

# **District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act Program (Cooperative Extension Programs)**

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***FY 2010 Formula Grant Opportunity (FGO) -Final***

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 19, 2010**



**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE;  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY REORGANIZATION ACT  
PROGRAM (COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS)**

**FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE:** This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.500.

**DATES:** Applications must be received by close of business (COB) on February 19, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) requests applications for the FY 2010 formula grants authorized under the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Reorganization Act (DCPPERA) program. These funds are used by the University of the District of Columbia for the development of practical applications of research knowledge and giving of instruction and practical demonstrations of existing or improved practices or technologies in agriculture, uses of solar energy with respect to agriculture, home economics, and rural energy, and subjects relating thereto to persons not attending the University of the District of Columbia, and imparting information on those subjects through demonstrations, publications, and otherwise and for the necessary printing and distribution of information in connection with the subjects. The amount available for this program in FY 2010 is \$1,164,278.

This notice identifies the objectives for DCPPERA projects, the eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and the application forms and associated instructions needed to apply for a FY 2010 DCPPERA formula grant allocation. NIFA additionally requests stakeholder input from any interested party for use in the development of the next Formula Grant Opportunity (FGO) for this program. Written stakeholder input should be submitted by mail to: Policy and Oversight Branch; Office of Extramural Programs; National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA; STOP 2299; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, DC 20250-2299; or via e-mail to: [RFP-OEP@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:RFP-OEP@nifa.usda.gov). (**This e-mail address is intended only for receiving stakeholder input regarding this FGO.**) In your stakeholder input, please state that you are responding to the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act Program (Cooperative Extension Programs) FGO.

Please send **questions or comments** to Formula Grants Section of the Office of Extramural Programs, Stop 2298, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-2298; fax: (202) 690-3002; or e-mail: [formulagrantsquestions@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:formulagrantsquestions@nifa.usda.gov).

## What's New for FY 2010?

- The FY 2010 formula grant awards will be disbursed through the Automated Standard Application for Payment System (ASAP) operated by the Department of Treasury's Financial Management Service. Applicants will receive information on how to access ASAP, establish an account, if necessary, and how to utilize ASAP to draw funds, create reports, etc. The information will also include instructions to inform NIFA, Formula Grant Section, Financial Operations Branch (FGS/FOB) of the account number to use for the FY 2010 formula grant disbursements.
- All FY 2009 and prior formula grant awards will continue to be disbursed via the Payment Management System (PMS) operated by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
- There will be two submissions in FY 2010:
  - Initial – For an estimated amount (see Appendix A) based on the FY 2009 allocation amounts.
  - Final – Based on the actual appropriated amount for FY 2010 and actual formula distribution for FY 2010.
- No Standard Form (SF) 424-A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs, and no Budget Narrative Attachment Form are required for either the initial or final submissions for FY 2010.
- The Application Package for the initial or final submissions will include:
  - Application for Federal Assistance, Standard Form (SF) 424-M (Mandatory) (Required)
  - NIFA Supplemental Information Form (Required)
  - Key Contacts Form (Required)
- Effective October 1, 2009, formula grantees are required to submit a SF-425, Federal Financial Report, which replaces the SF-272, Federal Cash Transaction Report and the SF-269, Financial Status Report. NIFA will be providing additional guidance on the implementation of the SF-425, Federal Financial Report, by mid-March 2010.
- On October 1, 2009, all authorities of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) were transferred to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture per section 7511 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246).

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## **PART I—FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION**

### **A. Legislative Authority and Background**

Sections 208 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act provides, in pertinent part, that “In the administration of ... the Act of August 30, 1890 (7 U.S.C. 321-326, 328) (known as the Second Morrill Act), ... the University [of the District of Columbia] shall be considered to be a university established for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts in accordance with the provisions of the Act of July 2, 1862 (7 U.S.C. 301-305, 307, 308) (known as the First Morrill Act); and the term "State", is used in the laws and provisions of law listed in the preceding paragraphs of this section shall include the District of Columbia. ... In the administration of the Act of May 8, 1914 (7 U.S.C. 341-346, 347a-349) (known as the Smith-Lever Act) ... the University [of the District of Columbia] shall be considered to be a university established for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts in accordance with the provisions of the Act of July 2, 1862 (7 U.S.C. 301- 305, 307,308); and ... the term "State" as used in such Act of May 8, 1949, shall include the District of Columbia, except that the District of Columbia shall not be eligible to receive any sums appropriated under section 3 of such Act. ... In lieu of an authorization of appropriations for the District of Columbia under section 3 of such Act of May 8, 1914, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide cooperative agricultural extension work in the District of Columbia under such Act. Any reference in such Act (other than section 3 thereof) to funds appropriated under such Act shall in the case of the District of Columbia be considered a reference to funds appropriated under this subsection.”

Therefore, this grant funds the development of practical applications of research knowledge and giving of instruction and practical demonstrations of existing or improved practices or technologies in agriculture, uses of solar energy with respect to agriculture, home economics, and rural energy, and subjects relating thereto to persons not attending the University of the District of Columbia, and imparting information on those subjects through demonstrations, publications, and otherwise and for the necessary printing and distribution of information in connection with the subjects.

Section 7417 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-234) amended section 208 of the District of Columbia Public Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act to eliminate any matching requirement for the extension formula funds provided to the University of the District of Columbia, effective October 1, 2008.

In FY 2007, the former CSREES conducted a Grants.gov pilot for the solicitation of one of the NIFA Formula Programs, the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Program. Under this pilot the institutions were required to submit a SF-424M Application (Cover Page Form), NIFA Supplemental Form, and Key Contacts Form through Grants.gov. NIFA implemented this process for all NIFA Formula Programs in FYs 2008 and 2009 and thereafter due to the mandated reporting requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA). Under this law, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was required to develop and maintain a public searchable data base for all Federal financial assistance awards,

and Federal agencies are required to report specific data elements which will be collected via these applications (e.g., Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering (D-U-N-S®) numbers, legal names of institutions, legal addresses, congressional districts). OMB makes this information available at <http://www.usaspending.gov>.

In FY 2010, NIFA requires both an initial submission (based on estimated amounts per the 2009 Omnibus Appropriation Act) followed by a final submission (based on the actual appropriated amount for FY 2010 and the actual formula distribution for FY 2010). The initial submission took place and NIFA now requests the final submission via this FGO. NIFA is not requiring the following forms for FY 2010 for the final submission:

- Standard Form (SF) 424-A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
- Budget Narrative Attachment Form

Please note that the submission of this application package does not change the following:

- Delegated authorities of the Extension Director;
- How funds are managed at your institution; and
- Indirect costs and tuition remission are unallowable costs.

Guidelines for the administration of this program are published as Chapter III, Financial Operations, of the Administrative Handbook for Cooperative Extension Work, which may be accessed at <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/formula/manuals/coopextension.pdf>. Please note that any instructions in this FGO supersede policies and procedures identified in this manual. In 2010, NIFA will revise this manual and promulgate administrative provisions for this program through rulemaking which includes a public comment period.

## **B. Purpose and Priorities**

The purpose of this funding is to conduct cooperative extension programs in the District of Columbia.

## **PART II—AWARD INFORMATION**

### **A. Available Funding**

The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Pub. L. 111-80) provides \$1,164,278, in FY 2010 for this program.

Funds in the amount of \$1,164,278 will be distributed to the University of the District of Columbia on a quarterly basis. **This extension formula grant will be awarded as 2010-42000-05400.**

DCPPERA funds are expected to be fully expended in the fiscal year of appropriation; however funds may be carried over for up to four years after the end of the year for which they were appropriated.

## **B. Types of Submission**

In FY 2010, pre-award form submissions must be submitted to the DCPPERA program as a “new” application on the [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) website. As noted previously, these application packages complement, rather than duplicate, the information collected via the Plan of Work (POW) system, and together satisfy all legislative and regulatory pre-award requirements.

Section 105 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (AREERA) amended the Smith-Lever Act and the Hatch Act to require an approved Plan of Work for extension and research activities at 1862 Land-grant Institutions in order to receive Federal funding. As stated in the Preface to the Federal Register Notice at 71 FR 4107, “Although the District of Columbia receives extension funds under the District of Columbia Postsecondary Education Reorganization Act, Public Law 93–471, as opposed to the Smith-Lever Act, CSREES has determined that it should be subject to the POW requirements imposed under these guidelines except where expressly excluded.” Therefore, the University of the District of Columbia must submit both a 5-Year Plan of Work Update for FY 2010-2014 (i.e., submitted as an annual update) and an Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. Both reports were due April 1, 2009.

## **C. Project Types**

The University of the District of Columbia should request funding of \$1,164,278 for FY 2010. NIFA will fund the DCPPERA program in FY 2010 for agricultural extension activities identified in the approved 5-Year Plan of Work.

## **PART III—ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

### **A. Eligible Applicants**

The University of the District of Columbia, as the 1862 Land-Grant Institution, is the only applicant eligible for funding under the DCPPERA.

The award recipient may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply for funding provided that such arrangements are necessary to complete the project.

### **B. Cost Sharing or Matching**

There is no matching requirement for these funds.

## PART IV—SUBMISSION INFORMATION

### A. Address to Request Formula Grants Opportunity Package

Only electronic applications may be submitted via Grants.gov to NIFA in response to this FGO.

Prior to preparing an application, it is suggested that the State Extension Director first contact an Authorized Representative (AR) to determine if the organization is prepared to submit electronic applications through Grant.gov. If the organization is not prepared, the AR should see [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\\_registered.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp) for steps for preparing to submit applications through Grants.gov.

The State Extension Director, or his or her designee, also must contact the institution's AR in order to be granted permission for the submission of applications through Grants.gov. Once that permission is granted, the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, can obtain a login and password.

The steps to access application materials are as follows:

1. In order to access, complete and submit applications, applicants must download and install a version of Adobe Reader compatible with Grants.gov. This software is essential to apply for NIFA Federal assistance awards. For basic system requirements and download instructions, please see [http://www.grants.gov/help/download\\_software.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/help/download_software.jsp). To verify that you have a compatible version of Adobe Reader, Grants.gov established a test package that will assist you in making that determination. Grants.gov Adobe Versioning Test Package:  
<http://www.grants.gov/applicants/AdobeVersioningTestOnly.jsp>.

2. The application package must be obtained via Grants.gov, go to <http://www.grants.gov>, click on "Apply for Grants" in the left-hand column, click on "Step 1: Download a Grant Application Package and Instructions," enter the funding opportunity number "USDA-NIFA-SLBCD-002818" in the appropriate box and click "Download Package." From the search results, click "Download" to access the application package.

**If assistance is needed to access the application page** (e.g., downloading or navigating PDF forms, using Adobe with a Macintosh computer), refer to the resources available on the Grants.gov Web site first (<http://grants.gov>). Grants.gov assistance is also available as follows:

Grants.gov customer support

Toll Free: 1-800-518-4726

Business Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Closed on [Federal Holidays](#)

Email: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)

See <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/electronic.html> for additional resources for applying electronically.

## **B. Content and Form of Formula Grants Opportunity Package Submission**

### **General**

Each grant application must contain an “Application for Federal Assistance,” Form SF-424 Mandatory; “Supplemental Information Form,” NIFA Supplemental Information Form and “Key Contacts Form,” SF-424 Key Contacts. These forms should be completed in accordance with the instructions accompanying the form on the grants.gov website. The following are the government-wide instructions followed by *agency specific guidelines*, if any, for each data element for each form:

### **Grant Application Package**

Verify that the information shown corresponds to the grant for which the applicant wishes to apply. Grants.gov will auto-populate the following information:

- Opportunity Title
- Offering Agency
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number
- CFDA Description
- Opportunity Number
- Competition ID
- Opportunity Open Date
- Opportunity Close Date
- Agency Contact

Enter a name for the application in the \* ***Application Filing Name*** field. This field is required. This name is for use solely by the applicant for you to track through the Grants.gov submission process. It is not used by the receiving agency.

Open and complete all of the documents listed in the “Mandatory Documents” box. Complete the SF-424 first. Data entered on the SF-424 will populate other mandatory and optional forms where possible.

