

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Hall of Fame recognizes contributions to NIFA and the Land-grant University system, as well as support of [USDA Strategic Goals](#) and our nation's food, agriculture, natural resource, and human sciences enterprise.

Inductees into the NIFA Hall of Fame must have worked, coordinated, or supported activities exemplifying NIFA's synergy of excellence in any combination of research, education, and extension approaches on local, regional, national, or international levels and will have demonstrated a measurable and positive impact on the lives of citizens and NIFA and its mission to "*Invest in and advance agricultural research, education, and extension to solve societal challenges.*"

ELIGIBILITY

1. Nominees may be living or deceased.
2. Nominations will be accepted from:
 - a. NIFA employees and NIFA partner organizations (Land-grant Universities and partner institutions). Each partner organization must conduct its own internal review and screening process prior to submitting a nomination to NIFA.
 - b. Individuals.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated based against the three weighted areas listed below.

50 POINTS: Measurable impact on NIFA. Clearly describe the measurable impact on NIFA and its mission to *Invest in and advance agricultural research, education, and extension to solve societal challenges*. If the nominee's role was as a supporter, describe the measurable impact resulting indirectly from that support. Clearly describe how the nominee's support was critical to enable the implementers/coordinators to achieve the measurable impact described.

30 POINTS: Synergy of Research, Education, and/or Extension and the nominee's role in promoting the same. Describe the combined Research, Education, and/or Extension approach and the nominee's role as implementer, coordinator, or supporter. Explain why this approach was uniquely effective, and/or innovative. Provide specific examples of how the nominee ultimately ensured positive, measurable impact from the activity/activities on citizens' lives locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally.

20 POINTS: Endorsement/letters of support. Letters should clearly express how the nominee affected change as a result of their role in programs or activities as implementer, coordinator, or supporter for positive, measurable impact on citizens locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally. Letters should be attached separately.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

1. Nominations must consist of a completed nomination form (See attached NIFA Hall of Fame Nomination Form) and up to three (3) endorsements/letters of support.
2. Nominations must be e-mailed to the Admin Operations Team at AdminOpsTeam.NIFA@usda.gov **no later than May 30, 2024**. Please include “Hall of Fame Nomination Submission” in the email subject line.

SELECTION PROCEDURES

A selection panel will be appointed by the NIFA Director to evaluate the nominations and rank nominees based off the evaluation criteria. The panel’s recommendations will be forwarded to the NIFA Director for final review and selection. Nominators and nominees cannot be a part of the selection process.

NATURE OF RECOGNITION

All NIFA Hall of Fame inductees will be recognized at the annual NIFA Day of Appreciation tentatively scheduled for summer 2024.

AWARD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Questions regarding this program may be directed to the Admin Operations Team at AdminOpsTeam.NIFA@usda.gov.