USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NIFA Update – WSSA Agri Systems and Technology

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National Program Leaders

Precision Agriculture

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NIFA OVERVIEW

NIFA's Science Institutes

- **Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment**
  - Enhance sustainable bio-based energy systems and products
  - Enhance adaptive agro-ecosystems in response to climate variability and change
- **Institute of Food Production and Sustainability**
  - Enhance global food security through productive and sustainable agricultural systems
- **Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition**
  - Ensure safe food supply; improve citizens' health through nutrition; reduce childhood obesity; and improve food quality
- **Institute of Youth, Family, and Community**
  - Enable vibrant and resilient communities; enhance youth development
  - Prepare the next generation of scientists
  - Enhance science capacity in minority serving institutions

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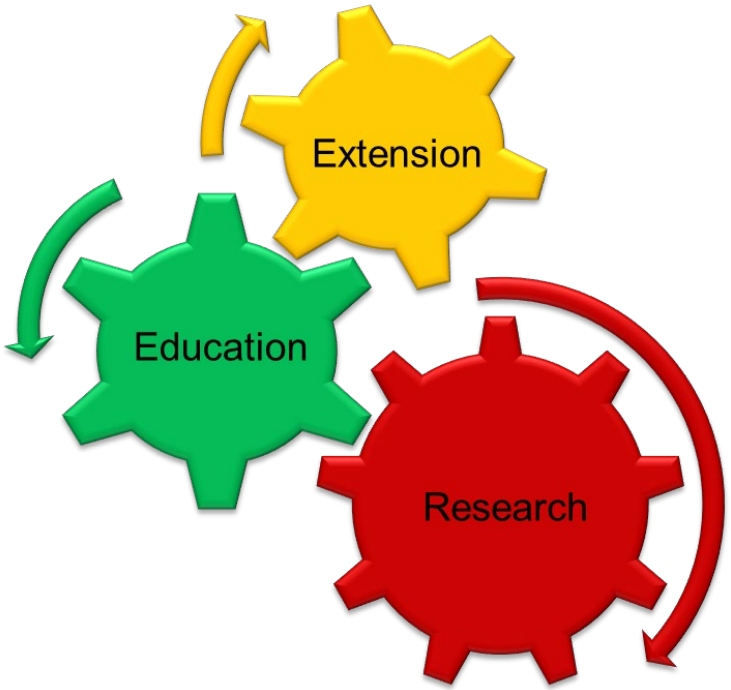
- **$1.95 billion allocated to NIFA for FY2021**
- **NIFA provides capacity (formula) grants to land-grant universities**
- **Provides competitive grants to support research, education and extension at various institutions**
  - **Land-grant universities, non-land-grants, minority-serving institutions, community colleges, and other organizations**
  - **Eligibility varies by program and is listed in each Request for Application (RFA)**



How NIFA funds are provided

- Capacity grants - for land-grant institutions, schools of forestry, and schools of veterinary medicine to fund research and extension activities. The amount of funds provided to each institution is determined by a formula.

- Competitive grants - for fundamental and applied research, extension, and higher education activities, as well as for projects that integrate research, education, and extension functions. Individuals, institutions, or organizations may apply according to criteria listed in the Request For Applications (RFA).

Capacity Grants: Hatch Projects

- Hatch Funding given to Ag Experiment Stations
  - —including insular areas (+AK, HI)

- Regular Hatch Projects fund: 75%
  - —Dr. Vance Owens

- Multistate Hatch Projects fund: 25%
  - —Dr. Ganesh Bora

Peer Review

- NIFA relies on a rigorous peer review process by research, extension, and/or education experts to select proposals of highest merit
- The program-specific evaluation criteria detailed in RFAs may include:
  - Scientific Merit
  - Qualifications of the Project Team
  - Institutional Capacity and Availability of Facilities
  - Project Planning & Management
  - Relevance to Agriculture and Program Priorities

NIFA Resources

Find out about NIFA news and events:

- NIFA events calendar: https://nifa.usda.gov/calendar
- Sign-up for NIFA newsletters: https://nifa.usda.gov/newsroom/newsletters/update.html
- NIFA Blog: https://nifa.usda.gov/newsroom/blogs

Find a funding opportunity:

- Funding opportunities: https://nifa.usda.gov/grant-search
- Upcoming RFA calendar: https://nifa.usda.gov/upcoming-rfa-calendar
- Competitive Grants Flowchart: https://nifa.usda.gov/competitive-grants

Application resources:

- NIFA Grant Resources: https://nifa.usda.gov/grant-training
- Submitting a grant: https://nifa.usda.gov/apply-grant
- Info on awarded grants: https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/Welcome.html

