FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINARS

University of Idaho

Please keep your microphone muted until the Q&A session

USDA NIFA AFRI: TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR NEXT PROPOSAL

RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINAR SERIES

Wendy Hessler, MA
Proposal Development Specialist
Office of Research and Faculty Development

Please note that this session is being recorded

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS

- This seminar is being recorded

  - Please stay muted until the Q&A portion at the end of the seminar

  - Type questions into the chat box and these will be addressed during the Q&A portion

- We will send the presentation to all attendees next week

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

- We provide proposal development assistance across the spectrum*

uidaho.edu/orfd

- Meet goals in the UI strategic plan – grow research and creative efforts across <u>all</u> disciplines

- Reach out to discuss ideas and request service –

*Not including budget preparation

All services are <u>optional</u> and are granted on a <u>first come, first served</u> basis
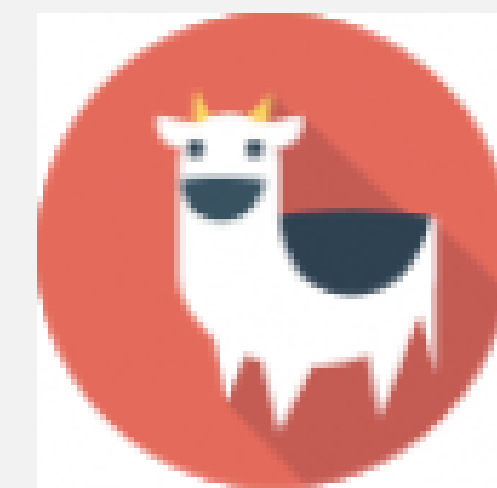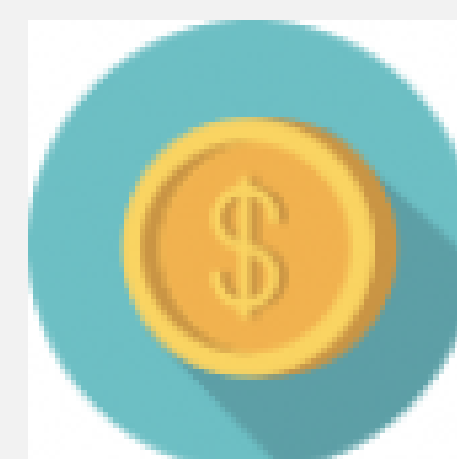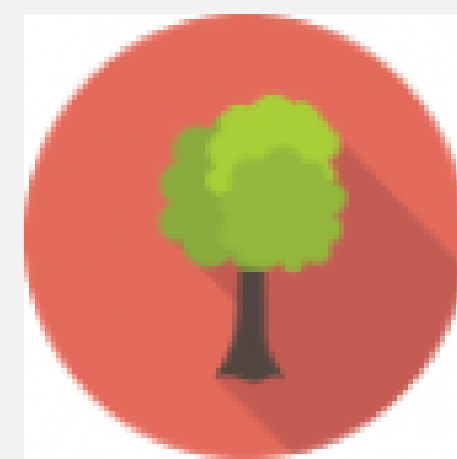
OBJECTIVES

SHARE TIPS, RESOURCES, APPROACHES

- Overview USDA, NIFA, AFRI, and Foundational and Applied Science Program

- Tour the Request for Applications (RFA)

- Discuss Instructions, Eligibility, Deadlines and Review Criteria

- Share tips to find a fit with Program area, Project type and Grant type

- RFD Resources to organize the proposal planning and writing process

WHAT IS USDA?
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- Responsible for developing and executing federal laws related to farming, forestry, rural economic development, and food

- Strategic goals and mission areas guide the 29 agencies and offices
  - Mission area: Research, Education and Economics, includes the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

- TIP: RFAs align with USDA strategic goals; Identify which goals your project addresses and state in your proposal

- Resource: USDA Website

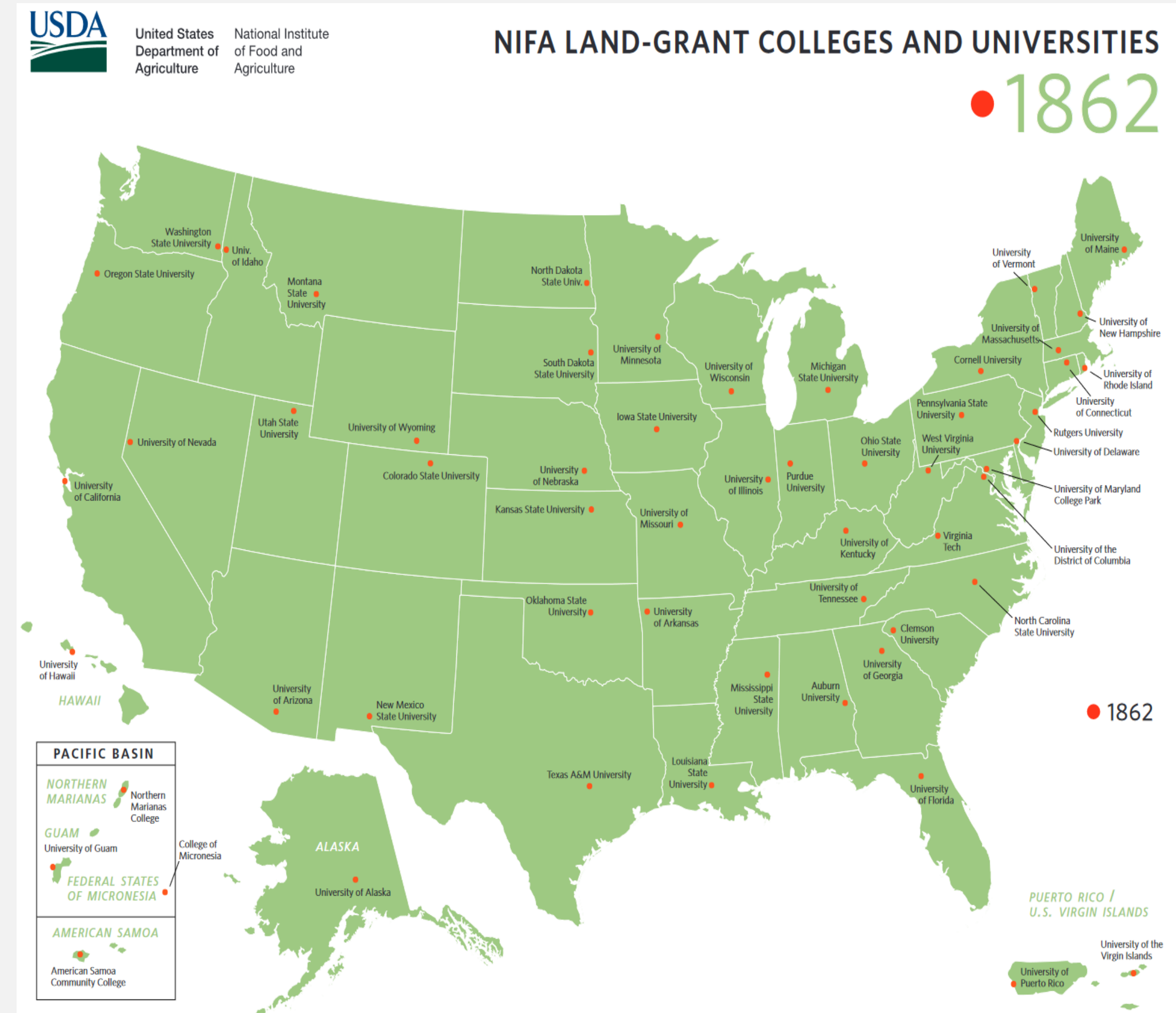# WHAT IS NIFA?
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- **Mission:** to invest in and advance agricultural research, education, and extension to solve societal challenges

- NIFA awards Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) grants through four competitive programs
  - Education & Workforce Development
  - Foundational and Applied Science
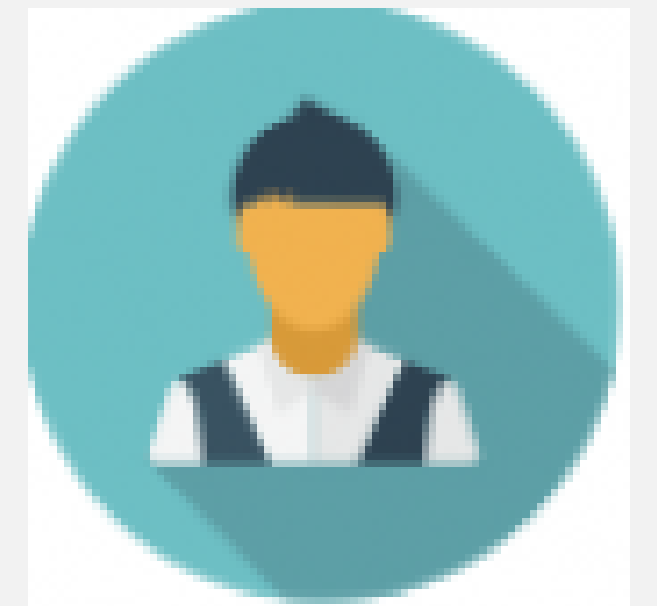 - Sustainable Agricultural Systems
  - Interagency Programs

- Resource: NIFA Website

WHAT IS AFRI?
THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE

- The nation's competitive grants program for agricultural sciences

- Mission: to invest in agricultural production research, education and extension projects for more sustainable, productive and economically viable plant and animal production systems.

- Funds research, education, and extension grants to improve rural economies, increase food production, stimulate the bioeconomy, mitigate impacts of climate variability, address water availability issues, ensure food safety and security, enhance human nutrition, and train the next generation of the agricultural workforce.
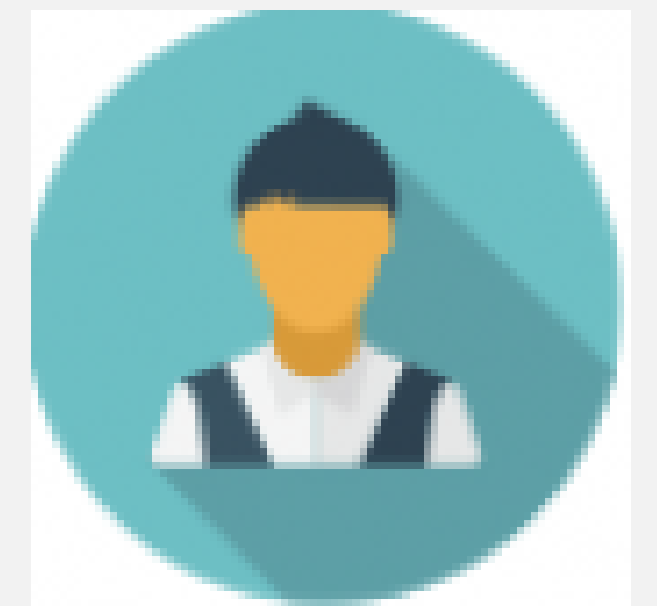
- Resource: AFRI Website

AFRI PROGRAM PRIORITIES

I Aligned with Farm Bill priorities

- Plant Health and Production and Plant Products

- Animal Health and Production and Animal Products

- Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health

- Bioenergy, Natural resources, and Environment

- Agriculture Systems and Technology

- Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities

I Resource: Farm Bill Priorities

AFRI RFAs

- Three main programs published as 2-year RFAs

- Use with the Application Guide

- TIP: Check website frequently for updates

- Resources: Three sources:
  - USDA NIFA RFA List
  - NIFA Grants Search Page
  - Grants.gov

RFA List

B elow is a list of our competitive RFAs. Use the grant search page to learn more about available grant opportunities.

