



National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grant Support Technical
Assistance Workshop

BIOENERGY, CLIMATE, AND ENVIRONMENT
FOOD PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY
YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY
FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

NIFA

Opportunities for Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)

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NIFA's MSI Goals

MSI programs address historical racial and ethnic inequalities in access to higher education and advance cultural diversity in the food and agricultural workforce.

Strengthen Capacity

- Research
- Education
- Extension
- Infrastructure

Enhance Collaboration

- Other educational institutions
- Government agencies
- Private sector

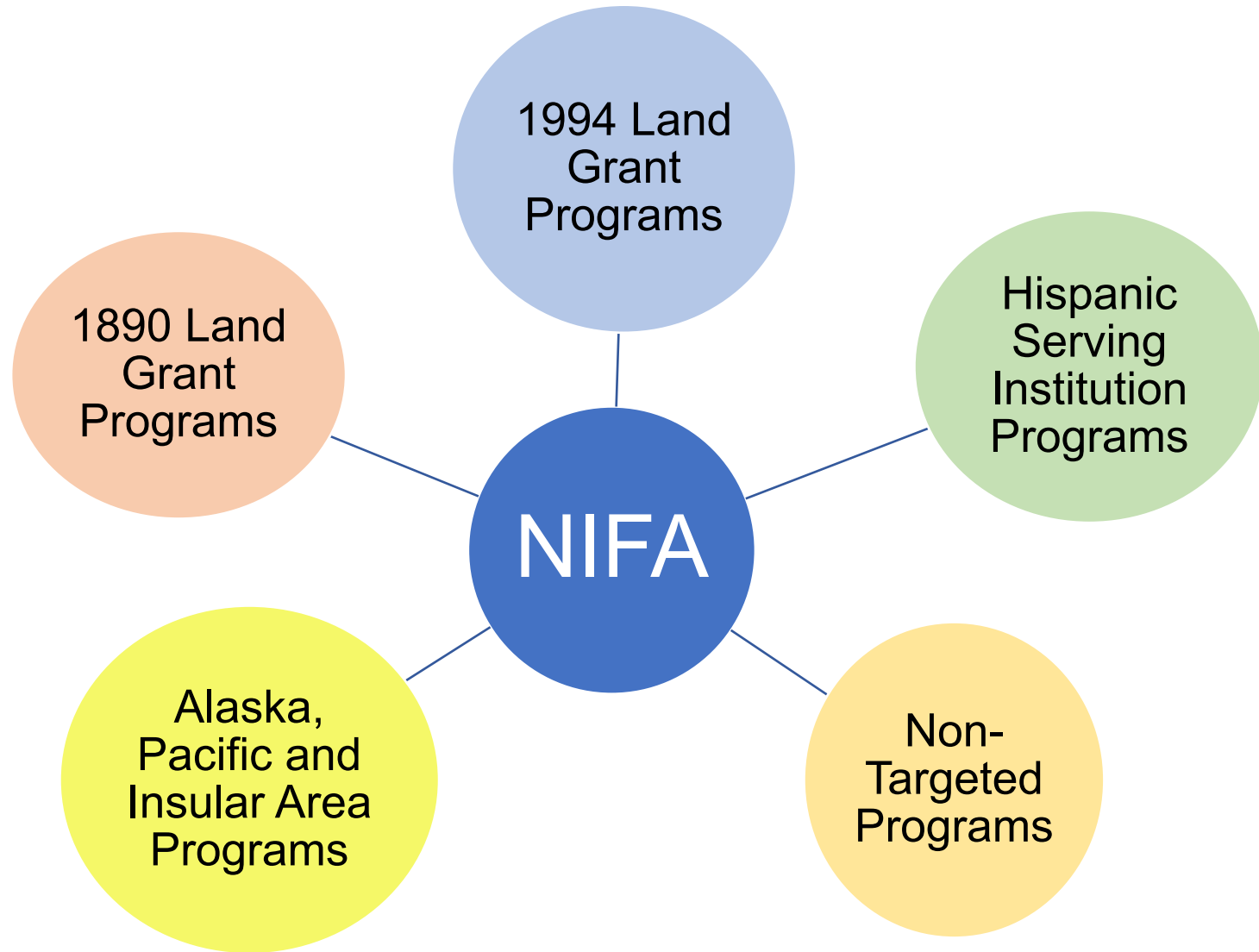
Student Development

- Recruitment
- Retention
- Training

Address Community Needs

- Promoting access to extension and outreach programs
- Address food, agriculture and rural development needs

