



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
Division of Family and Consumer Sciences**

Visiting Scholars Program

*Special announcement for a joint appointment between
NIFA's Division of Family and Consumer Sciences and Center for International Programs*

Overview

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Visiting Scholars Program, in existence since 2008 and offered by the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), advances collaboration between NIFA and Land-Grant University partners. The program provides an opportunity for Land-Grant University faculty and administrators to enhance their professional growth while cultivating their interests at the federal level.

At NIFA, FCS Visiting Scholars:

- Learn about U.S. Department of Agriculture and NIFA;
- Foster greater understanding of the Land-Grant University System and the partnership from the federal perspective;
- Work with NIFA colleagues to advance knowledge through a process of mutual learning;
- Enhance collaborations and professional development through strategic networking and valued projects;
- Connect to critical federal, national, and/or international partners to expand opportunities and resources; and
- Accomplish/advance key initiatives of NIFA and the Land-Grant University System.

Call for Visiting Scholars in the area of Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery

The Visiting Scholars Program is soliciting applications from faculty and administrators, who are actively engaged with the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) and interested in conducting work that bridges domestic and/or national efforts in the area of disaster preparedness, response and recovery education. This joint appointment between NIFA's Division of Family and Consumer Sciences and Center for International Programs will provide the Visiting Scholar an opportunity to link existing EDEN efforts to some of NIFA's ongoing initiatives/programs, the Cooperative Extension Regional Development Centers, emergency

preparedness, response and recovery programs of other federal agencies, and/or international disaster education efforts.

Terms and Conditions of the Program

Prospective applicant should be an administrator or faculty member with a teaching, research, and/or extension appointment at a Land-Grant University. A qualified applicant can start his/her term as a scholar at NIFA as early as July 2012 and stay in residence as a visiting scholars for as little as 2 weeks or as long as 4 months. Deadline for applications is June 15.

During the Visiting Scholars' stay in Washington, DC, NIFA will provide work space and access to NIFA's electronic communication systems. The scholar's institution is expected to provide support to the scholar through salary and living expenses.

Application Package

Candidates must submit the following:

- cover letter including candidate's name, institution, area of expertise, and suggested date and length of visit;
- a letter from the EDEN leadership supporting the application and stating the leadership's commitment to collaborate with the scholar while he/she is in residence at NIFA;
- a letter of institutional support provided by the university administration stating their commitment to pay salary, benefits and expenses during the candidate's participation in the program;
- a letter of approval from dean or department chair;
- an up-to-date curriculum vitae; and
- an essay (not more than 1,500 words) describing the candidate's field of interest, proposed EDEN-focused project, interest in NIFA, and envisioned benefits of the Visiting Scholar appointment to the candidate, EDEN program, NIFA, and the candidate's university work. Candidates should also describe how they plan to share information acquired during their residency at NIFA with NIFA colleagues, EDEN leadership, colleagues, students, and other interested individuals from the Land-Grant University System.

Selection Process

The selection of a Visiting Scholar will be based upon a candidate's demonstrated record of accomplishments, quality of the proposed project, depth of subject knowledge, and feasibility of conducting the proposed work at NIFA. A NIFA panel will review applications and recommend candidates in priority order. All applicants and university administrators will be notified of final selection results.

Submission of Application Documents

Application Deadline: June 15, 2012

All application documents should be submitted electronically to Sylvia Montgomery at smontgomery@nifa.usda.gov or via regular mail to:

USDA/NIFA
Division of Family and Consumer Sciences
Attn: Sylvia Montgomery
800 9th Street, SW
4414 Waterfront Centre
Washington, DC 20024

For more information about the FCS Visiting Scholars Program, please contact Sylvia Montgomery at 202-720-8855 or smontgomery@nifa.usda.gov.