REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS
Research Facilities Act Program

FUNDING YEAR: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 4, 2024

ANTICIPATED PROGRAM FUNDING: $1,900,000

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: USDA-NIFA-OP-010555

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 10.246

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture

Assistance Listing Number (ALN): The Research Facilities Act Program (RFAP) is listed in the Assistance Listings under number 10.246.

1.) Key Dates and Deadlines
Application Deadline: 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, April 4, 2024.
Letter of Intent Deadline: Not Required
Applicant Comments Deadline: Within six months from the issuance of this notice (*NIFA may not consider comments received after the sixth month*)

Advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA). The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) recognizes research, education, and extension efforts will have the greatest impacts when programs are grounded in DEIA. NIFA is committed to enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility of programs and encourages individuals, institutions, and organizations from underserved communities to apply to funding opportunities as lead, co-lead, or subaward recipient(s), and to engage as leaders in the peer panel review process to support the development of strong networks and collaborations. NIFA encourages applications that engage diverse communities and have broad impacts through research, education, extension, and integrated activities to address current and future challenges.

Stakeholder Input. NIFA seeks comments on all Request for Applications (RFA) so it can deliver programs efficiently, effectively, with integrity, and with a focus on customer service. NIFA considers comments to the extent possible when developing RFAs, and uses comments to help meet the requirements of Section 103(c)(2) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613(c)(2)). Applicants may submit written comments to Policy@usda.gov. Please use the following subject line: Response to the RFAP RFA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is accepting applications for the Research Facilities Act Program (RFAP). This program supports the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, and/or remodeling of a research facility. Proposals must enhance the institution's long-term impact on food and agricultural research and build on careful strategic planning.

RFAP seeks to strengthen the quality and expand the scope of fundamental and applied research at eligible institutions by providing them with opportunities to assist in the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, and/or remodeling of the facility that supports their research and research training goals.

The amount available for support of this program in fiscal year (FY) 2024 is approximately $1,900,000.

This RFA is being released prior to the passage of a full appropriations act for FY 2024. Enactment of a continuing resolution, appropriations act, or other authorizing legislation may affect the availability or level of funding for this program.

This notice identifies the objectives for RFAP projects, deadlines, funding information, eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and application forms and associated instructions.

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Key Information

PART I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Legislative Authority

The Research Facilities Act Program (RFAP) is authorized under 7 U.S.C. 390 et seq. to make competitive grants to assist in the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling of agricultural research facilities.

B. Purpose and Priorities

RFAP is designed to provide financial assistance to qualifying institutions for the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling of agricultural research facilities to conduct research in the fields of food and agricultural sciences (as defined in 7 U.S.C. 3103, see Appendix III for definition).

For purposes of this funding opportunity, 7 U.S.C. 390 provides the following definition: *The term "agricultural research facility" means a proposed facility for research in food and agricultural sciences for which Federal funds are requested by an entity eligible to receive funds under a capacity and infrastructure program (as defined in section 6971(f)(1)(C) of this title) to assist in the construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling of the facility.*

A proposal for an agricultural research facility must meet the following criteria:

(A) Non-Federal share

The proposal shall certify the availability of at least a 50 percent non-Federal share of the cost of the facility. The non-Federal share shall be paid in cash and may include funding from private sources or from units of State or local government.

(B) Nonduplication of facilities

The proposal shall demonstrate how the agricultural research facility would be complementary to, and not duplicative of, facilities of colleges, universities, and nonprofit institutions, and facilities of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), within the State and region.

(C) National research priorities (see below)

The proposal shall demonstrate how the agricultural research facility would serve:
(i) one or more of the national research policies and priorities set forth in 7.U.S.C. 3101; and
(ii) national or multistate needs.

(D) Long-term support

The proposal shall demonstrate that the recipient entity has the ability and commitment to support the long-term, ongoing operating and maintenance costs of:
(i) the agricultural research facility after the facility is completed; and
(ii) each program to be based at the facility.

7 U.S.C 3101: Purposes of agricultural research, extension, and education
1) Enhance the competitiveness of the United States agriculture and food industry in an increasingly competitive world;

2) Increase the long-term productivity of the United States agriculture and food industry while maintaining and enhancing the natural resource base on which rural America and the United States agricultural economy depend;
3) Develop new uses and new products for agricultural commodities, such as alternative fuels, and develop new crops;
4) Support agricultural research and extension to promote economic opportunity in rural communities and to meet the increasing demand for information and technology transfer throughout the United States agriculture industry;
5) Improve risk management in the United States agriculture industry;
6) Improve the safe production and processing of, and adding of value to, United States food and fiber resources using methods that maintain the balance between yield and environmental soundness;
7) Support higher education in agriculture to give the next generation of Americans the knowledge, technology, and applications necessary to enhance the competitiveness of United States agriculture;
8) Maintain an adequate, nutritious, and safe supply of food to meet human nutritional needs and requirements; and
9) Support international collaboration that leverages resources and advances priority food and agricultural interests of the United States, such as-
     a. addressing emerging plant and animal diseases;
     b. improving crop varieties and animal breeds; and
     c. developing safe, efficient, and nutritious food systems.

The proposed agricultural research facility must enhance the institution's long-term research impact and must build on careful strategic planning.

Awards may support the purchase of real property or permanent equipment and the design, construction, restoration, or renovation of buildings or sites of agricultural research facilities or other facilities that house agricultural research experimental samples or specimens. Activities may include but are not limited to:
1. Assessing sites and infrastructure
2. Planning and conceptual designing for the new, restored, or renovated facility or site
3. Developing schematics and construction drawings for the new, restored, or renovated facility or site
4. Constructing, restoring, or renovating of facility or site
5. Purchasing and installing related permanently affixed equipment for research monitoring and protecting specimens and samples
6. Purchasing and installing critical building systems, such as electrical, climate control, security, life safety, lighting, utilities, telecommunications, and energy management

Deliverables may include:
1. Documents determining the feasibility of the planned agricultural research facility(ies) or site(s)
2. Completed design and construction, restoration, or renovation drawings
3. Completed construction, restoration, or renovation
4. Completed installation of critical building systems

Priority will be given to meritorious projects proposing building, modification, acquisition, modernization, refurbishment, or remodeling of agricultural research facilities that are located at or primarily benefit minority-serving institutions (MSI) when making the award.

