a wildlife habitat development plan. This plan becomes the basis of the cost-share agreement between NRCS and the participant. NRCS provides cost-share payments to landowners under these agreements that are usually 5 to 10 years in duration, depending upon the practices to be installed.

Amounts:

Cost share and incentive payments.

Uses and Restrictions:

Since WHIP began in 1998, nearly 11,000 participants have enrolled more than 1.6 million acres into the program. Most efforts have concentrated on improving upland wildlife habitat, such as native prairie, but there is an increasing emphasis on improving riparian and aquatic areas. The 2002 Farm Bill greatly expands the available tools for improving wildlife habitat conditions across the Nation.

Subject Keywords: wildlife conservation, wildlife habitat improvement, wetland,

riparian, aquatic habitat.

Categories: Direct payments for specified use

Website: <http://www.nres.usda.gov/programs/farmland/2002/>

Program Name: Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

Agency: Food and Nutrition Service

Government Dept: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Mission:

(1) To provide fresh, nutritious unprepared produce (such as fruits and vegetables) to low-income, at-risk women, infants, and children from farmers' markets; and (2) to expand the awareness and use of farmers' markets and increase sales at such markets.

CFDA Number: 10.572

Eligibility:

Applicant Eligibility

All State agencies that desire to receive a FMNP grant must submit, for each fiscal year, a State plan to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA. States that received Federal assistance under the Farmers' Market Coupon Demonstration Project, which was administered by FNS from 1989-1992, were "grandfathered" into the FMNP by Public Law 102-314. Other States interested in participating in the FMNP must first submit a State plan to the appropriate FNS regional office for approval. Approved plans are then reviewed and evaluated by the National office (Supplemental Food Programs Division). New State agencies are then selected based on the evaluation and the availability of funds. Local FMNP sites are selected by participating State agencies based on concentration of eligible WIC participants and access to farmers' markets.

Beneficiary Eligibility

WIC participants (i.e., pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding women; infants over 4 months of age; and children up to 5 years of age) and (at the State's discretion) those who are on a waiting list to receive WIC benefits are eligible to receive FMNP coupons. State agencies may also designate subcategories of WIC participants, e.g., pregnant and breastfeeding women only, to be FMNP recipients.

Credentials/Documentation

WIC participants (except infants under 4 months of age) and persons on WIC waiting lists certified for WIC eligibility who live in areas with a FMNP are eligible to receive benefits. A signed and executed Federal/State Agreement is necessary before funds can be allocated to a participating FMNP State agency. Costs will be determined in accordance with 7 CFR Part 3016, and FNS guidelines and instructions.

Match required:

Statutory formula can be found at Section 17(m)(3) of the Child Nutrition Act. As a prerequisite to the receipt of Federal funds, a State agency must agree to contribute program income or State, local or private funds equal to at least 30 percent of its total program cost.

Indian Tribal Organizations may receive a negotiated match contribution that is less than 30 percent but not less than 10 percent.

State contributions for similar programs may satisfy the State matching requirement. Provided that sufficient funds are available, each current State agency will be funded at its most recent year's level. Remaining funds are divided between current States for expansion and new States, based on a 75 to 25 percent ratio, respectively.

How to Apply:

Preapplication Coordination

Application is made through submission of a "State Plan of Program Operation and Administration" as required by law. This program is excluded from coverage under E.O. 12372.

Application Procedure

Farmers or farmers' markets (depending on whether State agencies have agreements with farmers or markets) located in communities with WIC Program sites may apply to be authorized to accept FMNP coupons under the program. The State agency reviews the applications for completeness and compliance with authorization requirements. The State agency contacts the farmer/farmers' market to inform them of qualification. Individual participants apply for FMNP benefits at approved local WIC agencies.

Award Procedure

Funds are awarded by the Department on the basis of funding formulas to State agencies.

Deadlines:

A State plan for the next fiscal year is required by November 15.

Contact Info:

Patricia Daniels, Director
Supplemental Food Programs Division Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 520
Alexandria, VA 22302

Telephone: (703) 305-2746
Fax: (703) 305-2196

Duration of Grant:

Grants have been released for the duration of the fiscal year using Federal Reserve Bank letters of credit. State agencies may withdraw funds only as needed.

Amounts:

From \$6,667 to \$3,676,398. Average: \$512,336.

Uses and Restrictions:

Grants are made to State health, agriculture and other agencies (or Indian tribes, bands, or intertribal councils or groups recognized by the Department of the Interior, or the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services.) Participating State agencies must provide program income or State, local, or private funds for the program in an amount that is equal to at least 30 percent of the total cost of the program except Indian Tribal Organizations which may receive a negotiated match contribution that is less than 30 percent but not less than 10 percent. The matching requirement may be satisfied from State contributions that are made for similar programs. Federal FMNP benefits (coupons) may be issued only to participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) or to persons who are on a waiting list to receive WIC benefits.

Subject Keywords: women, infants, and children, health, nutrition, farmers markets,

Categories: Formula grants

Website: www.fns.usda.gov/wic/FMNP/FMNPfaqs.htm

NATIVE F.A.R.M.

NATIVE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESOURCE MANUAL



Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative First Nations Development Institute

For additional copies of the *Native Food and Agriculture Resource Manual*, please complete the form below and mail it to:

NAFSI
Native Assets Research Center
First Nations Development Institute
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 412
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

I'd like additional copies of the

NATIVE F.A.R.M.

