



**University of Idaho**

College of Agricultural  
and Life Sciences

# **AFRI FOUNDATIONAL & APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

**DARIN SAUL, DIRECTOR**

**OFFICE OF GRANT & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

# CALS OFFICE OF GRANT & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



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# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM



## BREAD AND BUTTER

- Substantial success already
- Many more opportunities
- Very supportive programs

## INCREASED FUNDING AVAILABLE

- \$290 million per year for 2021 and 2022
- Two years of RFPs available now
- Historical grant cycles

## UI CALS SUCCESS

- **14 CALS PIs** have received AFRI funding for **18 projects** with a start date of **2016 or later**
  - AFRI Foundational Program (14 projects)
  - Other AFRI programs (4 projects)

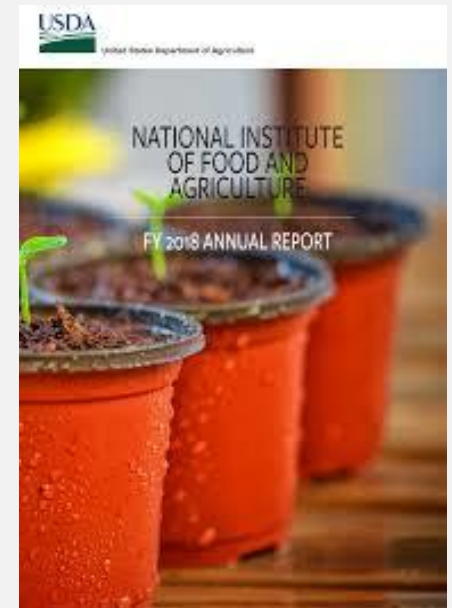




# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM

## FUNDING PRIORITIES AND TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDS

- Plant health and production and plant products (\$43.9 million)
- Animal health and production and animal products (\$36.8 million)
- Food safety, nutrition, and health (\$26.2 million)
- Bioenergy, natural resources, and environment (\$21.7 million)
- Agriculture systems and technology (\$19.5 million)
- Agriculture economics and rural communities (\$22.9 million)



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM

## DUE DATES

- **FY 2021**  
May-July 2021
- **FY 2022**  
August-October 2022

- **Conference Grants**  
Letter of Intent (LOI)  
due 135 days prior to  
event

Full proposal due at  
least 90 days prior

	FY2021	FY2022
<b>Plant health and production and plant products</b>		
Foundational Knowledge of Agricultural Production Systems	June 17, 2021	September 15, 2022
Foundational Knowledge of Plant Products	May 20, 2021	August 18, 2022
Pests and Beneficial Species in Agricultural Production Systems	May 27, 2021	August 25, 2022
Physiology of Agricultural Plants	May 20, 2021	August 18, 2022
Plant Breeding for Agricultural Production	May 20, 2021	August 18, 2022
Pollinator Health: Research and Application	June 17, 2021	September 15, 2022
<b>Animal health and production and animal products</b>		
Animal Reproduction	May 6, 2021	August 11, 2022
Animal Nutrition, Growth and Lactation	May 6, 2021	August 11, 2022
Welfare and Well-being of Agricultural Animals	May 6, 2021	August 11, 2022
Diseases of Agricultural Animals	May 6, 2021	August 11, 2022
Animal Breeding and Functional Annotation of Genomes	May 6, 2021	August 11, 2022
<b>Food safety, nutrition, and health</b>		
Food Safety and Defense	May 27, 2021	August 25, 2022
Novel Foods and Innovative Manufacturing Technologies	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Diseases	May 27, 2021	August 25, 2022
Food and Human Health	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
Mitigating Antimicrobial Resistance Across the Food Chain	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
<b>Bioenergy, natural resources, and environment</b>		
Soil Health	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
Water Quantity and Quality	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
Sustainable Bioeconomy through Biobased Products	June 10, 2021	September 1, 2022
Sustainable Agroecosystems: Health, Functions, Processes and Management	June 17, 2021	September 15, 2022
<b>Agriculture systems and technology</b>		
Engineering for Agricultural Production Systems	July 15, 2021	October 6, 2022
Bioprocessing and Bioengineering	July 1, 2021	September 29, 2022
Nanotechnology for Agricultural and Food Systems	May 27, 2021	August 25, 2022
<b>Agriculture economics and rural sociology</b>		
Small and Medium-sized Farms	June 24, 2021	September 22, 2022
Economics, Markets and Trade	July 15, 2021	October 6, 2022
Economic and Social Implications of Food and Agricultural Technologies	July 15, 2021	October 6, 2022
Rural Economic Development	June 17, 2021	September 15, 2022
<b>Crosscutting</b>		
Agricultural Microbiomes in Plant Systems and Natural Resources	July 15, 2021	October 6, 2022
Critical Agricultural Research and Extension (CARE)	June 17, 2021	September 15, 2022
Data Science for Food and Agricultural Systems (DSFAS)	July 29, 2021	October 20, 2022
Inter-disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS)	July 15, 2021	October 6, 2022
Tactical Sciences for Agricultural Biosecurity	July 22, 2021	October 20, 2022