The RFAP is aligned with the following:
USDA Strategic Plan FY 2022-2026 goals:

1. Strategic Goal 1: Combat climate change to support America's working lands, natural resources, and communities.
2. Strategic Goal 2: Ensure America's agricultural system is equitable, resilient, and prosperous.
3. Strategic Goal 3: Foster an equitable and competitive marketplace for all agricultural producers.
4. Strategic Goal 4: Provide all Americans safe, nutritious food.

USDA Science and Research Strategy, 2023–2026 priorities:

1. Priority 1: Accelerating Innovative Technologies & Practices
2. Priority 2: Driving Climate-Smart Solutions
3. Priority 3: Bolstering Nutrition Security & Health
4. Priority 4: Cultivating Resilient Ecosystems

For a program informational webinar please visit the NIFA Calendar for dates, event registration, and link. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of the informational webinars listed, please contact the event host listed no later than 10 days prior to the event.

2.) Program Key Information
Program Code: RFAP
Program Code Name: Research Facilities Act Program
ALN: 10.246
Project Type: Facilities Project
Grant Type: Standard Grant
Application Deadline: April 4, 2024
Grant Duration: 24 - 48 Months
Anticipated # of Awards: 11
Maximum Award Amount: Level 1–$150,000; Level II–$500,000; Level III–$750,000
Maximum # of Awards Per Institution: 1
Total Funding Per Institution: Up to $750,000
Minimum Award Amount: $150,000

Social and Behavioral Sciences. RFAP supports agricultural research facilities that include social and behavioral science disciplines. Incorporation of social and behavioral sciences is important for addressing many of the challenges facing agriculture and rural communities, such as increasing global demand for food production in the face of limited natural resources; improving health and reducing obesity by engaging in heathy diets; and alleviating poverty by fostering economic opportunity.

PART II. AWARD INFORMATION

A.   Available Funding
The amount available for RFAP in FY 2024 is approximately $1,900,000. USDA is not committed to fund any particular application or to make a specific number of awards.

This RFA is being released prior to the passage of a full appropriations act for FY 2024. Enactment of a continuing resolution, appropriations act, or other authorizing legislation may affect the availability or level of funding for this program.

The Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) operated by the Department of Treasury, Bureau of Fiscal Service, is the designated payment system for awards resulting from this RFA.

B.   Application Restrictions
NIFA will evaluate applications using the criteria described in Part V of this RFA. Applications for FY 2024 are limited to the following application type:

1. *New application*: New applications will be evaluated using the criteria described in Part V of this RFA and are subject to the due dates herein (see Appendix III for definition).

2. *Resubmitted application*: Resubmitted applications must include the response to the previous review panel summary and are subject to the same criteria and due dates herein. Resubmitted applicants must enter the NIFA-assigned proposal number of the previously submitted application in the *Federal Field (**Field 4**)* on the application form (see Appendix III for definition).

C.   Project and Grant Types
All RFAP projects will fall under the Standard Grant with Facilities Project Type. Applicants must choose to apply to one of three Project Funding Levels: I, II, or III. The three Project Funding Levels and accompanying cash-matching sums required are shown below in Key Information section 3. The Project Duration is between 24 - 48 Months for all three Project Funding Levels.

3.) Project Funding Levels

Title	Level I	Level II	Level III
Maximum NIFA Award	$150,000	$500,000	$750,000
Minimum Required Third Party Nonfederal cash match (1:1 match ratio for grant requests)	$150,000	$500,000	$750,000
Minimum Total Project Costs	$300,000	$1,000,000	$1,500,000

Application Submission and Award Limitations: An eligible institution may not submit more than one application to this program as a lead institution. This includes applications from subordinate units under a parent institution. No more than one award will be made per lead

institution. Prospective applicants/project directors are advised to contact their institutional office of research regarding processes used to select proposals for submission.

D. Ethical Conduct of Funded Projects

In accordance with sections 2, 3, and 8 of 2 CFR Part 422, institutions that conduct USDA-funded extramural research must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity, bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, maintain and effectively communicate and train their staff regarding policies and procedures. In the event an application to NIFA results in an award, the Authorized Representative (AR) assures, through acceptance of the award that the institution will comply with the above requirements. Award recipients must, upon request, make available to NIFA the policies, procedures, and documentation to support the conduct of the training. See Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research for further information.

PART III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A.   Eligibility Requirements

Applicants for the RFAP must meet all the requirements discussed in this RFA. Applicants must be eligible to receive funds under a capacity and infrastructure program(as defined in section 7 U.S.C. 6971(f)(1)(C)). Failure to meet the eligibility criteria by the application deadline may result in exclusion from consideration or, preclude NIFA from making an award. For those new to Federal financial assistance, NIFA's Grants Overview provides highly recommended information about grants and other resources to help understand the Federal awards process.

Applications may be submitted by:
1. 1994 Land-Grant Institutions
2. State Agricultural Experiment Stations
3. 1862 Land-Grant Institutions
4. Accredited school or college of veterinary medicine or State Agricultural Experiment Station that conducts animal health and disease research in accordance with section with section 1433(c) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3195)
5. 1890 Land-Grant Institutions
6. Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) as defined in 7 U.S.C. 3103
7. Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) - Institutions satisfying the eligibility requirements for NLGCA designation.
8. Insular Area Institutions-Institution of higher education, as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1995 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))
9. Institutions eligible for "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act" (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.)
10. Other entities eligible to receive funds under a capacity and infrastructure program (as defined in section 6971(f)(1)(C)). See Appendix IV under capacity and infrastructure programs

Duplicate or Multiple Submissions – Duplicate or multiple submissions are not allowed. If your institution duplicates or submits multiple applications (including submitting to the wrong funding opportunity or making corrections/updates), NIFA will accept only the last validated submission prior to the deadline under the correct Grants.gov funding opportunity.

B.   Cost Sharing or Matching

Match Required – Applicants **MUST** provide at least 100% matching contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis for all Federal funds awarded under the Research Facilities Act Program. The non-Federal share must be paid in cash and may include funding from private sources or from units of State or local government. In-kind matching will not be considered. See 7 U.S.C. 390a(c)(2)(A).