To access a form or document, click the form/document name to select it, and then click the => button. This will move the form/document to the “Mandatory Documents for Submission” box. To open an item to complete it, simply click on it to select the item and then click on the “Open Form” button. To remove a form/document from the “Mandatory Documents for Submission” box, click the form/document name to select it, and then click the <= button. This will return the form/document to the “Mandatory Documents” or “Optional Documents” box.

## **Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form (SF)-424 M (Mandatory))**

- 1a. **Type of Submission:** Select one Type of Submission with agency instructions. *Select “Application”.*
- 1b. **Frequency:** Select applicable frequency for the Type of Submission in 1.a. *Select “Annual”.*
- 1c. **Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request?** Indicate if the submission is a consolidated application/plan/funding request. *Select “No”.*
- 1d. **Version:** Select the applicable version for the Type of Submission in 1.a:  
  
*Initial: Select “Initial” in response to this FGO. Use it to submit your institution’s application package, including the actual formula distribution amounts for FY 2010 per Appendix A and available matching funds.*
2. **Date Received:** Federal use only.
3. **Applicant Identifier:** Applicant use only. *Use or leave blank.*
- 4a. **Federal Entity Identifier:** Enter Federal entity identifier, if any, as specified in agency instructions. *Leave blank.*
- 4b. **Federal Award Identifier:** Enter Federal award identifier assigned by agency (if applicable). *Enter “USDA-NIFA-SLBCD-002818”.*
5. **Date Received by State:** State use only. *Use or leave blank.*
6. **State Application Identifier:** State use only. *Use or leave blank.* This field is for use when an institution has its own system for tracking applications. This field allows the applicant to enter its application identifier on the application.
- 7a. **Legal Name:** Enter the following: Legal name of applicant. *Enter the name of the institution.*
- 7b. **Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):** Enter: Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
- 7c. **Organizational DUNS:** Enter: Organization’s D-U-N-S® number (received from D&B) or the D-U-N-S +4 number® (if available).
- 7d. **Address:** Enter: Complete address of applicant. *Enter the institution’s mailing address.*

- 7e. **Organizational Unit:** Enter: Name of primary organizational unit (and department/division, if applicable), which will undertake the assistance activity. *Enter the office where the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, is located.*
- 7f. **Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:** For the person to contact on matters related to this submission: name, organizational affiliation (if affiliated with an organization other than the applicant organization, e-mail address, phone number, and fax number. *Enter the contact information for the person performing this electronic submission.*
- 8a. **Type of Applicant:** Select the appropriate letter and enter in the space provided. Letters O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, and W are not applicable.
- A: State Government
  - B: County Government
  - C: City or Township Government
  - D: Special District Government
  - E: Regional Organization
  - F: U.S. Territory
  - G: Independent School District
  - H: Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education
  - I: Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)
  - J: Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized)
  - K: Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization
  - L: Public/Indian Housing Authority
  - M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
  - N: Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
  - X: Other (specify in accordance with agency instructions)

Please select the appropriate code for your institution.

9. **Name of Federal agency:** Enter name of Federal agency from which assistance is being requested. *No entry required. This field is pre-populated from the opportunity package.*
10. **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:** Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number and title of the program under which assistance is requested. Use the continuation sheet to enter multiple CFDA numbers and titles. *No entry required. This field is pre-populated from the opportunity package.*
11. **Areas Affected by Funding (Cities, Counties, States, etc. Use continuation sheet on page 5 if necessary):** List areas or entities affected using categories specified in agency instructions. Use the continuation sheet to enter multiple entities beyond the space provided. *Enter cities, counties, states, etc. anticipated to be affected by the FY 2010 allocation you will receive.*