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM



## PROJECT TYPES

### AFRI PROJECT TYPES

- Research
- Education
- Extension
- Integrated (brings together at least two of the three functions around a specific problem or activity)



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM



## GRANT TYPES

### Standard

- Supports targeted original scientific agricultural knowledge: Research, Education, Extension, or Integrated Projects

### Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP)

- Supports large-scale, multi-million-dollar projects
- Multi-function projects must incorporate at least 2 of the 3 components (Research, Extension, and Education)

### Conference

- Support scientific meetings that bring together scientists to identify research, education, and/or extension needs, update information, or advance an area of science

### Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE)

- This is not a separate program; it is an EPSCoR-like enhancement  
UI qualifies for access to set-aside funds
- Strengthen science capabilities in Research, Education, & Extension Programs
- Help less successful institutions develop competitive projects
- Attract new scientists into careers in high-priority areas of national need
- *See next 2 slides for FASE grant types*

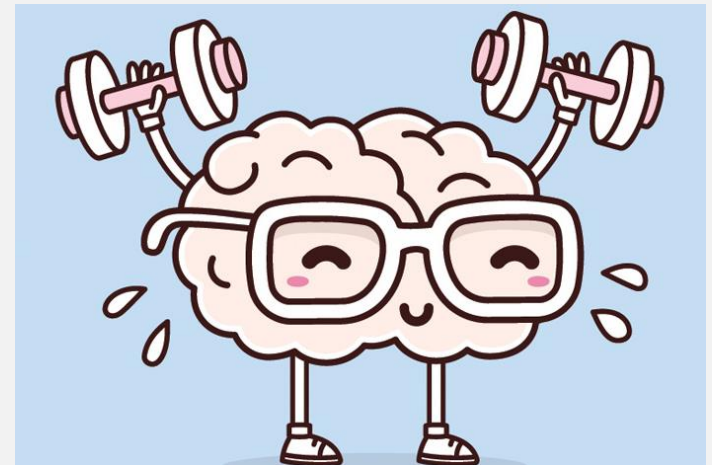


# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM



## FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE ENHANCEMENT (FASE) GRANT TYPES

- **FASE Pre- and Post-doctoral Fellowships**
  - Funds pre- or postdoctoral students in the agricultural sciences
  
- **FASE New Investigator**
  - Less than 5 years postgraduate, career-track experience
  - Has NEVER received competitive Federal research funds (except pre- or postdoc grants or AFRI seed grants)
  
- **FASE New Investigator Standard Grants (new for FY21)**
  - A Standard Grant application led by an eligible New Investigator Project Director (PD)
  
- **FASE New Investigator Seed Grants (new for FY21)**
  - PD may submit only one Seed Grant per fiscal year
  - PD may receive only one New Investigator Seed Grant during their career





# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM

## FASE GRANT TYPES, *CONTINUED*



**NOTE: 15% of AFRI funding is set aside for Strengthening Grants**

### FASE Strengthening

#### *Limited to 7-page project narrative*

##### **Seed** (\$200,000 over 2 years)

- Collection of preliminary data leading to future AFRI Standard application
- Seed applications just need good ideas, not preliminary data