Consistent with 48 U.S.C. 1469a, notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands, NIFA will waive any requirement for local matching funds under $200,000 (including in-kind contributions).

PART IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION

A. Method of Application

Applicants must apply to this RFA electronically; no other method or response is accepted. The electronic application for this RFA and additional resources are available on Grants.gov and Grants 101. **Steps to Obtain Application Materials** provides instructions on how to obtain an electronic application. **Part III** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide contains detailed information regarding the Grants.gov registration process. The NIFA Grants Application Guide is contained in the specific funding opportunity package or a sample of the guide can be found here. When applying for a NIFA award, it is important to reference the version of the guide that is included in the specific funding opportunity application package.

1.) Steps to Obtain Application Materials

1. **Register.** *New Users* to Grants.gov must register early with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application (Register Here).
2. **Download Adobe.** Download and Install Adobe Reader (see Adobe Software Compatibility for basic system requirements).
3. **Find Application.** Using this funding opportunity number **USDA-NIFA-OP-010555**, search for application here: Opportunity Package.
4. **Assess Readiness.** Contact an AR prior to starting an application to assess the organization's readiness to submit an electronic application.

2.) Help and Resources

Grants.gov Support
1. Online
2. Telephone: 800-518-4726 toll-free or 606-545-5035
3. Email: support@grants.gov
4. Self-service: Grants.gov iPortal
5. Hours: Customer service available 24/7, except federal holidays.

3.) Resources

1. Email: grantapplicationquestions@usda.gov
2. Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5p.m. Eastern, except federal holidays

B. Content and Form of the Application

The NIFA Grants Application Guide is part of the corresponding application package for this RFA. The RFA overrides the NIFA Grants Application Guide if there is a discrepancy between the two documents. Applicants that do not meet the application requirements, to include partial applications, risk being excluded from NIFA's review. NIFA will assign a proposal number to all applications that meet the requirements of this RFA. Applicants must refer to the proposal number when corresponding with NIFA. **Key Application Instructions** outlines other key instructions for applicants.

4.) Key Application Instructions
(All references are from the NIFA Grants Application Guide)

1. Attachments must be in a portable document format (PDF) format (Part IV)
2. Check the manifest of submitted files to verify attachments are in the correct format (Part IV)
3. Conduct an administrative review of the application before submission (Part IV)
4. Follow the submission instructions (Part IV)
5. Contact the Grants.gov helpdesk for technical support and keep a record of the correspondence
6. Contact NIFA if applicant does not receive correspondence from NIFA regarding an application within 60 days of the application deadline

The application components must conform to the following formatting requirements, unless otherwise indicated:

1. Pages no larger than standard letter (8 ½" x 11")
2. At least one-inch margins on all sides for all pages
3. A font no smaller than 11 points

5.) Application Components

Application Forms and Attachments	File Name	Designation	Page limit
SF 424 R&R Cover Sheet	N/A	Required	N/A
SF 424 R&R Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form	N/A	Required	N/A
R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded).	N/A	Required	N/A
R&R Personal Data	N/A	Recommended	N/A
SF-424C (Budget Information for Construction Projects)	N/A	Required	N/A
Attachment 1: Project Summary	summary.pdf	N/A	250-word maximum
Attachment 2: Project Narrative (PN)	narrative.pdf	Required	15-page maximum
Attachment 3: Budget Justification	justification.pdf	Required	N/A
Attachment 4: Project Plan	projectplan.pdf	Required	3-page maximum
Attachment 5: Institutional Profile	profile.pdf	Required	3-page maximum
Attachment 6: Biographical sketch (BS); Current and Pending Support for Key Personnel	keypersonnel.pdf	Required	2-page maximum per Biographical Sketch
Attachment 7: Letters of Commitment or Support	letters.pdf	Required	N/A
Attachment 8: Planning and Design Documents	design.pdf	Recommended	10-page maximum
Attachment 9: Site Conditions	site.pdf	Conditionally required.	N/A
Attachment 10: Additional supporting documentation	documentation.pdf	Recommended, if applicable.	5-page maximum

SF 424 R&R Cover Sheet. See Part V of the NIFA Grants Application Guide for the required certifications and assurances.

SF 424 R&R Project/Performance Site Location(s). See Part V of the NIFA Grants Application Guide.

SF R&R Other Project Information Form. See Part V of the NIFA Grants Application Guide

Field 7. Project Summary (PS)/Abstract (*Attachment 1*). The summary must not exceed 250 words. List the names and affiliated organizations of all Project Directors/co-PDs, the title of the project, and the project funding level at the top of the page. The summary should be a self-contained, specific description of the activity to be undertaken and should include overall project goal(s) and supporting objectives; plans to accomplish project goal(s); and relevance of the project to the goals of the RFAP program. A concise, informative Project Summary is critical for successful applications. Name the file as Summary.pdf. See Part V of the NIFA Grants Application Guide for instructions and suggested Templates.

Field 8. Attach Project Narrative (*Attachment 2*). Name the file *Narrative.pdf*. Provide a thorough description of the proposal idea. To ensure that peer reviewers can grasp the proposed project, the project narrative (PN) should be brief, orderly, and free of technical phrases and jargon.

The PN shall not exceed 15 pages of written text, inclusive of figures and tables. We have established this maximum (15 total pages) to ensure fair and equitable competition. (Each PN is expected to be complete; however, preprints related to the PN are allowed if they are directly germane to the proposed project. Information may not be appended to an application to circumvent page limitations prescribed for the PN.) Formatting shall be one-inch margins, no smaller than 11-point font, (Times New Roman or similar), and 1.5-spaced. Tables and figures may be single-spaced. Project narratives that are formatted incorrectly and/or exceed this page limit requirement may not be accepted for review.

Response to Previous Review

This requirement only applies to resubmitted applications as described in II, B. The Project Narrative attachment is to include two components: 1) a double-spaced two-page response to the previous review (containing the previous proposal number in the first line) titled "Response to Previous Review" as the first page of the attachment and 2) the 15-page Project Narrative, as required (see Part IV, B. above). The two-page "Response to Previous Review" does not count against the 15-page limit of the Project Narrative. In resubmitted applications, the response to previous review should come before the narrative cover page (which is discussed below).

