

AFRI Quick Reference Sheet

Five Challenge Area RFAs

1. Childhood Obesity Prevention
 2. Climate Change
 3. Global Food Security
 4. Food Safety
 5. Sustainable Bioenergy
- Offer research, education, extension, and integrated funding opportunities
 - Implement both the AFRI and 406 or Integrated eligibility authorities

NIFA Fellowships Grant Program RFA

- Offer individual fellowships for pre- and postdoctoral students
- Focus on the broad Challenge Areas
- Anticipated release in April 2010

Foundational Program RFA

1. Plant Health and Production and Plant Products
 2. Animal Health and Production and Animal Products
 3. Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health
 4. Renewable Energy, Natural Resources, and Environment
 5. Agriculture Systems and Technology
 6. Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities
- Build a foundation of knowledge critical for solving current and future societal challenges
 - Offer research funding opportunities only
 - Implement the AFRI eligibility authority only

Project Types and Eligibility

Research Projects – basic and applied, multidisciplinary

Education Projects

Extension Projects

These *single-function* project types will use the broader **AFRI Eligibility**

Integrated Projects – require 2 of 3 functions of the agricultural knowledge system (research, education, extension)

This *multi-function* project type will use the narrower **406 or Integrated Eligibility**

AFRI Eligibility

1. State agricultural experiment stations
2. Colleges and universities (including junior colleges offering associate degrees or higher)
3. University research foundations
4. Other research institutions and organizations
5. Federal agencies and national laboratories
6. Private organizations or corporations
7. U.S. Citizens, nationals, or permanent residents
8. Eligible institutions do not include foreign and international organizations

406 or Integrated Eligibility

1. Colleges and universities
2. 1994 Land-Grant Institutions
3. Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities

Grant Types

Standard Grant

- Targeted, original scientific Research, Education, Extension, or Integrated Projects
- Grants range from \$500K to \$5M total
- Up to 5 years in duration; Eligible for competitive renewable
- No-cost extension (> 5 years = merit review, prior approval)

Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP) Grant

- Large-scale, multi-million dollar Research, Education, Extension, or Integrated Projects
- Grants range from \$5M to \$45M total
- Up to 5 years in duration; Eligible for competitive renewable

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- No-cost extension (> 5 years = merit review, prior approval)

Planning/Coordination Grant

- Assist applicants in the development of quality future CAP applications
- Applications must include a proposed program (or agenda) for the activity
- Grants up to \$50,000; \$2,500 institutional allowance, no IDC
- One year in duration; Not renewable

Conference Grant

- Support scientific meetings that bring together scientists to identify research, education, or extension needs
- Applications must include a proposed program (or agenda) for the activity
- Grants up to \$50,000; no IDC
- One year in duration; Not renewable

Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant

- Solicited in a separate NIFA Fellowships Grant Program RFA (\$2.5% of AFRI)
- Cannot apply for individual fellowships in other AFRI RFAs; however, graduate students and postdoctoral students can be supported in proposed projects (e.g., stipends, educational programs, internships)
- Anticipated release in April 2010

New Investigator Grant (Program Funds and below the line)

- Beginning his/her career; Less than 5 years postgraduate, career-track experience beyond postdoc
- Doesn't have extensive publication record
- No competitively awarded Federal research funds (excluding pre- or postdoctoral or Seed Grants)
- Eligible on Standard and CAP Grants only

Sabbatical Grant (Strengthening Funds)

- Small and mid-sized or minority-serving degree-granting institutions that previously had limited institutional success for receiving Federal funds or State Agricultural Experiment Stations or degree-granting institutions eligible for USDA Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research (EPSCoR) funding
- Opportunity for faculty to enhance their research, education, and/or extension capabilities
- Must have documentation of: 1) arrangement with home institution (dates, duration, salary); 2) established investigator's support to serve as host; and 3) host institution's support
- Limited to 1 year salary, travel, and supplies
- One year in duration; Not renewable

Equipment Grant (Strengthening Funds)

- Small and mid-sized or minority-serving degree-granting institutions that previously had limited institutional success for receiving Federal funds or State Agricultural Experiment Stations or degree-granting institutions eligible for USDA Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research (EPSCoR) funding
- Strengthen the scientific capacity of institutions by funding the purchase of one major piece of equipment
- Grants limited to 50% of cost or \$50,000 (lesser of 2) \$50,000 for one piece of equipment (\$10,000-250,000); no IDC
- Matching required unless waived if: a) in lowest third (table 2), b) equipment is not more than \$25,000, and c) has multiple uses
- Documentation that the necessary non-Federal matching funds will be made available from an institutional or other source is required or documentation justifying waiver
- No installation, maintenance, warranty, or insurance costs (not apart of matching)
- Computers allowed only if integral to project

Seed Grants Grant (Strengthening Funds)

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- Small and mid-sized or minority-serving degree-granting institutions that previously had limited institutional success for receiving Federal funds or State Agricultural Experiment Stations or degree-granting institutions eligible for USDA Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research (EPSCoR) funding
- Enable investigators to collect preliminary data in preparation for applying future AFRI funding
- Grants limited to \$150,000
- Two years in duration; Not renewable

Strengthening Standard or CAP Grant (Program Funds or Strengthening Funds below the line)

- Small and mid-sized or minority-serving degree-granting institutions that previously had limited institutional success for receiving Federal funds or State Agricultural Experiment Stations or degree-granting institutions eligible for USDA Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research (EPSCoR) funding
- Grant applications that meet the eligibility requirements for Strengthening Grants are eligible for reserved strengthening funds
- Eligible on Standard and CAP Grants only
- Grants range from \$500K to \$5M total for Standard
- Grants range from \$5M to \$45M total for CAP
- Up to 5 years in duration; Eligible for competitive renewable
- No-cost extension (> 5 years = merit review, prior approval)

*******No 5-year limitations*****No Co-PD Restrictions*******

Strengthening Grant Eligibility Definitions

Small and mid-sized institutions are academic institutions with a current total enrollment of 17,500 or less, including graduate and undergraduate as well as full- and part-time students. Consult the current version of the Higher Education Directory for enrollment numbers.

Minority-serving institutions are academic institutions whose enrollment of a single minority group or a combination of minority groups exceeds 50% of the total enrollment, including graduate and undergraduate as well as full- and part-time students. Consult: www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/edlite-minorityinst.html.

Limited institutional success is defined as institutions that are not among the most successful universities and colleges for receiving Federal funds for science and engineering research and development. Consult Table 1 (in the RFA) for an alphabetical list of the most successful institutions.

EPSCoR States – Every year, this list is generated by calculating which states have had a funding level no higher than the 38th percentile of all states. Beginning FY 2009 and continuing through FY 2010, the following States meet the requirements for this category:

FY 2010 USDA EPSCoR States		
Alabama	Louisiana	South Carolina
Alaska	Maine	South Dakota
Connecticut	Mississippi	Vermont
Delaware	Nevada	West Virginia
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Wyoming
Idaho	North Dakota	
Kentucky	Rhode Island	

Other entities eligible for USDA EPSCoR funds in FY 2009 and continuing through FY 2010 include the following United States commonwealths, territories, possessions and their successors, and the District of Columbia:

Other Entities eligible for USDA EPSCoR Funds	
American Samoa	Northern Mariana Islands
District of Columbia	Puerto Rico
Guam	Virgin Islands of the U.S.
Micronesia	