##### **Equipment** (up to \$50,000)

- Purchase of a single piece of equipment
- Only program that requires cost-share/matching

##### **Sabbatical** (\$ varies, up to 1 year)

- Up to one year of salary, and funds for travel and supplies
- Mini-sabbaticals are also allowed (a few weeks or months)

#### *Typical 18-page project narrative using the Standard application*

##### **Standard Strengthening** (\$500,000 up to 5 years)

##### **Strengthening CAP**

##### **Strengthening Conference** (up to \$50,000, no indirect costs)



#### **2 chances for funding:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Chance:** Compete with all strengthening/non-strengthening grants. If selected, then will receive program funding

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chance:** If ranked well in the fundable range, will be evaluated for funding from the 11.25% set-aside funds



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM

## RESOURCES TO LEARN ABOUT PREVIOUSLY FUNDED PROJECTS

### AFRI-FUNDED PROJECTS BY STATES

- Link to summaries for projects funded in each state
- <https://nifa.usda.gov/afri-funded-projects-state>

### CURRENT RESEARCH INFORMATION SYSTEM (CRIS)

- Searchable database of USDA-funded projects
- <https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/98280/crisassist.txt>

#### Current Research Information System **CRIS**

2017

Retrieved 6 records

Title	Awd Yr Prop No	Investigator	Institution	View
INCREASING REGIONAL TO GLOBAL-SCALE RESILIENCE IN FEW SYSTEMS THROUGH COORD. STORAGE MGMT IN CONCERT WITH INNOVATION IN TECH.& INSTITUTIONS	2017 2016-09857	Cosens, B. A.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full
CHARACTERIZATION AND MANIPULATION OF ABIOTIC STRESS SIGNALING IN TOMATO	2017 2016-10554	Xiao, F.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full
INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PROJECT TO STUDY AND IMPROVE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS IN THREE STATES	2017 2016-10945	Higgins, L.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full
OVINE FAANG PROJECT	2017 2016-10149	Murdoch, B. M.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full
CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CYST NEMATODE UBIQUITIN LIGASE EFFECTOR AND ITS VIRULENCE IN HOST POTATO PLANTS	2017 2016-09301	Xiao, F.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full
INLAND PACIFIC NORTHWEST WHEAT-BASED SYSTEMS: LANDSCAPES IN TRANSITION	2017 2016-11575	Johnson-Maynard, J.	UNIV OF IDAHO MOSCOW, IDAHO	Brief Full



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAM

## SUCCESS RATES\*

### MOST COMPETITIVE

- Food safety, nutrition, and health (15% of proposals funded)
- Agriculture systems and technology (16% of proposals funded)

### LEAST COMPETITIVE

- Education and literacy initiative (36% of proposals funded)
- Exploratory research and CARE (30% of proposals funded)

**NIFA** FUNDING OPPORTUNITY



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

\* FY2016 is the most recent year of data available

# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>PLANT HEALTH AND PRODUCTION AND PLANT PRODUCTS</b>				
Physiology of Agricultural Plants	149	24	16%	7,489,119
Pests and Beneficial Species in Agricultural Production Systems	152	18	12%	7,586,717
Plant Breeding for Agricultural Production	72	18	25%	5,155,661
Foundational Knowledge of Agricultural Production Systems	47	11	23%	5,122,374
Plant Biotic Interactions *	10	10	100%	6,442,828
NIFA International Wheat Yield Partnership *	22	7	32%	3,446,000
Understanding Plant-Associated Microorganisms *	1	1	100%	39,173
Insects and Nematodes *	2	0	0%	0
Biology of Agricultural Plants *	1	0	0%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>35,281,872</b>

\* Program is no longer part of the AFRI Foundational Program or has been renamed

NOTE: FY2016 is the most recent year available

SOURCE: USDA NIFA AFRI 2016 Annual Review, <https://nifa.usda.gov/table-3>

# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS</b>				
Animal Health and Disease	154	35	23%	12,379,358
Improved Nutritional Performance, Growth, and Lactation of Animals	94	18	19%	6,509,027
Animal Reproduction	65	17	26%	6,237,383
Animal Breeding, Genetics, and Genomics	30	9	30%	2,980,000
Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases *	4	4	100%	4,644,700
Animal Well-Being	19	3	16%	1,500,000
Dual Use of Animals for Dual Benefit *	3	2	67%	3,246,109
Tools and Resources *	3	1	33%	500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>37,996,577</b>