Project Narrative Cover Page (first page of the Project Narrative) must include the information below and will not count towards the page limit of the Project Narrative:

   a) Project Title;
   b) Project Director and any Co-Project Director(s) (include institutional affiliation for each);
   c) Projected number of students and/or faculty to be served by the project during the project period;
   d) Primary Research Topic(s)/Discipline; (Select one from the Academic Codes and Disciplines table below) (See the Manual of Classification for Agricultural and Forestry Research, Education, and Extension)
   e) Project Funding Level: Level I, Level II, Level III;
   f) Total Funds Requested: List total Federal funds requested for this application; and
   g) Partners: If applicable, list all partner institutions/organizations

Academic Codes and Disciplines

A	Natural Resources and Environment
B	Plants and their Systems
C	Animals and their Systems
D	Agricultural, Natural Resource, and Biological Engineering
E	Food and Non-Food Products: Development, Processing, Quality and Delivery
F	Economics, Markets, and Policy
G	Human Nutrition, Food Safety, and Human Health and Well-Being
H	Families, Youth, and Communities
J	Program and Project Support, Administration, Education and Communication
K	Other – Please Specify

Organize your narrative using the following seven section headings. Each section aligns with the Review Criteria NIFA will use to evaluate the proposal.

1. **Introduction:** Briefly describe your organization's research purposes and activities in the fields of food and agricultural science. Connect those purposes and activities explicitly to the proposed research facility or, if applicable, to the specific part of a larger research facility that RFAP funds will support. Identify the factors or circumstances which led to your institution's need for the specific construction, renovation, and/or acquisition activities being proposed. State how the project and its outcomes will enhance the institution's food and agricultural science research infrastructure and capacity. Explain how the organization plans to sustain the outcomes and benefits of the project and for how long.

   Describe how the project's significance and impact on food and agricultural science research justifies the funding amount you are requesting. For instance, if your institution is applying for a Level III award, explain why the project's significance and impact in the field of food and agriculture warrants funding at the 1.5-million-dollar project level.

2. **Significance and Target Audience:** Describe your institution's governance system, organization, location, collections, activities, and/or programs. Provide a clear argument for their significance to the food and agricultural sciences on a local, national, or international level. Refer to the institutional profile in *Attachment 5* and provide examples and links to online resources to demonstrate the institution's research programs and activities in the fields of food and agricultural sciences. Describe the research program's target audience and demographics (including their estimated annual size). Explain how the research facilities project will benefit these stakeholders directly and indirectly, over the short term as well as the long term. Describe how the institution currently serves minority groups. Explain the organization's efforts to recruit and engage new or diverse audiences, if applicable.

3. **Long-term Impact and Institutional Commitment:** Describe how the proposed project will impact the institution's research capacity in the fields of food and agricultural sciences. Explain how it aligns with institutional strategic plans, and whether it is part of a larger initiative. Describe how the project will directly and indirectly achieve the

institution's long-term goals for its research work in the fields of food and agricultural sciences. Provide letters of support and commitment from appropriate institutional officials, program partners, constituents, and/or outside experts in the field in *Attachment 7.*

Funds may only be used for cost-share proportionate to the part of space and programming that is or will be expressly assigned to research materials or activities at facilities intended for multiple uses (research, education, and extension). If you are asking for funding for this kind of facility, you must explain how the project will affect research in the food and agricultural sciences while making clear the percentage of time or resources that are or will be devoted only to research-related materials or activities.

4. **Project Planning and Activities:** Describe the activities the RFAP Grant will support (in alignment with the project plan in *Attachment 4)*. Explain the history of the project's development and any pre-planning work to date. Describe how you plan to bring the project into compliance with federal, state, and local regulations for historic preservation, and National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) where applicable (in alignment with the site conditions in *Attachment 9)*. A selection of planning and/or design supplemental documents may be provided in *Attachment 8*.

5. **Financial Capacity and Fundraising:** Demonstrate your institution's long-term financial stability and its history of fundraising, resources, leadership, and experience that will enable it to conduct a successful fundraising campaign for the matching fund required. If the NIFA-supported project is partially a component of a larger agricultural facility, briefly explain how you intend to finance the entire plan. Describe the fundraising strategy and timeline for the proposed project in alignment with the project plan in *Attachment 4* and your requested period of performance. Identify potential sources of eligible third-party, nonfederal gifts to meet the matching requirement. If applicable, detail funds raised to date and plans for soliciting the balance. See 2 C.F.R 200.306 for requirements related to match and cost share.

6. **Project Team:** Identify the project team and describe their roles. Indicate if there are collaborators outside of the organization, such as community partners or advisors. Explain the involvement of specialist consultants and contractors (e.g., architects, engineers, owner's representatives) and whether they are already engaged or need to be hired. Describe how the institution has or will obtain the appropriate knowledge, resources, and capacity to successfully plan for or execute the agricultural research facilities act project (e.g., prior experience, project management expertise). Identify the staff and consultants responsible for fundraising and financial management of the project and indicate their competency for their roles and responsibilities.

7. **Deliverables, Outcomes, and Sustainability:** Describe your anticipated deliverables and outcomes. Explain how the institution, through its mission, personnel, governance, agricultural research facilities, and resources, will sustain them over the long term. For example, how will the feasibility of the proposed research facilities project be assessed?

What are the staffing plans for the new or renovated space? How will it be maintained? What is the expected lifespan of purchased equipment?

6.) Project Narrative
Each Section of the Project Narrative Corresponds to Review Criteria.

Project Narrative Section	Review Criteria
Introduction	(1) Agricultural research facility significance and target audience
Significance and target audience	(1) Agricultural research facility significance and target audience
Long-term impact and institutional commitment	(2) Long-term impact and institutional commitment
Project Planning and Activities	(3) Project feasibility
Financial capacity and fundraising	(4) Fundraising plans
Project Team	(5) Project key personnel and team
Deliverables, outcomes, and sustainability	(6) Project outcomes and their sustainability

Field 12, Add Other attachments. See **Part V** of the [NIFA Grants Application Guide](#). Attachments for this field include the following: the Project Plan (*Attachment 4*), the Institutional Profile (*Attachment 5*), the Letters of Commitment or Support (*Attachment 7*), the Planning and Design Documents (*Attachment 8*), the Site Conditions (*Attachment 9*) and Additional Supporting Documentation (*Attachment 10*). Brief guidelines on what should be in each component are provided below.

