



National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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

# NIFA

## Food Safety Outreach Program FY 2023 RFA Technical Assistance Webinar

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# FSOP Team

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# Topics We Will Cover

NIFA Overview (*5 min.*)

Program Overview (*10 min.*)

Request for Application (RFA) Details (*10 min.*)

Proposal Evaluation Process (*10 min.*)

Additional Information/Resources (*10 min.*)



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# NIFA

## *NIFA Overview*

## NIFA Overview

- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)** is the extramural science-funding agency within USDA's Research, Education and Economics mission area.
- NIFA **invests in and supports** initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture.
- NIFA provides **funding and strategic leadership** for programs that ensure groundbreaking discoveries in agriculture-related sciences and technologies reach the people who can put them into practice.

# Topics Covered by NIFA Programs



## Advanced Technologies

Bioenergy; Biotechnology;  
Nanotechnology



## Animals

Animal Breeding; Animal Health;  
Animal Production; Aquaculture



## Business and Economy

Markets and Trade; Natural Resource  
Economics; Small Business



## Natural Resources

Forests; Grassland and Rangeland; Soil,  
Water, and Air



## Education

Minority Serving Institutions; Teaching  
and Learning; Workforce Development



## Environment

Climate Change; Ecosystems; Invasive  
Pests and Diseases



## Farming and Ranching

Agriculture Safety & Technology; Farmer  
Education; Organic & Family Farms



## Human Sciences

Community Vitality; Family Well-Being;  
Youth



## Food Science

Food Quality; Food Safety



## Food and Nutrition Security

Nutrition; Obesity; Wellness



## International

Global Engagement; Global  
Food Security



## