Overview of NIFA Grant Award Administrative and Fiscal Requirements for 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities

**Authorized Uses of Funds**

- **1890 Research**
  - Expenses of conducting agricultural research, printing, disseminating the results of such research, administrative planning and direction, and purchase and rental of land and the construction, acquisition, alteration, or repair of buildings necessary for conducting agricultural research at 1890 Institutions. (Section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA))

- **1890 Extension**
  - Expenses of conducting extension programs and activities at 1890 institutions. (Section 1444 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA))

- **McIntire-Stennis**
  - Forest research related to: reforestation and management of land for the production of crops of timber and other related products of the forest; management of forest and related watershed lands to improve conditions of waterflow and to protect resources against floods and erosion; management of forest and related rangeland for production of forage for domestic livestock and game and improvement of food and habitat for wildlife; management of forest lands for outdoor recreation; protection of forest land and resources against fire, insects, diseases, or other destructive agents; utilization of wood and other forest products; development of sound policies for the management of forest lands and the harvesting and marketing of forest products; and such other studies as may be necessary to obtain the fullest and most effective use of forest resources. (McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act)

- **EFNEP**
  - Dissemination of the results of food and human nutrition research performed or funded by the Department of Agriculture
  - Employment and training of professional and paraprofessional aides to engage in direct nutrition education of low-income families and in other appropriate nutrition education programs. (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program)
Capacity Grant Terms and Conditions

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) will add new terms and conditions to the capacity grant programs, which will incorporate the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR 200) requirements and parts of the NIFA Policy Guide and include an Order of Precedence for any conflicting requirements.

Match

- Required for 1890 Research and Extension and McIntire-Stennis program funding.
- Waivers **MUST** be requested and approved annually.
- Waiver requests must provide **CURRENT DOCUMENTATION** (within past two years ONLY) demonstrating that they meet one of the following criteria:
  - Natural disaster, flood, fire, tornado, hurricane, or drought;
  - State and/or institution facing financial crisis; or
  - Demonstration of a good faith effort to obtain funds.

- Matching funds **MUST** be: (1) expended on activities/costs that would be **ALLOWABLE** under the grant; (2) identified and tracked in your Institutions accounting system; and (3) be supported by documentation, the same as your grant funds, illustrating that the costs are necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the grant.
- Use of **QUALIFYING** education activities as match **REQUIRES** prior approval from NIFA.

Prior Approval for Equipment

- Required for General Purpose Equipment costing $5,000 or more with a useful life greater than one year.
- Required for Special Purpose Equipment costing $150,000 or more with a useful life greater than one year.
- For more information and resources, please visit [https://nifa.usda.gov/program/capacity-grants](https://nifa.usda.gov/program/capacity-grants).

Authorized Representative and Custodian of Funds

- The institutional Authorized Representative (AR) may be the 1890 Extension Administrator/1890 Agricultural Research Director or another designee. Programmatically, the 1890 Extension Administrator/1890 Agricultural Research Director is responsible for approved extension or research activities requiring 1890 grant funds at the 1890 land-grant college or university and compliance with the applicable rules and regulation.
- The AR assumes obligations imposed by NIFA capacity awards; authorizes distribution and expenditure of award funds, and ensures expenditures are consistent with the approved Plan of Work.
- 1890 Custodians of Funds (Legal Custodian) account for all Section 1444 (Extension) and/or Section 1445 (Research) funds allocated to the Institution and must be a different individual than the person who authorizes and/or approves expenditures.