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SOURCE: USDA NIFA AFRI 2016 Annual Review, <https://nifa.usda.gov/table-3>

# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>FOOD SAFETY, NUTRITION, AND HEALTH</b>				
Improving Food Safety	117	17	15%	6,167,132
Improving Food Quality *	93	16	17%	5,665,211
Function and Efficacy of Nutrients *	87	15	17%	6,037,061
Understanding Antimicrobial Resistance	30	2	7%	887,500
Food Manufacturing Technologies *	1	1	100%	112,500
Food Specific Molecular Profiles and Biomarkers of Food and Nutrient Intake, and Dietary Exposure *	3	0	0%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>18,869,404</b>

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# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>BIOENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENT</b>				
Agro-Ecosystem Management *	57	12	21%	5,145,649
Microbial Communities in Soil *	51	11	22%	4,645,925
Socioeconomic Implications and Public Policy Challenges of Bioenergy and Bio-products Market Development and Expansion *	22	5	23%	2,489,048
Cover Crops for Bioenergy and Bio-based Products *	10	5	50%	2,377,378
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>14,658,000</b>
AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY</b>				
Nanotechnology for Agricultural and Food Systems	87	13	15%	4,503,661
Bioprocessing and Bioengineering	72	9	13%	3,884,215
Agricultural Engineering *	53	7	13%	2,860,752
National Robotics Initiative *	5	5	100%	3,444,874
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>14,693,502</b>

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# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES</b>				
Innovation for Rural Entrepreneurs and Communities *	52	16	31%	5,513,338
Markets and Trade	46	10	22%	3,409,775
Environment *	37	10	27%	4,548,990
Small and Medium-Sized Farms	31	9	29%	3,499,752
Pilot Program: Behavioral and Experimental Economic Applications for Agri-Environmental Policy Design *	4	2	50%	499,909
Joint ERS-NIFA Pilot Program *	2	0	0%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>17,471,764</b>

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SOURCE: USDA NIFA AFRI 2016 Annual Review, <https://nifa.usda.gov/table-3>



# SUCCESS RATES BY AFRI PROGRAM



AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>OTHER FOUNDATIONAL PROGRAMS</b>				
Exploratory Research *	75	22	29%	1,905,334
CARE	35	11	31%	2,957,261
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>4,862,595</b>
AFRI Program FY16	Proposals	Awards	Percent	Funding
<b>EDUCATION AND LITERACY INITIATIVE</b>				
Predocctoral Fellowships *	124	53	43%	4,752,524
Postdoctoral Fellowships *	132	44	33%	6,358,356
Undergraduate Research and Extension Experiential Learning Fellowships *	75	18	24%	5,000,189
Professional Development Opportunities for Secondary School Teachers (PD-STEP) *	31	14	45%	2,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>18,111,069</b>

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NOTE: FY2016 is the most recent year available

SOURCE: USDA NIFA AFRI 2016 Annual Review, <https://nifa.usda.gov/table-3>



# DEVELOPING YOUR PROPOSAL

## ■ COORDINATION AND PLANNING

- Start early!
- Read the RFP thoroughly
- Contact the program manager
- Partner coordination
- Budgeting and the process
- Framing the concept—**Logic model (required)**
- Submit early!

## ■ MULTI-YEAR EFFORT TO SECURE FUNDING

- Funding campaign vs a one-off crisis
  - ⇒ **Post-doctoral fellowship** ⇒ **New Investigator** ⇒ **Seed Grant** ⇒ **Standard Proposal** ⇒
- Reviewer comments
- Resubmit
- Iterative process for most
- Layering your funding

# OGPD RESOURCES

Our purpose is to increase the amount of grant funding awarded to the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. We help with a wide range of proposals to federal and state funding programs.