NATIVE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESOURCE MANUAL



NAME _____

TRIBAL AFFILIATION _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

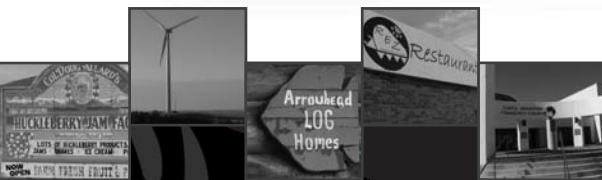
E-MAIL _____

If you live or work in a rural Native community, additional copies may be obtained for a suggested donation of \$5.00 per copy plus shipping. Others may obtain copies at a cost of \$12.00 plus shipping. Shipping cost averages \$3.95 per copy. Bulk discounts are available.

QTY: _____ X \$5.00 = _____ + SHIPPING
QTY: _____ X \$12.00 = _____ + SHIPPING

PLEASE CHARGE MY MAJOR CREDIT CARD (VISA, MC, AMEX) CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED
ACCOUNT #: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ / _____

PLACE IN ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:
NAFSI
Native Assets Research Center
First Nations Development Institute
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 412
Fredericksburg, VA 22401



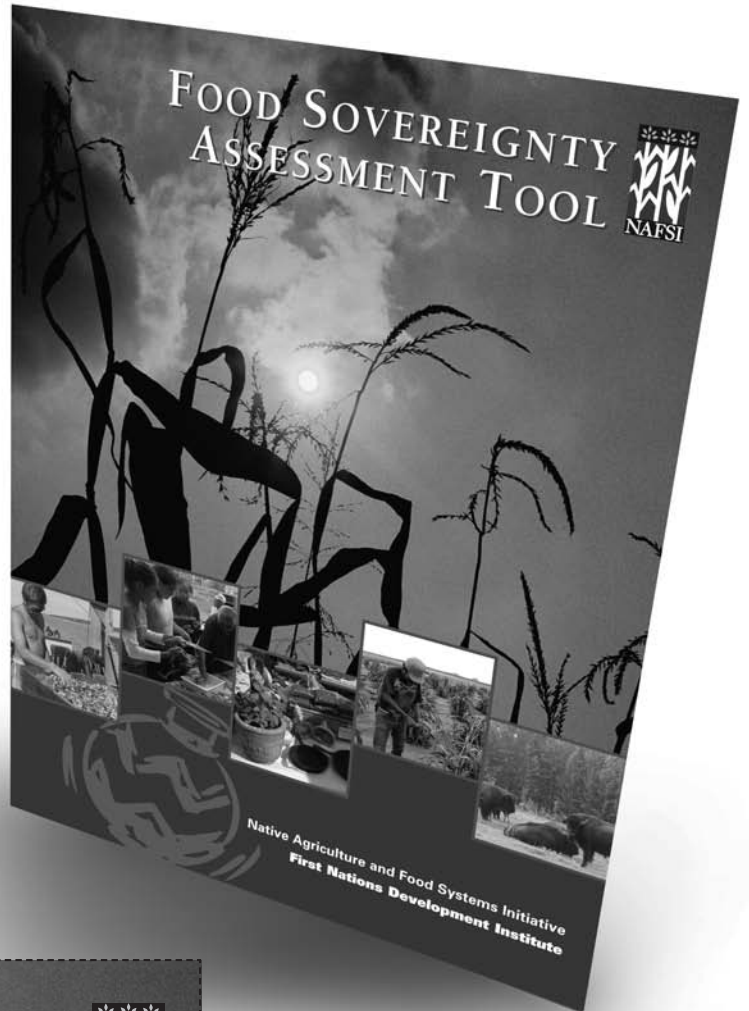


FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ASSESSMENT TOOL

**Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative
First Nations Development Institute**

For your copy of the *Food Sovereignty Assessment Tool*, please complete the form below and mail it to:

NAFSI
Native Assets Research Center
First Nations Development Institute
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 412
Fredericksburg, VA 22401



I'd like a copy of the

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ASSESSMENT TOOL



NAME _____
TRIBAL AFFILIATION _____
ORGANIZATION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

If you live or work in a rural Native community your first copy of the Food Sovereignty Assessment Tool is free, and additional copies may be obtained for a suggested donation of \$5.00 per copy plus shipping. Others may obtain copies at a cost of \$12.00 plus shipping. Shipping cost averages \$3.95 per copy. Bulk discounts are available.

QTY: _____ X \$5.00 = _____ + SHIPPING
QTY: _____ X \$12.00 = _____ + SHIPPING

PLEASE CHARGE MY MAJOR CREDIT CARD (VISA, MC, AMEX) CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED
ACCOUNT #: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____/_____/_____

PLACE IN ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:
NAFSI
Native Assets Research Center
First Nations Development Institute
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 412
Fredericksburg, VA 22401





Allard's Trading Post,
Flathead Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Greenhouse,
Fort Belknap Tribal College, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Rosebud Wind Farm,
Rosebud Reservation, SD.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Jean's Old Fashioned Bakery,
Chinook, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Arrowhead Log Homes,
Stockbridge Munsee Reservation, WI.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Mission Mountain Market,
Flathead Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



The Rez Restaurant,
Fort Belknap Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Greenhouse at Little Singer,
The Navajo Nation, AZ.
Diné Community Food Project.
Photo: Hank Willie (2001).



Turtle Mountain Community College,
Belcourt, ND.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Oneida Tsyunhe'hkw^ Natural Foods and
Herbal Products Shop, Oneida Nation, WI.
Photo: Oneida Community Integrated Food
Systems (2002).



Bison, Brown Otter Buffalo Ranch,
Standing Rock Reservation, SD.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



Mountains,
Flathead Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



S&K Technologies,
Flathead Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



The Rez Restaurant,
Fort Belknap Reservation, MT.
Photo: Sarah Dewees (2004).



First Nations Development Institute
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 412
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Tel: 540.371.5615
Fax: 540.371.3505
www.firstnations.org