- 1890 Facilities Grants Program
- 1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program
- AgrAbility - Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities
- Agricultural Genome to Phenome Initiative
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Education and Workforce Development
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science Program
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Sustainable Agricultural Systems
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Water for Agriculture Challenge Area
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Water for Food Production Systems Challenge Area
- Agriculture Risk Management Education Partnerships Competitive Grants Program (ARME)

FOUNDATIONAL & APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM (FASP)

- Mission: to build a foundation of <u>fundamental and applied knowledge</u> in food and agricultural sciences critical for solving current and future societal challenges

- Supports research, education and extension activities

- Aligns with six of the seven <u>USDA strategic goals</u>

- Program areas match the Farm Bill and AFRI priorities

- Resources:
  - <u>FASP Webpage</u>
  - <u>2021 AFRI New Investigator Handout</u>

FOUNDATIONAL & APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM (FASP)

- Important to find the right fit for your research topic
  - Program area
  - Priorities and subpriorities
  - Project types
  - Grant types

- TIP: Contact the program officer – listed as the program area priority contact – <u>before you start writing</u> to verify the fit of your project to the program areas identified in your Data Gate search and the program area priorities, project types and grant types selected from the RFA

- Resource: FASP Webpage

APPROACHING THE RFA

- RFA Number: USDA-NIFA-AFRI-007692

- Active dates: July 17, 2020 – July 29, 2021

- Deadlines vary by program area priority

- Awards: Up to $15M

- TIP: Use most recent version. Read carefully! Reread carefully!

- Resources:
  - RFA PDF
  - AFRI Deadlines Table

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

03/16/2021 Modifications: All substantive modifications and additional edits appear in red.

Foundational and Applied Science Program

Fiscal Years (FY) 2021 and 2022 Request for Applications

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: Varies by Program Area
APPLICATION DEADLINE: Varies by Program Area

ELIGIBILITY: See Part III, A of this RFA

This RFA solicits applications for two review cycles (2021 and 2022) covering three years of budgets (FY 2021, FY 2022, and FY 2023). Applicants considering applying to the 2022 review cycle should check the AFRI RFA webpage and www.grants.gov after December 15, 2021 for the 2022 Funding Opportunity Number and Application Kit, as well as for any other changes.

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture | National Institute of Food and Agriculture

ANATOMY OF THE RFA: STRUCTURE

- Standard structure with links to additional NIFA resources attachments

- TIP: Using the search command, find and highlight red letter words (must, should, required, etc.), copy these instructions into a new file, and use as a guide to plan and write

- Resources: 2021 New Investigator Handout

	Sections	Comments
I	Funding opportunity description	60 pages of Program area priorities
II	Award information	Application, project and grant types
III	Eligibility information	Cost-share/Match
VI	Application & submission information	Application Guide; Grants.gov
V	Application review requirements	Evaluation criteria
VI	Award administration	After the award
VII	Agency contacts	For questions/clarity
VIII	Other	

ANATOMY OF THE RFA: ATTACHMENTS

Additional resource attachments

TIP: For convenience, download the additional instruction attachments into a folder

Resources:

- New Investigator Handout
- RFA Attachments

Attachment

AFRI Grant Types (223.69 KB)

AFRI Project Types (34.49 KB)

Table 1 Most Successful Institutions (150.87 KB)

AFRI Letter of Intent Instructions (188.35 KB)