## Proposal preparation

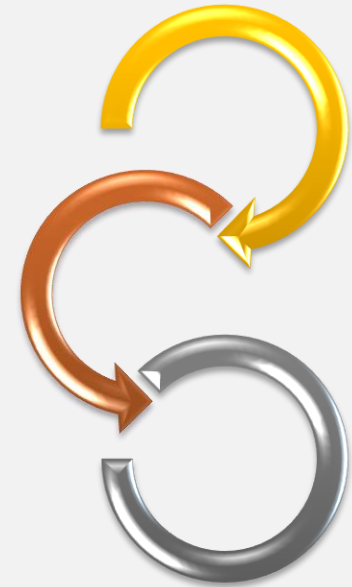
- Process management
- Writing and editing (iterative process)
- Budget development
- Templates for proposal components
  - e.g., key personnel, project summary, budget, etc.
- Examples from successful proposals
  - e.g., logic model, management plans, data management, etc.

## Proposal strengthening

- Review/compare RFP and proposal
- Provide feedback, comments, advice
- Strengthen documentation of need using secondary data
  - **Indicators Idaho website: [www.indicatorsidaho.org](http://www.indicatorsidaho.org)**

## Funding research

- Grant prospecting and vetting
- Funding plans (e.g., yearly plan/strategy)
- Prospect sheets (by project, topic, partnership need)



# AFRI FOUNDATIONAL PROPOSAL COMPONENTS



Program requirements vary so review the RFP and supplemental instructions carefully

- Project Summary/Abstract (250-word limit, use NIFA template)
- Project Narrative (18 pages for most proposals; 7 pages for sabbatical, equipment, and seed grants)
  - Check for additional requirements for your project or grant type
- Budget
- Budget Justification
- Bibliography & References Cited
- Facilities & Other Resources
- Equipment
- Key Personnel Roles (2 pages)
- Logic Model (2 pages)
- Management Plan (3 pages)
- Data Management Plan (2 pages)
- Documentation of Collaboration
  - Letters of Support from stakeholders, industry, non-profits, etc. (not allowed by some programs)
  - Letters of Commitment/Collaboration from subrecipients and consultants/contractors
- Senior/Key Personnel Documents (including consultants)
  - Biographical sketch (2 pages + publication list)
  - Current & Pending (use NIFA template)
  - Conflict of Interest (include full names, use NIFA template)
- **Forms generated within VERAS/grants.gov interface:**
  - SF424 documents
  - Project Type
  - Human and Animal Research Protocols
  - Felony and Tax Certification (OSP)



# BUDGET



OGPD provides the following budget assistance:

■ **Developing your budget**

- Start with a rough list of expected costs
- What objectives and activities are proposed?
- What resources are needed to meet these objectives? *e.g., salary/fringe, travel, supplies, tuition, indirect costs/F&A*
- Reviewers will notice if you're proposing an 'overly ambitious project'

■ **Creating a budget justification**

- Text version describing your budget in detail

■ **Managing subawards**

- **TIME INTENSE PROCESS**
- Manage other institutions' processes/deadlines and allow UI-OSP time to review
- Aim to have all subaward documents in place **2 weeks** before deadline
- UI and USDA required documents from subaward institutions:
  - UI Subrecipient Form
  - Budget
  - Budget Justification
  - Scope of Work
  - Letter of Commitment



■ **Managing VERAS/Grants.gov, Fastlane, etc.**

- Entering budget and budget justification into VERAS/grants.gov and online federal application portals