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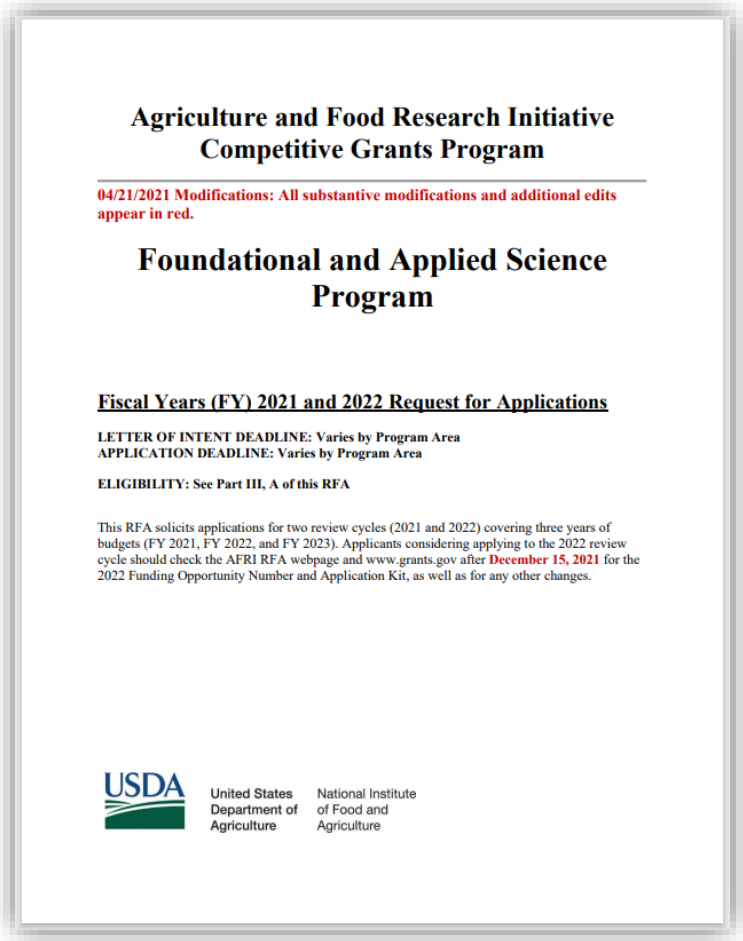
OVERVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Foundational and Applied Science:

- Plant health and production, plant products
- Animal health and production, animal products
- Food safety, nutrition, and health
- Bioenergy, natural resources, environment
- **Agriculture systems and technology**
- Agriculture economics and rural communities
- Cross-cutting Program Area Priorities



Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

04/21/2021 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.

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AFRI Grant Types

- Standard Grants
- Seed Grants
- Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP)
- Conference Grants
- Food and Agriculture Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants
  - Pre- and Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants
  - Strengthening Grants – several types
  - New Investigator Grants

Some Pertinent Grant Programs - general

- A1521 Engineering for Ag. Production and Processing - 650K
- A1551 Engineering for Precision Crop and Water Management -
- A1541 Data Science for Agricultural Systems (DSFAS) - 650K and 1M

- NIFA/NSF: National Robotics Initiative - 1.2M

- NIFA/NSF: Cyber-Physical Systems - 1.2M (or 1.6M with TTP) No Deadline

More Pertinent Grant Programs

- NIFA/NSF: AI Institutes - 4M/Year for up to 5 years (Two grants for 2020 and Two for 2021)
- SBIR 8.13 – Plant Prod. and Protection Engineering program
- A1601 – Small and Medium farms - Denis Ebodaghe

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‘Regional Innovation and Demonstration of Climate-smart Agriculture for Future Farms (CAFF)

Link to the RFA

FY 2022 AFRI Foundational and Applied Science RFA (usda.gov)

Program Area Priority A1556

Establish an agricultural testbed and demonstration farm for climate smart agriculture or forestry. The farm will incorporate animal, plant, or combined animal and plant production systems or forestry systems with advanced precision agricultural technologies to develop and implement climate-smart agricultural or forestry practices that will reduce emission of GHG, create positive economic, environmental, and social impact and address unique regional production systems in the US. Public-private partnerships are encouraged. The long-term goals of this program area priority include sustainable agricultural and forestry production systems, resilient food or forestry supply chains, value-added products, enhanced socio-economic opportunities, and thriving rural communities.

Program Code:	A1556
Program Code Name:	Regional Innovation and Demonstration of Climate-smart Agriculture for Future Farms (CAFF)
CFDA Number	10.310
Project Type(s):	Integrated Projects only
Grant Type(s):	a. Standard and FASE (Strengthening Standard) Grants only b. See *Part II § C.2* for requirements specific to FASE Grant applications.
Letter of Intent Deadline	Not applicable
Application Deadline(s)	**2022:** Thursday, October 6, 2022 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)
Grant Duration:	Up to 48 months for **Standard Grants and Strengthening Standard Grants**
Maximum Award Amount(s):	Including indirect costs: $4,000,000 for **Standard Grants and Strengthening Standard Grants**
Program Area Priority Contact(s):	a. Dr. Ganesh Bora, (816) 489-0944 or ganesh.bora@usda.gov b. Dr. Amer Fayad, (816) 894-7228 or amer.fayad@usda.gov c. Dr. Steven Smith, (202) 445-5480 or steven.i.smith@usda.gov d. Dr. Ann Stapleton, (816) 274-1942 or ann.stapleton@usda.gov e. Dr. Adam Wilke, (816) 398-5277 or adam.wilke@usda.gov f. Dr. Diomides Zamora, (202) 590-6049 or

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WORK WITH NIFA

Volunteer to serve as a panelist

https://prs.nifa.usda.gov/prs/preLogin.do?page=welcome

QUESTIONS?????

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THANK YOU!

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