Table 2 Least Successful Institutions (132.79 KB)
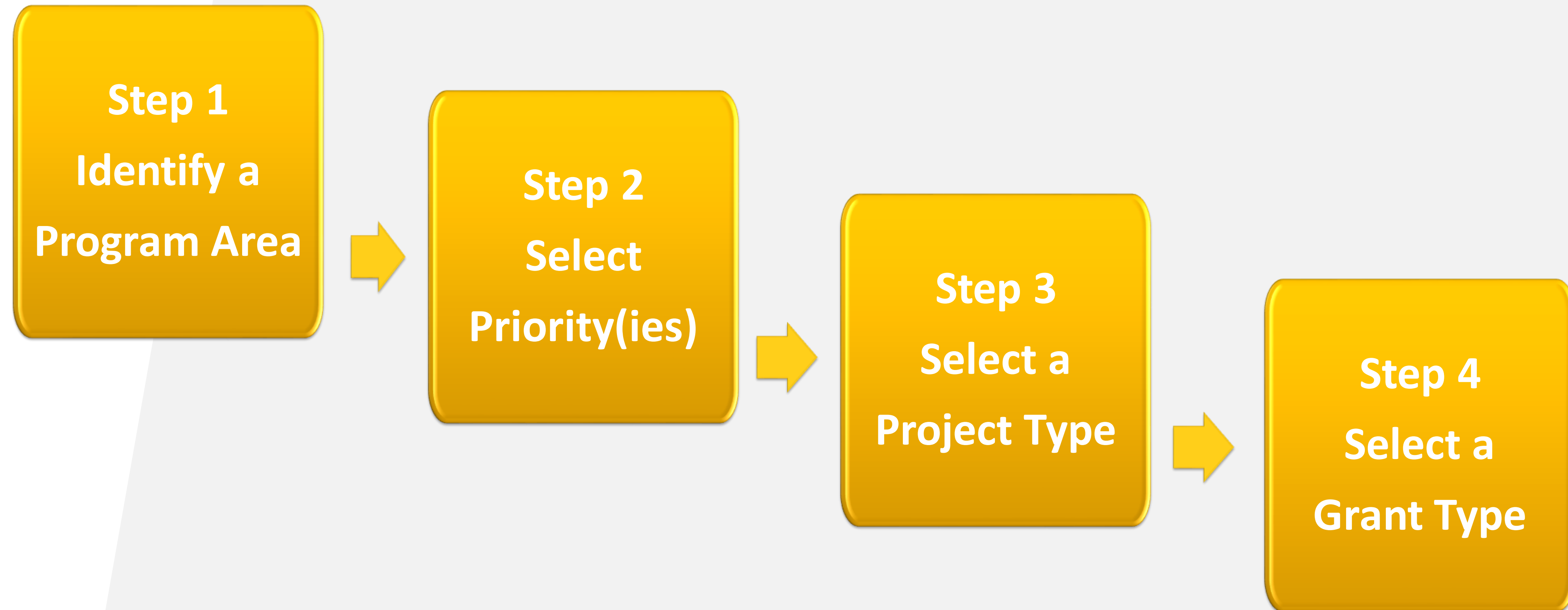
FASE Strengthening Grant Eligibility Flow Chart (124.78 KB)

2021-2022 Foundational and Applied Science RFA Additional Information for Part IV, C (340.29 KB)

AFRI SAS RFA Additional Information for Part IV C (305.33 KB)

AFRI Review Criteria (260.44 KB)

AFRI EWD RFA Additional Information for Part-IV-C (769.74 KB)

GETTING STARTED: FOUNDATIONAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE PROPOSAL

Step 1

Identify a

Program Area

Step 2

Select

Priority(ies)

Step 3

Select a

Project Type

Step 4

Select a

Grant Type

STEP 1: IDENTIFY A PROGRAM AREA

- Seven program areas align with AFRI's priorities

- RFA describes the priorities and subpriorities for each program area

- Proposals must respond to specific program areas and priorities

- TIP: Using Data Gateway, search key words in your field to identify one or more program areas that fund research related to your project

- Resource:
  - Data Gateway Award Search Tool

STEP 2: SELECT PRIORITY(IES)

- In the RFA, read the identified program area descriptions

- TIP: The descriptions in the RFA will help determine which program area priority(ies) are the best fit for your project

- Resources:
  - Webinars
  - Foundational and Applied Science Program RFA

Program·Area·Description¶

Plant·Health·and·Production·and·Plant·Products·(PHPPP)¶

Background:·Monumental·gains·in·American·crop·productivity·over·the·past·60·years·are·the·result·of·innovations·in·agricultural·production·practices,·plant·breeding,·and·pest·management.·¶

Additional·Program·Area·Priorities:·1.·Agricultural·Microbiomes·in·Plant·Systems·and·Natural·Resources·(A1402)·and·Tactical·Sciences·for·Agricultural·Biosecurity·(A1181)·program·area·priorities·are·described·in·Crosscutting·Programs.¶