Programs for MSIs





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Targeted Programs that support NIFA's MSI Goals

Information in examples is taken from actual projects but
only few key points are highlighted



1890 Land Grant Universities

Focus: Research, Education and Extension at the 19 Institutions

Scope

- Teacher development/ continuing education
- Curriculum development
- Experiential learning
- Scholarships
- Research/extension related infrastructure and staff development

Programs

- CBG
- Facilities
- Extension
- Evans-Allen Research
- Scholarships
- Centers of Excellence

In 2023, programs targeted for the 1890 Land Grant Universities had a total appropriation of \$232.5 million and many encouraged partnerships with other institutions and government agencies.



Example 1

Program: 1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program

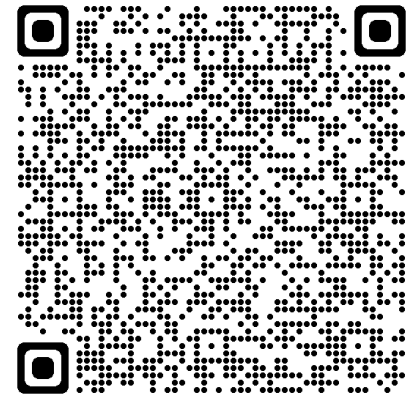


Project Title: Establishing Plant and Soil Science Curriculum and Experiential Learning at WVSU

Institution: West Virginia State University

Funding Amount: \$ 533,923

Project Period: 2022-2025





Project Details – Example 1

Objectives:

Education Objective 1: Obtain equipment and supplies for labs/projects for Fundamentals of Soil Science, Integrated Pest Management and Plant Physiology.

Education Objective 2: Create, trial, assess and revise labs/projects

Research Objective 1: Determine linkages of Rare Earth Elements (REE) content in water and sediments of Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) to different coal beds, mining operations, and passive treatment systems in southern West Virginia.

Research Objective 2: Elucidate the biogeochemical conditions and mechanisms governing REE precipitation and system efficiency in AMD passive treatment.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased number of students declare the Plant and Soil Science option in the BS in Biology
- More student pursue internships or research opportunities in food and agriculture fields
- Increased awareness by students in the variety of food and agricultural science jobs; Students develop experiential learning and leadership skills by interacting with industry, governmental agencies and NGO stakeholders
- Increased number of graduates find jobs or pursue graduate education in food and agriculture sciences
- Understand the mechanism governing REE removal from AMD water



Hispanic Serving Institutions

Focus: Education at approximately 570 Institutions

Scope

- Enhance
 - Curriculum
 - Faculty
 - Instructional delivery systems
 - Infrastructures like libraries, laboratories, etc.
- Prepare students for careers in food, agriculture and natural resources
- Facilitate cooperative initiatives between
 - Two or more Hispanic-Serving Institutions
 - Hispanic-Serving Institutions and public or the private sector

Programs HSI

In 2023, the HSI program had a total appropriation of \$16 million and encouraged partnerships with other institutions and government agencies.