1. **Attachment 4. Project Planning and Activities (required):**
   Provide a project plan that includes a chronology of important project milestones listed in the narrative, any actions you have already performed, and the project's activity timeline. A mix of the two formats, a chart, or a narrative with headings can be used to present the project plan. Provide a timetable that details the projected start and end dates as well as the number of months for each of the following significant accomplishments during the award's performance period: Planning actions; facility or land purchases; construction planning and design; construction documents, permits, and/or variances; compliance with federal environmental and historic preservation requirements; contract acquisition; site work, foundation, fabrication, material shipments, utilities and systems, fit-out, millwork, and casework; purchase and installation.

   Verify that the dates and milestones in your project plan correspond to your performance period and fundraising timetable. Your work schedule should allow enough time to accommodate an assessment of historic preservation and the environment. The length of time needed will vary depending on the project's intricacy and other site-specific elements. The project plan has a maximum length of three (3) pages. Name the file projectplan.pdf.

2. **Attachment 5. Institutional Profile (required):**

Provide the institution's URL and the following in an outline:

a. Informational facts and figures regarding the institution, such as its:
   i. History, Mission Statement, Governance, Administrative Structure, and Physical Infrastructure
   ii. The sizes and makeup of the research working group/staff in food and agricultural sciences (including the percentage of all staff who work in the food and agricultural sciences)
   iii. Existing research facilities of agriculture and food sciences (including the percentage of all research facilities that are in the food and agricultural sciences)
   iv. Affiliation or accreditation (if applicable)

b. Data on recent food and agricultural sciences program activities, including:
   i. Types and numbers of enrollments, programs, courses, and degrees awarded in the past two years.
   ii. Percentage of total offerings that are in the food and agricultural sciences.
   iii. Size and nature of audience or population served, or participant figures.
   iv. Cost to participants (if any)
   v. Evidence for the success of these food and agricultural sciences activities
   vi. If available, provide a URL for the institution's latest annual report.

The institutional profile has a maximum length of three (3) pages. Name the file profile.pdf.

3. **Attachment 7. Letters of Commitment or Support (required):**
Include letters of commitment or support from appropriate officials confirming the institution's commitment to the proposed agricultural research facilities activities and to meeting the requirements of the RFAP. You may include other letters of support, such as from scholars in the field, community leaders, and participants in or beneficiaries of the agricultural research facilities, as appropriate. Letters of commitment should refer to the application for NIFA support and must be signed and dated. Neither elected government officials nor NIFA staff, may serve as letter writers. Name the file letters.pdf.

4. **Attachment 8. Planning and Design Documents (recommended):**
Include a selection of planning and design documents such as renderings and line drawings, and other pertinent materials that inform and guide the proposed research facility and activities. Drawings should clearly identify the proposed project components. Crop or reformat renderings and line drawings to fit the standard letter size (8 ½" x 11"). The selection of planning and design documents has a maximum limit of 10 pages. Name the file design.pdf.

5. **Attachment 9. Site Conditions (conditionally required):**
You must include a description of the site, the project, and any potential expected effects on the environment and historic preservation for NIFA to review if your project entails the development of final design or construction documents, the execution of new construction, expansion, alteration, renovation, repair, rehabilitation, or ground disturbing activities.

6. **Attachment 10. Additional Supporting Documentation (recommended):**
You may include other relevant documents to support the application, including materials that illustrate agricultural research activities, such as programming and/or, organizational brochures, or evaluation materials (metrics or survey documents). Your application may include links or URLs to relevant documents, webpages, or other materials.

If you propose to renovate leased property, you must submit a copy of the existing or proposed long-term lease agreement (the lease must extend at least five (5) years from the end of the proposed period of performance), the landlord or lessor's consent to the renovation, and the landlord or lessor's agreement to the period of federal interest of five (5) years from the period of performance end date and to file a Notice of Federal Interest (as applicable).

If a Hispanic-Serving Institution of higher education is unable to verify its status as an HSI by consulting the most recent Eligibility Matrix, include a PDF of a 2023 or 2024 letter or other document from the Department of Education, certifying Title III, Part F and Title V, Part A and B eligibility.

Additional supporting documentation has a limit of 5 pages. Merge all relevant materials into a single, flattened PDF and name the file documentation.pdf.

R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded). See **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide for profile requirements, details about the biographical sketch, and suggested support templates.

Field 2, Add *Attachment 6*: Biographical sketch (BS) and Current and Pending Support for key personnels**. See Part V of the** NIFA Grants Application Guide. Biographical sketch (BS) and Current and Pending Support for key personnel is required.

Include brief biographical sketches for the project director and other staff with major responsibilities for the project. Include persons listed in the budget justification, as well as key consultants to the project. List job or position descriptions for any staff who will be hired specifically to work on the project. Limit the length for résumés to two pages per person. Name the file keypersonnel.pdf.

Field 3: Attach Current and Pending Support (required). See **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide. A suggested template is available through NIFA's Application Template Resource.

R&R Personal Data. This information is voluntary and is not a precondition of award (see **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide).

SF-424C Budget Information for Construction Programs. For guidance, see the SF-424C Instructions and **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide.
1. Provide the total Federal and non-Federal (match) cost of each budget category listed.
2. Match – If an applicant concludes that the matching requirements described under Part III, B of this RFA is not applicable to them; the applicant must include an explanation of their conclusion in the Budget Narrative. NIFA will consider this justification when

determining final matching requirements or if required matching can be waived. NIFA retains the right to make final determinations regarding matching requirements.

3. Indirect costs (IDC) – Applicants may request IDC using the lesser of: (a) the negotiated rate or (b) the maximum statutory rate. Include total funds requested for IDC in Field 11. Miscellaneous. See Part IV, C of this RFA for funding restrictions regarding IDC and Part V of the NIFA Grants Application Guide for additional information.