Total·Program·Funds:·Approximately·$66·million·for·each·review·cycle¶

Key·Information·(Applicable·to·All·PHPPP·Program·Area·Priorities):¶

Program·Area·Priorities:·Each·application·must·address·at·least·**one·of·the·seven**·program·area·priorities.·¶
  a.·Foundational·Knowledge·of·Agricultural·Production·Systems¶
  b.·Foundational·Knowledge·of·Plant·Products¶
  c.·Pests·and·Beneficial·Species·in·Agricultural·Production·Systems¶
  d.·Physiology·of·Agricultural·Plants¶
  e.·Plant·Breeding·for·Agricultural·Production¶
  f.·Pollinator·Health:·Research·and·Application¶
  g.·Conventional·Plant·Breeding·for·Cultivar·Development¶

STEP 2: SELECT PRIORITY(IES)

- Each program area priority description outlines key information, covers the subject matter and lists related programs

- TIP: Program codes must be stated in the proposal to ensure it is routed to the correct review panel

- TIP: To avoid handling the 100 page RFP, search the RFP for the priority descriptions, cut and paste the sections into another file

Foundational Knowledge of Agricultural Production Systems

Program Area Priority Code: A1102

Proposed Budget Requests: $650,000 (research only) or $750,000 (integrated) total per project for project periods of 3-5 years

Project Types: Research and Integrated Projects only

Grant Types: Standard, Conference, and FASE (Strengthening Standard, New Investigator, Strengthening Conference, Seed, Equipment, and Sabbatical) Grants only

Application Deadline: June 17, 2021 (5:00 pm ET)

Contact: Mathieu Ngouajio, mathieu.ngouajio@usda.gov

John Erickson, john.erickson@usda.gov

Neerja Tyagi, neerja.tyagi1@usda.gov

STEP 3: IDENTIFY PROJECT TYPE

Project types:
- Research
- Extension
- Integrated research, education and/or extension

TIP: The AFRI Project Type form outlines options and can act as a worksheet to determine grant type

Resources:
- Project types
- Project type form

STEP 4: IDENTIFY GRANT TYPE

- AFRI Grant Types
  - Standard Grants: Original research
  - Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP): Large scale, multi-million dollars
  - Conference Grants: $50K max, Letter of Intent required
  - Food and Agriculture Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants: <u>EPSCoR states only</u>
    - New Investigator Grants (Standard and Seed)
    - Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants
    - Strengthening Grants (Standard; CAP; Conference, Seed ($300K), Sabbatical, Equipment ($10 – $250K)
- Resource:
  - <u>AFRI Grant Types</u>
  - <u>AFRI Project Type Form</u>

APPLICATION REVIEW CRITERIA

- Two-part evaluation process

  - Screen applications for administrative requirements

  - Scientific peer-review process using a review panel

    - Addresses the evaluation criteria

    - Project will have significant outcome and impact

- TIP: Refer to the review criteria when planning and organizing your outline and again after completing a comprehensive draft to ensure your proposal addresses NIFA's evaluation criteria as listed in AFRI's reviewer guide.

- Resources:

  - Guidance for AFRI Reviewers

  - Application Review Requirements, Part V of all AFRI RFPs

RFD RESOURCES

Resource	Purpose
Funding Opportunity Briefs (FOB)	Summarizes AFRI Program RFAs
Funding Opportunity Worksheets	Identify in a checklist format the program area, program priority, project type and grant type
Program/Priority Areas Instruction Guides	Outlines and describes the requirements of the program area and the associated priority(ies) you have identified for your application
Proposal Task Scheduling Planner	Plan the timeline to complete attachments and schedule narrative reviews with RFP team
Checklists	Outlines the formatting requirements, the project narrative template and the attachment instructions

Resources:

- RFD website
- Submit a service ticket and select **REQUEST RFD SERVICES**

NIFA AFRI PROGRAM RESOURCES

- Grant Training (navigate the grant process: writing tips, logic model planning, application)

- Apply for a grant

- Search for a funding opportunity

- Data Gateway Award Search Tool

- AFRI Funded Projects by State

- AFRI Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- AFRI FASE & EPSCoR Program

- AFRI RFA Resources

- Application Support Templates (Conflict of interest/project summary/current & pending)

- Application Guide (July 18, 2019)

TAKE AWAY MESSAGES

- Identify the USDA strategic goals and AFRI's program area, program area priorities the application addresses and state these near the beginning of the proposal narrative

- Contact a program officer to verify proposed project fit with priorities, project type and grant type

- Refer to tips and resources provided to prepare and complete a competitive application!