- 12a. **Congressional Districts of (Use continuation sheet on page 5 if necessary), Applicant:** Applicant-Enter the applicant's congressional district. Enter the congressional district. *Enter the Congressional district where the main campus is located.*
- 12b. **Congressional Districts of (Use continuation sheet on page 5 if necessary), Program/Project:** Program/Project-Enter the congressional district(s) affected by the program or project. If all congressional districts are included for a State, use "all", e.g., all congressional districts in Maryland would show as MD-all). Use the continuation sheet to enter multiple congressional districts that represent less than all congressional districts in a State or congressional districts in multiple States. *(Note: If this application is being completed by someone other than the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, may need to be consulted on this question.)*
- 13a. **Funding Period, Start Date:** Enter the start date of the funding period for this submission. *Enter "10/01/2009".*
- 13b. **Funding Period, End Date:** Enter the end date of the funding period for this submission. *Enter "09/30/2010".*
- 14a. **Estimated Funding, Federal:** Federal-Enter the amount requested from the Federal agency. If the agency has specified an amount, enter that amount. *Enter \$. This is the actual amount for FY 2010.*
- 14b. **Estimated Funding, Match:** Match-Enter the amount of funds from all other sources. *Enter \$0*
15. **Is Submission Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12732 Process?** Select "*c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372*".
16. **Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt?** Select the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans, and taxes. This question applies to the applicant (institution) organization.
17. **By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in this list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances and agree to comply with any resulting terms (as identified under Part VI, B) if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)** To be signed by the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, of the applicant organization. Enter the name, title, phone number, e-mail address, and fax number of the State Extension Director, or his or her designee. *The required assurances designated here includes the institutions compliance with all Federal laws and*

*regulations associated with receipt of Federal Domestic Assistance for this program, including the matching certification and certification regarding lobbying activities. By hitting the submit button of the application, the State Extension Director, or his or her designee, certifies to the above.*

## **2. NIFA Supplemental Information Form (Required)**

1. **Funding Opportunity Name:** *No entry required. This is pre-populated from the opportunity package.*  
**Funding Opportunity Number:** *No entry required. This is pre-populated the opportunity package.*
2. **Program Code Name:** *Enter “DC Public Postsecondary Reorganization Act”*  
**Program Code:** *Enter “PPERA”.*
3. **Type of Applicant:** *No entry required. This will be pre-populated from your entry on the application cover sheet.*
4. **Additional Applicant Types:** *Select “1862 Land-Grant University” from the drop down menu in this block.*
5. **Supplemental Applicant Types:** *Please check all that apply.*
6. **HHS Account Information:** *If the legal applicant has a HHS account select yes. If it does not select no. This field is required. This information will no longer be utilized as payments will be made via the Automated Standard Application System (ASAP) operated by the Department of Treasury’s Financial Management Service.*
7. **Key Words:** *Enter “Not applicable”.*
8. **Conflict of Interest List:** *Leave blank.*

## **3. Key Contacts Form (Required)**

**Applicant Organization Name:** Enter the complete legal name of the institution.

**Contact 1 Project Role:** *Enter the contact information for the State Extension Director, or his or her designee.*

**Contact 2 Project Role:** *Enter the contact information for the State Extension Director or Director’s designee, if applicable.*

**Contact 3 Project Role:** *Enter the contact information for the Business Office Manager/Administrator for this program.*

**Contact 4 Project Role:** *Enter the contact information for the person responsible for drawdowns.*

## **Saving the Application**

The application package can only be saved from the Grant Application Package screen. It is recommended that after the applicant completes each form/document that they click on the “Close Form” button to close the form and then save the application package by clicking on the “Save” button at the top of the Grant Application Package Screen. It is important to note that the application package will be saved to the last active directory on the applicant’s computer. Therefore, the applicant should save the application package to their hard drive where it can be easily accessed. The applicant may save their application package at any time and should save the application package with the same file name each time. An error message will occur each time that the applicant saves the form before completing all of the mandatory fields on the mandatory forms or the optional forms are moved to the Optional Completed Documents for Submission column on the application package. The applicant may ignore this warning. This warning will not appear when all of the mandatory fields have been completed on all of the forms/documents in the application package.

## **Check Package for Errors**

To initiate the Grants.gov edit check process, simply click on the “Check Package for Errors” button at the top of the screen. This process will identify all mandatory fields that have not been completed by the applicant. These errors will be displayed one at a time.

No checks against NIFA business rules will take place at this time.

## **Submitting the Application**

The AR must open the browser, open the application and then press the Submit button. To submit the application:

1. Close all open browser(s) and running applications.
2. Open the internet browser.
3. Navigate to the physical location where the application file is located. Select the application to open.
4. The internet browser will open the application. This may take a few moments. Please be patient.
5. Once the application is completely open, click the **Save and Submit** button. (The Save and Submit button will not become active until all mandatory documents have been properly completed and the application has been saved.) You are required to save the application again at this point in order to begin the application submission process.
6. Click **Save and Submit**.
7. A dialog box will appear and you will need to enter your Grants.gov username and password.
8. Lastly, click **Login**.

Only the AR has the authority and user rights to **Save and Submit** an application to Grants.gov. Additional submission tips may be found at the Grants.gov website. Grants.gov Submission Tips: [http://www.grants.gov/help/submit\\_application\\_faqs.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/help/submit_application_faqs.jsp)

### **C. Certifications**

**Important Note:** By signing Form SF-424-M, the applicant is providing the certifications required by 7 CFR Part 3017, regarding Debarment and Suspension, 7 CFR Part 3018, regarding Lobbying, 7 CFR 3021, regarding Drug-Free Workplace, and compliance with the provisions of Chapter III, Financial Operations, of the NIFA Administrative Handbook for Cooperative Extension Work, including 7 CFR 3015, Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations; 7 CFR 3019, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-profit Organizations; 7 CFR 3016, Uniform Administration Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to States and Local Governments; and OMB Circulars A-21, Cost Principles for Educational Institutions (now codified at 2 CFR Part 220), and A-110, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-profit Organizations (now codified at 2 CFR Part 215). If the project will involve a subcontractor or consultant, the subcontractor and/or consultant should submit a Form AD-1048, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions, to the grantee organization for retention in their records. This form should not be submitted to USDA.

### **D. Submission Dates and Times**

An “Application for Federal Assistance,” Form SF-424 Mandatory; NIFA Supplemental Information Form and “Key Contacts Form,” should be submitted online via the [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) website by COB on February 19, 2010 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time).

The receipt of all applications will be acknowledged by e-mail. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to provide accurate e-mail addresses on the Application for Federal Assistance SF-424 – Mandatory Form.

**If an applicant has not received an acknowledgment within 60 days of the submission, the applicant must contact the Agency contact (see Part VII) immediately and ask for the application number assigned to the application. Failure to do so may result in the application not being processed and funding being held.** Once the application has been assigned an application number, this number should be cited on all future correspondence.

### **E. Funding Restrictions**

#### **(1) Approved NIFA DCPPERA Projects**

DCPPERA Federal funding must be used to support extension activities identified in the approved 5-Year Plan of Work.

## **(2) Matching**

There is no matching requirement for these funds.

## **(3) Indirect Costs and Tuition Remission**

In accordance with section 1473 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3319), indirect costs and tuition remission are unallowable as DCPPERA formula grant expenditures.

## **(4) Other Restrictions**

No portion of these funds may be applied, directly or indirectly, to the purchase, erection, preservation, or repair of any building or buildings, or the purchase or rental of land, or in college-course teaching, lectures in college, or any other purpose not specified in this Act.

## **F. Other Submission Requirements**

Program information for the DCPPERA program should be submitted to the Office of Planning and Accountability through the website established for this purpose (<http://pow.nifa.usda.gov>). Required submissions include the 5-Year Plan of Work Update for FY 2010-2014 and the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results. Both reports were due April 1, 2009.

Form NIFA-REPT (Revised 09/04) Supplement to Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results, Multistate Extension Activities and Integrated Activities, were due by April 1, 2009, for fiscal year 2008.

## **PART V—SUBMISSION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS**

The Office of Planning and Accountability and the OEP Formula Grants Section will be reviewing submitted documents to determine if all program, financial, and administrative requirements have been met and are current.

## **PART VI—AWARD ADMINISTRATION**

### **A. General**

The Office of Planning and Accountability will notify the OEP Formula Grants Section and the institution regarding each institution's compliance with the Plan of Work reporting requirements (i.e., 5-Year Plan of Work Update and an Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results). If all current program and administrative requirements have been met by the eligible institution, funding will continue to be released on a quarterly basis. The OEP Formula Grants Section will notify the institutions when all requirements have been met or approved.

## **B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

Several Federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These include, but are not limited to:

7 CFR Part 1, subpart A — USDA implementation of the Freedom of Information Act.

7 CFR Part 3 — USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-129 regarding debt collection.

7 CFR Part 15, subpart A — USDA implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

7 CFR Part 331 and 9 CFR Part 121 — USDA implementation of the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002.

7 CFR Part 3015 — USDA Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, implementing OMB directives (i.e., OMB Circular Nos. A-21 and A-122, now codified at 2 CFR Parts 220 and 230) and incorporating provisions of 31 U.S.C. 6301-6308 (formerly the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-224), as well as general policy requirements applicable to recipients of Departmental financial assistance.

7 CFR Part 3017 — USDA implementation of Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement).

7 CFR Part 3018 — USDA implementation of Restrictions on Lobbying.

7 CFR Part 3019 — USDA implementation of OMB Circular A-110, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations (now codified at 2 CFR 215).

7 CFR Part 3021 — USDA Implementation of Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance).

7 CFR Part 3052 — USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Nonprofit Organizations.

7 CFR Part 3407 — NIFA procedures to implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.

29 U.S.C. 794 (section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973) and 7 CFR Part 15b (USDA implementation of statute) —prohibiting discrimination based upon physical or mental handicap in Federally assisted programs.

35 U.S.C. 200 et seq. —Bayh Dole Act, controlling allocation of rights to inventions made by employees of small business firms and domestic nonprofit organizations, including universities, in Federally assisted programs (implementing regulations are contained in 37 CFR Part 401).

### **C. Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements**

The Plan of Work Update for FY 2010-2014 and Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results should have been submitted by April 1, 2009, online at the web address: <http://pow.nifa.usda.gov>.

Form NIFA-REPT (Revised) Supplement to Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results, Multistate Extension Activities and Integrated Activities, should have been submitted to the OEP Formula Grants Section by April 1, 2009, for fiscal year 2008.

Guidance on the submission of the SF-425 Federal Financial Report, for FY 2010 formula grant awards will be provided mid-March 2010.

### **PART VII—AGENCY CONTACT**

For questions regarding the DCPPERA Program, please contact: Dr. Michael Fitzner, Director, Plant and Animal Systems, Stop 2220, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2220; Telephone: (202) 401-4939; Fax: (202) 401-4888; E-mail: [mfitzner@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:mfitzner@nifa.usda.gov).

For questions relating to the completion of the grants.gov forms and funding release, please contact: Pat Myers, Office of Extramural Programs, Stop 2298, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2298; Telephone: (202) 205-0453 ; Fax: (202) 690-3002 ; E-mail: [formulagrantsquestions@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:formulagrantsquestions@nifa.usda.gov).

For questions relating to the 5-Year Plan of Work Update for FY 2010-2014 or the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results, please contact Bart Hewitt, Office of Planning and Accountability, USDA/NIFA, Stop 2214, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2214; Telephone: (202) 720-0747; Fax: (202) 720-7714; E-mail: [bhewitt@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:bhewitt@nifa.usda.gov).

If help is needed with the Grants.gov registration process for the applicant organization, downloading or navigating PDF forms, using Adobe Reader with a Macintosh computer or with the technical aspects of submitting to the Grants.gov system, check the resources available on the Grants.gov Web site first (<http://grants.gov>).

Grants.gov assistance is also available as follows:

Grants.gov customer support  
Toll Free: 1-800-518-4726  
Business Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Closed on [Federal Holidays](#)  
Email: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)

If the Authorized Representative (AR) has not received a confirmation message from Grants.gov within 48 hours of submission of an application, please contact Grants.gov customer support.

When Grants.gov is contacted, a ticket number is issued to track the response. The applicant should maintain the ticket number as documentation of electronic issues associated with the application.

Grants.gov Help Desk Operations Process is described below:

Tier 1: Grants.gov Contact Center Operator

- Handles the initial contact and attempts to resolve the call.
- If not, files a research request (escalation).

Tier 2: Research Analyst

- Escalations go to the research analyst who does further research on the issue.
- Unable to resolve, issue escalated to Grants.gov Program management Office.

Tier 3: Grants.gov PMO

- Research Analyst works with PMO to resolve the issue.
- Typical escalations: Policy questions/System bugs/Training or Meeting Requests.