Budget Narrative Attachment Form (Attachment 3).

Use the Budget Narrative to provide additional information in each budget category identified and any other information to support the budget request. The Budget Narrative detail should follow the same order as the budget. Only one file may be attached.

The Budget Narrative must include:
1. An estimation of the overall project expenditures for each year of the performance period for the funding level selected, a matching fund from third-party, nonfederal contributions that will be obtained, and the amount of requested NIFA funds.
2. A detailed and concise justification that further breaks down cost items under each category of the SF-424C. The budget justification should clearly describe the purpose of expenditures and align with the proposed project as described in the narrative. Identify the names of key personnel that will be supported with NIFA funds, and their roles and responsibilities on the project. The budget justification should show quantities, unit prices and total cost, as applicable. The budget justification should be an extension of the project narrative. Construction estimates may be provided to supplement the budget justification.
3. Grants that require matching funds as specified under Part III, B of this RFA must list the matching sources, the identification of the entity(ies) providing the match, and the total pledged amount. A written verification of commitments of matching support (a pledge agreement) is not required. However, applicants are subject to the documentation, valuing and reporting requirements, as specified in 2 CFR Part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (the Uniform Guidance)," and 7 CFR 3430, "Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-Formula Federal Assistance Programs – General Award Administrative Provisions."

Supplemental Information Form. See **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide.
1. **Field 2**. Program to which the applicant is applying. Accurate entry is critical. Enter:
    - **Program Name:** Research Facilities Act Program
    - **Program Code:** RFAP
2. **Field 8**. Conflict of Interest List. See **Part V** of the NIFA Grants Application Guide.

C.   Funding Restrictions
Section 7 U.S.C. §390d(b) of the Research Facilities Act states, "Not more than 3 percent of the funds made available for any project for an agricultural research facility shall be available for administration of the project." Therefore, when preparing budgets, applicants must limit their requests for recovery of administrative costs to three (3) percent of the total funds requested.

No Indirect Costs (IDC). IDC is not authorized for this program.

PART V. APPLICATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

A.   NIFA's Evaluation Process

NIFA evaluates each application in a two-part process. First, we screen each application to ensure that it meets the administrative requirements set forth in this RFA. All administrative requirements must be met in order for the application to proceed to the next level of review. Second, a scientific peer-review process will be used to technically evaluate applications that have met the administrative requirements using a review panel (see NIFA Peer Review Process).

Scientific Peer Review Process:

NIFA selects reviewers for the review panel based upon their training and experience in relevant scientific, extension, or education fields, taking into account the following factors:

1. The level of relevant formal scientific, technical education, or extension experience of the individual, as well as the extent to which an individual is engaged in relevant research, education, or extension activities.
2. The need to include experts from various areas of specialization within relevant scientific, education, or extension fields.
3. The need to include other experts (e.g., producers, range or forest managers/operators, researchers, public health practitioners, educators, consumers, and commercial reviews) who can assess relevance of the applications to targeted audiences and to program needs.
4. The need to include experts from a variety of organizational types (e.g., colleges, universities, industry, state and Federal agencies, and private profit and non-profit organizations) and geographic locations.
5. The need to maintain a balanced composition with regard to race, ethnicity, gender representation, and an equitable age distribution.
6. The need to include reviewers who can judge the effective usefulness of each application to producers and the general public.

After each peer review panel has completed its deliberations, the responsible program staff of NIFA will recommend that your project is either approved for support from currently available funds or declined due to insufficient funds or unfavorable review.

NIFA reserves the right to negotiate with the PD/PI and/or the submitting organization or institution regarding project revisions (e.g., reductions in the scope of work, funding level, period, or method of support) prior to recommending any project for funding.

After the review process has been completed, NIFA sends copies of reviews, _not_ including the identity of reviewers, and a summary (if applicable) of the review panel comments to the PD.

Conflicts of interest. NIFA takes extreme care to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may influence the review or evaluation (see NIFA Peer Review Process for Competitive Grant Applications).

B.   Evaluation Criteria

NIFA will use the following criteria to evaluate this RFA:

1. Significance and Target Audience of the Proposed Agricultural Research Facility

a. In what ways are the institution's current and proposed Agricultural Research Facility construction, alteration, acquisition, modernization, renovation, or remodeling significant for the advancement of:
    i. The national research policies and priorities set forth in <u>Part I (B)</u> of this RFA
    ii. national or multistate needs
b. Who are the identified audiences served, and how will they benefit from the outcomes of the Agricultural research facility over the long term?
c. To what degree does an MSI institution benefit from the proposed facility?

2. Long-term Impact and Institutional Commitment
a. How well is the proposed project aligned with and integrated into long-range institutional planning?
b. How strong is the institution's commitment to the project and its expected outcomes? Particularly, to support the long-term, ongoing operating and maintenance costs of-
    i. The agricultural research facility after the facility is completed; and
    ii. each program to be based at the facility.
c. Is the anticipated research impact on food and agricultural sciences commensurate with the level of funding requested?
d. If partners are identified, are they appropriate and committed to the project?

3. Project Feasibility
a. Is the project realistic and feasible?
b. Are the work plan and budget appropriate?
c. Does the project comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations?

4. Fundraising Plans:
a. To what extent do the institution's organization, resources, and history of fundraising suggest that it will conduct a successful campaign to meet the requirement to raise third-party, nonfederal cash match by the time of award?
b. Is the timeline and plan for fundraising realistic and aligned with the capital project?
c. Are the prospective sources of funding promising and realistic?

5. Project Key Personnel and Teams
a. Does the project team possess the appropriate expertise and cover the necessary aspects of the proposed activities?
b. Does the fundraising team possess the appropriate expertise and cover the necessary aspects of the proposed activities? (if cost sharing is applicable)

6. Project Outcomes and Their Sustainability
a. Are the proposed outcomes and deliverables reasonable and aligned with the budget and work plan?
b. To what extent will the project, as described, help the institution achieve its long-term goals for research in food and agricultural sciences?
c. How compelling are the institution's plans to sustain the project outcomes in the long term?