Example 2

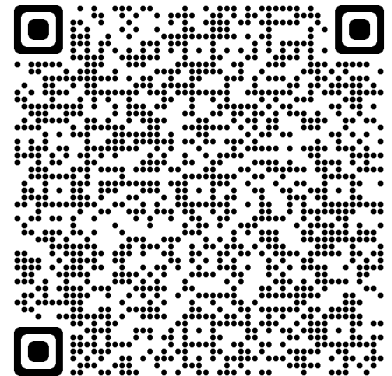
Program: Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program

Project Title: Curricular: Development And Capacity Building In Agroecology Sciences

Institution: Florida International University

Funding Amount: \$ 223,000

Project Period: 2005-2008





Project Details – Example 2

Objectives:

- Establish within two years a dynamic higher education, multi-disciplinary Agro-Ecology and Urban Landscape (AEUL) curriculum to impart outstanding students and teachers a science-based training in agriculture and natural resource sciences;
- Recruit and retain students targeting underrepresented populations;
- Implement cost-effective, multi-institutional instructional system to adapt to students and career professionals, and their learning style, available time, and changing academic interests and to increase agro-ecology scientific expertise of the alliance members.

Outcomes:

- Launched a multi-disciplinary, 18 credit-hour Agroecology Certificate program in 2006.
- Many agroecology students have gone to graduate schools, and some have then joined USDA. Several others work for non-profit research and outreach organizations promoting tropical agriculture and resource conservation programs.
- The University and the Faculty have received several international and national recognition for their work on restoring the everglades, climate security, and related agro-ecology fields.



1994 Land Grant Institutions

Focus: Education, Research, Extension and Facilities at approximately 35 Institutions

Scope

- Capacity Building
- Support formal/ nonformal, community-based education
- Support recruitment and training of tribal students
 - Scholarships
 - Collaboration of 1862 and 1994 institutions

Programs

- TCEG
- TCRGP
- TCEP
- FRTEP
- NBTS

In 2023, NIFA programs targeted for 1994 Land-Grant Institutions had a total appropriation of \$40 million and encouraged or required partnerships with other institutions and government agencies.

Example 3

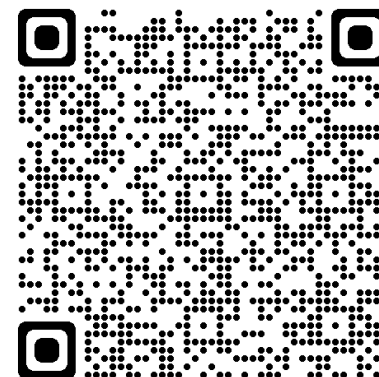
Program: Tribal Colleges Extension Grant
Program-Special Emphasis (TCEP-SE)

Project Title: Michigan Indian Country
Extension Initiative

Institution: Bay Mills Community College

Funding Amount: \$ 199,884

Project Period: 2018-2022



Project Details – Example 3

Objectives:

- Increased awareness among all Tribal communities in Michigan of the land grant system and potential for collaborative efforts.
- Establish stronger relationships between the land grant community in Michigan and leadership from all 12 Tribal communities in Michigan.
- Increase Tribal history, government and culture education efforts aimed at all land grant staff in Michigan
- Formalize land grant programmatic operations with each Tribal Community
- Initiate at least one new land grant programming effort within each Tribal community in Michigan.

Outcomes:

- Development of unified land grant effort in Michigan (MILES) striving to meet the needs of all 12 Tribal Nations, Tribal citizens, and Tribal organizations in the State.
- Increased awareness of the history, purpose, and current activities of the Land Grant System amongst the leadership of the Tribal Nations in Michigan and the potential for more sustained and meaningful interactions moving forward.
- Developed relationship building that has taken place between the Land Grant System in Michigan and the leadership of the 12 Tribal Nations in Michigan.



Insular and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions

Focus: Education, Research, Extension and Facilities at 8 Institutions

Scope

- Capacity Building in research, teaching, and extension
- Improve resident instruction, curriculum and teaching programs through distance education.
- Enhance educational equity and recruit and retain students from underrepresented groups

Programs

- RIIA
- DEG
- AGFEI
- ANNH

In 2023, NIFA programs targeted for these 8 Institutions had a total appropriation of \$7.5 million and encouraged partnerships with other institutions and government agencies.