Q & A

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

FALL 2020

Sept. 9 — **NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) Program:** Tips for Writing a Competitive Proposal

Sept. 23 — **NSF CAREER All Year:** Getting Ready to Apply

Sept. 30 — **NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2:** Tips for Writing a Competitive Proposal

Oct. 7 — **Find Funding Opportunities:** Introduction to Pivot

Oct. 21 — **NSF CAREER All Year:** Getting Started on Your Proposal

Nov. 4 — **UPDATE:** Mountain West Clinical and Translational Research-Infrastructure Network (MW CTR-IN) Funding Opportunities

Nov. 18 — **Myth-busting Department of Defense Funding Opportunities**

Dec. 2 — **M. J. Murdock Trust's Commercialization Initiation Program:** Tips for Writing a Competitive Proposal

SPRING 2021

Jan. 13 — **Find Funding Opportunities:** Introduction to Pivot

Jan. 27 — **Funding Research and Scholarly Work in the Humanities**

Feb. 3 — **Idaho is an EPSCoR State - What This Means for Supporting Your Research**

Feb. 17 — **How to Develop and Deliver an Effective Pitch**

Mar. 3 — **Assessing Your Grant Readiness**

Mar. 24 — **Early Career Faculty Research - Grant Programs**

Apr. 7 — **USDA NIFA AFRI:** Tips for Getting Started with Your Next Proposal

Apr. 14 — **Developing Data Management Plans - Best Practices and Resources**

Apr. 28 — **Equipment Grant Programs:** An Overview

ZOOM ID
uidaho.zoom.us/j/95865360877

scan this to
zoom with us

FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINARS

Office of Research and Faculty Development | **Email:** ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu
Website: uidaho.edu/orfd

RFD CAN ASSIST YOU!

REQUEST RFD SERVICES

- Email: ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu
- Url: https://www.uidaho.edu/research/about/orfd

AFRI GRANTS

- Research, education, and extension grants

- Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP) grants - large, multi-million dollar projects that often involve multiple institutions

- Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) grants - help institutions become more competitive and attract new scientists and educators to careers in high-priority areas of agriculture.

- Grants to state agricultural experiment stations; colleges and universities; university research foundations; other research institutions and organizations; federal agencies; national laboratories; private organizations or corporations; individuals; or any group consisting of two or more of the aforementioned entities.

AGENCY RESOURCES

- Search for a funding opportunity: https://nifa.usda.gov/page/search-grant

- USDA – US Department of Agriculture
- NIFA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture
- AFRI – Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program
- Foundational – Foundational and Applied Science Program
- FASE – Food and Agriculture Science Enhancement (for EPSCoR states)
- AFRI Program Information
- Data Gateway Award Search Tool
- AFRI Funded Projects by State
- AFRI Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS

APPLICATION SUPPORT TEMPLATES

Ⅰ Resource

- [Application Support Templates](#)

- [Conflict of interest](#)

- [Project summary](#)

- [Current and pending support,](#)

AFRI NEW INVESTIGATOR

- Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) grant program

  - Capacity building – EPSCoR states

- PI does not have an extensive publication record; less than 5 years of postgraduate; career-track experience, and not have received competitively awarded federal research funding as PI/PD

- Two types of New Investigator grants

  - Standard grant

    - Funding dictated by program area priority

  - Seed grant

    - $300K maximum, up to 2-years

- New Investigator applications reviewed with others in their category

  - The New Investigator box on the application must be checked

- Resources

  - Webinars and FAQs