C. Organization Management Information

Applicants must submit specific management information prior to an award and update the information as needed. Applicants may only need to provide an update if there was a change in previously provided information under this or another NIFA program. NIFA provides the requisite forms during the pre-award process. Although an applicant may be eligible for award under this program, there are factors that may exclude an applicant from receiving federal

financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual, or a determination that an applicant is not responsible).

D.   Application Disposition

Applicants may withdraw at any time before NIFA makes a final funding decision. NIFA will retain all applications, including withdrawn applications and unfunded applications.

PART VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION

A.   General

Within the limit of funds authorized, the NIFA awarding official will make grants to responsible and eligible applicants whose applications are judged most meritorious under the procedures set forth in this RFA. The date specified by the NIFA awarding official as the effective date of the grant must be no later than September 30 of the federal Fiscal Year in which the project is approved for support and funds are appropriated for such purpose, unless otherwise permitted by law. The project need not be initiated on the grant effective date, but as soon thereafter as practical so that project goals may be attained within the funded project period. All funds granted by NIFA under this RFA may be used only for the purpose for which they are granted in accordance with the approved application and budget, regulations, terms and conditions of the award, applicable federal cost principles, USDA assistance regulations, and NIFA General Awards Administration Provisions, 7 CFR Part 3430, subparts A through E.

Award Notice. The award document will provide pertinent instructions and information as described in 2 CFR 200.211 and NIFA's 1890 Facilities Program Terms and Conditions for program-specific award terms.

B.   Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications and the projects outlined in this RFA (some are listed here: Federal Regulations). Unless specifically noted by statue or award-specific requirements, NIFA Federal Assistance Policy Guide applies to all NIFA awards.

NIFA's 1890 Facilities Terms and Conditions will apply to this award.

NIFA-supported Research Facilities Act Program Projects must be reviewed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. § 4321, et seq.) when the proposed project involves:

1. New construction and expansion projects (including demolition);

2. Alteration/renovation/repair projects where exterior changes to the building façade or surroundings may be made (including roofs and windows);

3. Anterior renovations to a building that is over fifty (50) years old, or is historically, architecturally, or culturally significant.

4. Ground disturbing activities (including parking lots);

5. A change in land use that is significant (such as the proposal is an integral part of a larger redevelopment project).

6. An impact within or to a floodplain or wetland.

7. A determination of an adverse effect that cannot be mitigated on a property eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and/or;

8. An extraordinary circumstance, such as public controversy or extensive site contamination.

If NIFA funds the proposed project, physical work (demolition, construction, or renovation) may not be started until NIFA has completed its environmental and historic preservation compliance reviews required by NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA.

Awards involving construction, renovation, or facility infrastructure funded in whole or in part by federal funds are subject to the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) ([Pub. L. 117-58 § 70901, *et seq.*](#)). NIFA may not obligate funds for a project involving construction, renovation, or facility infrastructure unless all the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials incorporated into the project are produced in the United States, or the project falls under a NIFA waiver.

C.   Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements

1. **Performance Reports:**
   Awardees of Federal funds are responsible for monitoring day-to-day project performance to ensure that project goals and performance schedules are met, contain costs, and accurately report progress to NIFA.

   An **Annual Performance Report** is due to NIFA 90 days after completion of the first 12 months of the initial grant award and annually thereafter during the project period. Please report all work performed during the previous 12-month period, including any funded or unfunded time extensions. The performance report is to be submitted through NIFA's electronic, web-based inventory system that facilitates both grantee submissions of project outcomes and public access to information on federally funded projects. The details of these reporting requirements are included in the award terms and conditions.

   Further, the performance report shall not exceed five (5) pages in length and must include the following information:
   a. A comparison of actual accomplishments against the goals and/or objectives established for the facilities program during the reporting period, including relevant percentage-of-completion data and a computation of square footage costs for all projects undertaken.
   b. The reason for slippage if approved goals were not met.
   c. Include additional pertinent information including for example, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or unexpectedly high unit costs. Report and explain any favorable or adverse conditions, changes, or situations which are expected to impact the scope, size, cost, or completion schedule for the project, along with a discussion of proposed or actual actions taken by your institution to resolve any problems encountered.
   d. A summary of activities to be undertaken during the next 12-month period; and
   e. A list of the construction, engineering, and architecture contracts reached during the current reporting period that are specific to each program component. Create a table and label the following columns: Program Element Name of Contractor, Amount Proposed, and Date NIFA Approved.
   f. A thorough accounting of all project expenses incurred to date (cumulative). Make a table with the following columns labeled: Federal Share, Non-Federal Share, and Cost Item

2. **<u>Additional Performance Report Emphasis:</u>**

Additionally, performance reports should include the following:
a. New research Facilities Constructed
    i. Facility Name, Cost, Square Footage, and Funds Leveraged, if any
    ii. Facility Uses for Teaching, Research, and Extension
    iii. Narrative of Programs Supported and Emphasis Areas
    iv. Photographs
    v. Facility Completion Form
b. Final Building Inspection or Occupancy Permit, Facilities Renovated
    i. Research Facility Name and Cost
    ii. Research Facility Uses for Teaching, Research, and Extension
    iii. Narrative of Programs Supported and Emphasis Areas
    iv. Photographs
    v. Final Building Inspection or Occupancy Permit
c. Major Land Purchases
    i. Size and Cost
    ii. Facility Uses for Teaching, Research, and Extension
    iii. Photographs of any farm/research activities
d. Major Laboratory, and Farm Equipment and Miscellaneous Research facilities
e. Describe how completed constructions, renovations and acquisitions impacted the institution's programs in Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human Sciences (FANH) for Teaching, Research, and Extension.

PART VII. OTHER INFORMATION

A.   Use of Funds and Changes in Budget
Delegation of fiscal responsibility. Unless the terms and conditions of the award state otherwise, awardees may not in whole or in part delegate or transfer to another person, institution, or organization the responsibility for use or expenditure of award funds.