Example 4

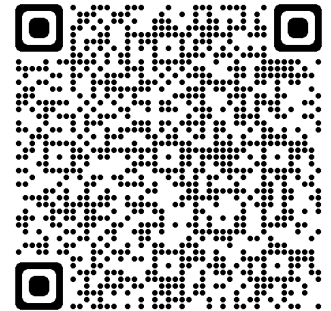
Program: Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (ANNH)

Project Title: GoFarm Hawaii: Enhancing Hawaii's Agricultural Workforce

Institution: University of Hawaii

Funding Amount: \$475,000.000

Project Period: 2023-2027





Project Details – Example 4

Objectives:

- Expand training opportunities on Maui: GoFarm Hawaii (GFH) will relocate and expand opportunities at the Maui training site.
- Provide opportunities for mentoring and apprenticeship: GFH will pilot a pre-AgIncubator mentor/apprenticeship program
- Operate and improve GFH Beginning Farmer Training Program
- Provide and improve agribusiness training and technical assistance to current and aspiring farmers (including BFTP students)
- Develop and provide an orchard-based course

Expected Outcomes:

- New skills will help farm former plantation lands
- Business technical Assistance will lead to increased business success
- Student training and development- new skilled workforce in agriculture
- Expanding business options through diversification of cultivated plants
- Integration of local businesses for community growth



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Non-Targeted Programs

All NIFA programs are committed to DEI as given on 2nd Page of all RFAs, for details please see slide 27



Other Programs for MSIs

- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative
- Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Grants Program
- Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Program
- Multicultural Scholars Grants Program
- Women and Minorities in STEM Education Grants Program
- The Food Safety and Outreach Program
- Crop Protection and Pest Management
- and more, this is not an exhaustive list

Some programs have special opportunities for MSI applications, collaborations, etc.,



BFRDP

The training needs of underserved socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers can be addressed through this program. Program also encourages applications from Community Based and Non-Governmental Organizations and helps to launch or sustain such programs.

- Grants to organizations to support beginning farmers and ranchers
 - Education
 - Mentoring and experiential learning
 - Technical assistance initiatives
- Targeted set aside funds if
- At least 5% of the program funds will be allocated to address the needs of limited resource; socially disadvantaged; and/or farm workers (including immigrants) desiring to become beginning farmers or ranchers
or
- At least 5% of the program funds will be allocated to address the needs of beginning farmers and ranchers who are military veterans.

Note: Not all applications need to address the needs of these two subsets of beginning farmers and ranchers. Inclusion of socially disadvantaged and of veteran beginning farmers or ranchers in the applications will not result in higher proposal scores or ratings, however, priority may be given to applications that address either of the two subsets, if necessary, to achieve the targets, by awarding funding to the highest-ranked proposals that meet the set-aside.



FSOP

Aims to address racial and ethnic inequalities in access to information, education and training needed to ensure that US food supply is safe. Program benefits not only minorities but everyone in the food supply chain. Potential applicants include Community Based Organizations; Non-Governmental Organizations; educational institutions; federal, state, local or tribal agencies; Cooperative Extension Service; etc.

- Provides funding for food safety training and education for small and mid-sized producers and processors affected by the Food Safety Modernization Act.
- Different project types support
 - Outreach to underserved audiences by establishing grant writing skills
 - Providing on farm or on-site training
 - Developing bilingual, accessible, and culturally appropriate training, etc.

WAMS

Women and minorities are underrepresented in STEM Careers in the United States

Improve the economic health and viability of rural communities by developing research and extension initiatives that focus on new and emerging employment opportunities in STEM occupations for women and underrepresented minorities.