# BUDGET



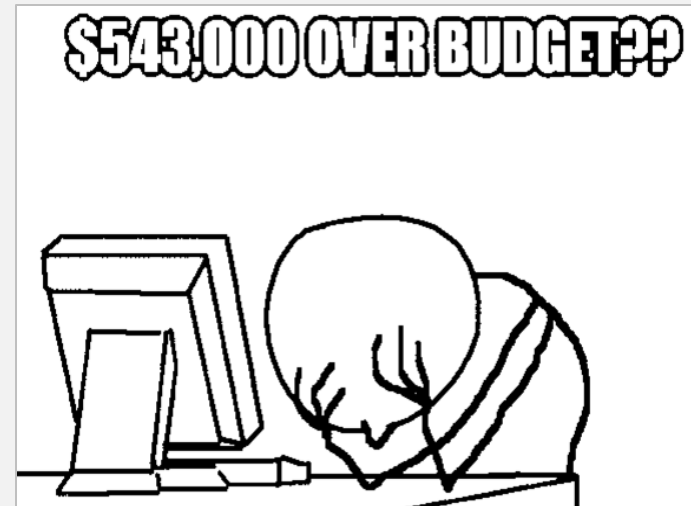
## INDIRECT COSTS

### AFRI indirect costs/F&A are currently limited to 30% of Total Federal Funds Awarded (TFFA)

- That does NOT mean the indirect rate is 30%
- Equivalent to 42.857% of Total Direct Costs
- Must compare to UI rate on Modified Total Direct Costs and use the rate that results in the least indirect costs
- The 30% limit includes ALL INDIRECT COSTS COMBINED for UI and any other institution
- Work with OSP and other institutions to address this requirement, adds another round of budget revisions

## KEEP IN MIND:

- Budget creation, revision, re-revision, and finalization can be very time consuming, frustrating, and can take you away from working on the proposal narrative
  - Start your budget early in the proposal preparation process
  - Signature process—Once budget is final in VERAS, it must be approved/signed off by the following at UI:
    - ✓ Debbie Gray, CALS OGPD
    - ✓ Ann-Marie Bilderback, OSP
    - ✓ You
    - ✓ Your Department Head
    - ✓ All Co-PIs
    - ✓ Co-PI's Department Head(s)
    - ✓ Holly Waters, CALS Dean Administration
    - ✓ Dean Administration from other participating UI College(s)
    - ✓ Deb Shaver, OSP and UI Authorized Org. Representative
  - **NOTE:** We can review and approve the budget/narrative and start the signature process while you continue work on your project narrative and other documents
- We do not need final versions of all other documents to start the signature process (will need a draft project narrative)



# UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO RESOURCES



## CALS Office of Grant & Project Development (OGPD)

- CALS-focused proposal and budget development

## CALS Grant Management Services (GMS)

- **Holly Waters, Director** [calsgms@uidaho.edu](mailto:calsgms@uidaho.edu)
  - Oversight for CALS internal processing of proposals
  - Ensures compliance throughout the grant lifecycle
- **Grant/Financial Analysts: Robyn Wakefield, Mercia Anderson, Vacant (TBH)**
  - Proposal review, financial & post-award management assistance, identify cost-share

## UI Office of Research & Development (ORED)

- **UI Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)**
  - **CALS Pre-award Contact: Ann-Marie Bilderback** [ambilderback@uidaho.edu](mailto:ambilderback@uidaho.edu)
    - Assists with all aspects of grant submission prior to funding
    - Provides final approval (+ Director Deb Shaver signature) and submits to funder

Will assist  
with AFRI  
Foundational  
Proposals  
(& all others)

- **UI Office of Sponsored Programs**
  - **Post-award Contact: Sarah Martonick** [smartonick@uidaho.edu](mailto:smartonick@uidaho.edu)
    - Oversees all Post-award (after a proposal has been awarded) activities
- **UI Research & Faculty Development (ORED RFD)**
  - **Carly Cummings, Director** [ccummings@uidaho.edu](mailto:ccummings@uidaho.edu)
    - Screens pre-applications for limited submission programs
    - Proposal development focused on larger-scale, interdisciplinary projects

## CALS Development

- **Jen Root, Senior Director of Development** [jroot@uidaho.edu](mailto:jroot@uidaho.edu)
  - Responsible for all major CALS gift fundraising efforts, may be able to help with cost-share

## UI Foundation & Corporate Relations

- **Shawna Lindquist, Director, Endowment & Gift Administration**
  - Determines (with OSP Director) if funds from external sponsors will be classified as a gift or a grant

May assist  
with other  
federal, private,  
or state funded  
proposals  
and gifts

# START EARLY!



- **Summary points - How to work with us**
  - Contact us as soon as you begin to plan your proposal
  - Get started in VERAS as soon as you decide to submit a proposal (helps us and OSP manage workload)
  - Schedule ahead