Changes in Budget or Project Plans. In accordance with 2 CFR 200.308, awardees must request prior approval from NIFA for the following program or budget-related reasons (the awardee is subject to the terms and conditions identified in the award):
1. Change in the scope or the objective of the project or program without prior written approval (even if there is no associated budget revision requiring).
2. Change in a key person specified in the application or the federal award.
3. Disengagement from the project for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project.
4. Inclusion of costs that require prior approval in accordance with 2 CFR 200 Subpart E (Cost Principles), or 45 CFR Part 75 Appendix IX, (Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development under Awards and Contracts with Hospitals), or 48 CFR, unless waived by the federal awarding agency, 48 CFR Part 31, Contract Cost Principles and Procedures;
5. Transfer of funds budgeted for participant support costs to other categories of expense. (2 CFR 200.456 Participant support costs);
6. Sub-awarding, transferring or contracting out of any work under a federal award, including fixed amount sub-awards (see 2 CFR 200.333, Fixed Amount Sub-awards), unless described in the application and funded in the approved federal awards. This provision does not apply to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment, or general support services.
7. Changes in the approved cost-sharing or matching provided by the non-federal entity; and
8. The need for additional federal funds to complete the project.

B.   Confidential Aspects of Applications and Awards
When an application results in an award, it becomes a part of NIFA transaction records, which are available to the public. Information that the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be confidential, privileged, or proprietary in nature will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by law. Therefore, applicants should clearly mark any information within the application they wish to have considered as confidential, privileged, or proprietary. NIFA will retain a copy of an application that does not result in an award for three years. Such an application will be released only with the consent of the applicant or to the extent required by law. An applicant may withdraw at any time prior to the final action thereon.

C.   Regulatory Information
This program is not subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials. Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the collection of information requirements contained in this notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0039.

D.   Limited English Proficiency

NIFA offers language access services, such as interpretation and translation of vital information, free of charge. If you need interpretation or translation services, please visit NIFA Language Access Services or contact Lois Tuttle, Equal Opportunity Specialist, at Lois.Tuttle@usda.gov or (443) 386-9488.

APPENDIX I: AGENCY CONTACT

Program Contacts
Solomon Haile
Solomon.Haile@usda.gov
National Program Leader
(615) 517-4157

Cierra Campbell
Cierra.Campbell@usda.gov
Program Specialist
(786) 848-8587

For administrative questions related to.
1. Grants.gov, see Part IV of this RFA.
2. Other RFA or application questions, please email grantapplicationquestions@usda.gov
3. Awards under this RFA, please email awards@usda.gov

U.S. Postal Mailing Address:
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 419205, MS 10000
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

Courier/Package Delivery Address:
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
2312 East Bannister Road, MS 10000
Kansas City, MO 64141-3061

APPENDIX II: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Glossary of Terms
Assistance Listing Number – ALN
Authorized Representative – AR
Agricultural Research Service – ARS
Automated Standard Application for Payments – ASAP
Biographical Sketch – BS
Build America, Buy America Act – BABA
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility – DEIA
Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences – FANH
Fiscal Year – FY
Historically Black Colleges and Universities – HBCUs
Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities – HSACU
Hispanic-Serving Institutions – HSIs
Indirect costs – IDC
Minority Serving Institution – MSI
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 – NEPA
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 – NHPA
National Institute of Food and Agriculture – NIFA
Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture – NLGCA
Portable Document Format – PDF
Project Narrative – PN
Project Summary – PS
Request for Application – RFA
Research Facilities Act Program – RFAP
Research, Education, and Economics – REE
Tribal Colleges and Universities – TCUs
United States Department of Agriculture – USDA

APPENDIX III: DEFINITIONS

Refer to [7 CFR 3430 Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-formula Federal Assistance Programs – General Award Administrative Provisions](#) for additional definitions.

Definitions

Food and Agricultural Sciences:

    Food and agricultural sciences means basic, applied, and developmental research, extension, and teaching activities in food and fiber, agricultural, renewable energy and natural resources, forestry, and physical and social sciences, including activities relating to the following: (1) Animal health, production, and well-being; (2) Plant health and production; (3) Animal and plant germ plasm collection and reservation; (4) Aquaculture; (5) Food safety; (6) Soil, water, and related resource conservation and improvement; (7) Forestry, horticulture, and range management; (8) Nutritional sciences and promotion; (9) Farm enhancement, including financial management, input efficiency, and profitability; (10) Home economics; (11) Rural human ecology; (12) Youth development and agricultural education, including 4–H clubs; (13) Expansion of domestic and international markets for agricultural commodities and products, including agricultural trade barrier identification and analysis; (14) Information management and technology transfer related to agriculture; (15) Biotechnology related to agriculture; (16) The processing, distributing, marketing, and utilization of food and agricultural products (7 CFR 3430.2).

Matching:

    The process through which a grant recipient match awarded USDA funds with cash or in-kind contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The matching funds must derive from non-Federal sources.

New Application:

    An application not previously submitted to a program.

Resubmitted Application:

    A project application that was previously submitted to a program, but the application was not funded.

APPENDIX IV: CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

1. Interest (Est.) Earned on the TC Endowment Fund, Sec. 533(c)
2. Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program, Sec. 534(a) (1)
3. Tribal Colleges Institutional Capacity Building Grants, Sec. 535
4. 1994 Research Grants, Sec. 536
5. Smith-Lever Formula 3(b)&(c)
6. Extension Services at the 1994 Institutions
7. Hatch Act
8. HE-Challenge, Multicultural, & Grad. Fellowships. Sec. 1417(b)
9. HE - 1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants. Sec. 1417(b)
10. Animal Health and Disease, Sec. 1433
11. 1890 Institutions Extension, Sec. 1444
12. Evans-Allen Program, Sec. 1445
13. 1890 Facilities, Sec. 1447
14. Distance Education Grants to Insular Areas, Sec. 1490
15. Resident Instruction for Insular Areas, Sec. 1491
16. Grants for Insular Areas (including FY 2015, NARETPA sec. 1447B)
17. McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry
18. Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA)
19. Hispanic-serving ag colleges & universities Endowment Fund, Sec. 1456
20. Capacity Grants to NLGCA Institutions, Sec. 1473F
21. S-L 3(d)-Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program
22. Special Grant Global Change, UV-B Monitoring
23. Regional Rural Development Centers
24. Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions
25. Scholarships at 1890 Institutions
26. 1890 Centers of Excellence
27. New Beginning for Tribal Students
28. Institute for Rural Partnerships, VT
29. Institute for Rural Partnerships