- Projects that contribute to the economic viability of rural communities are encouraged.
 - Projects benefit women and minorities by helping to increase their representation in STEM Careers and the nation by enhancing and diversifying the workforce
- Supports education/teaching and extension projects that increase participation by women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas in STEM
 - Eligibility is not restricted to MSIs as long as project goals are met



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Examples



Example 5

Program: Food Safety Outreach Competitive Grants Program (FSOP)



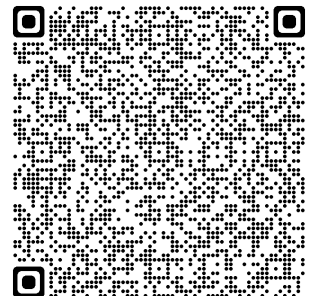
Project Title: Phase II FSMA Experimental Learning Outreach Program for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers in Rural Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi



Institution: Alabama A&M University (1890)

Funding Amount: \$ 545,228

Project Period: 2021-2024



Project Details – Example 5

Objectives:

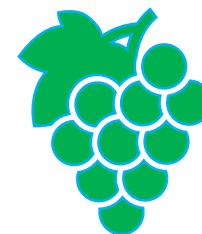
- Provide Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Growers Training, Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) training, and Harmonized GAP and GAP Plus to limited resource small scale socially disadvantaged farmers.
- Provide Advance Food Safety Moderation Act (FSMA) training and Technical Assistance.
- Provide holistic approach to engage producers and agribusinesses to teaching produce safety training in communities.

Expected Outcomes:

- Provide one-on-one consultations on the FSMA program and food safety issues, including programs available.
- Increase grower knowledge the GAP certification and other FSMA programs available; increase farmer knowledge on current tools and methods to assist them in farming practices, including minimizing farm risk.

Example 6

Program: Crop Protection and Pest Management Program (CPPM)



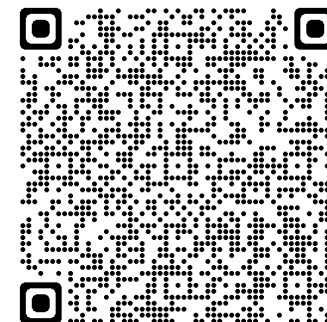
Project Title: Optimizing the use of barn owl nest boxes for rodent pest control in winegrape vineyards



Institution: Humboldt State University

Funding Amount: \$ 181,960

Project Period: 2022-2025





Project Details – Example 6

Objectives:

- Develop low-risk suppression tactics, such as biological control
- Develop efficacious suppression strategies that are **cost-effective** to implement.
- Encourage and support the development of area-wide IPM projects to more effectively manage pests on **regional or landscape scales**.
- Develop economic models for IPM that inform research on new pest management strategies, as well as **decision tools for growers** to implement management.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased availability of information by which **producers** can **evaluate** whether to adopt the use of barn owl nest boxes
- Increased **development of graduate student** expertise in the use of wildlife as part of an IPM scheme, and increased **training of undergraduate students**
- Significant contribution to scientific literature
- Increased **availability of information** by which **producers** can **optimize** placement of nest boxes to enhance barn owl occupancy

Language on Page 2 of All RFAs

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.

Program Appendix

- **1890 Programs**
 - CBG: Capacity Building Grants
 - Facilities: 1890 Facilities Grants Program
 - Extension: Agricultural Extension Programs at 1890 Institutions
 - Scholarships: Scholarships for Students at 1890 Institutions
 - Centers of Excellence: Centers of Excellence at 1890 Institutions
- **HSI Programs**
 - HSI: Hispanic Serving Institution
- **1994 Programs**
 - TCEG: Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants
 - TCRGP: Tribal Colleges Research Grants Program
 - TCEP: Tribal Colleges Extension Program
 - FRTEP: Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program
 - NBTS: New Beginning for Tribal Students
- **Insular and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Programs**
 - RIIA :Resident Instruction Grants for Institutions of Higher Education and Insular Areas
 - DEG: Distance Education Grants for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas
 - AGFEI: Agriculture and Food Sciences Facilities and Equipment for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas
 - ANNH: Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Competitive Grants Program

Questions???

Please put your questions in the Q and A Box

Questions/comments/feedback: AdminOpsTeam.NIFA@usda.gov
Subject line: Grant Support Technical Assistance Workshop:2024

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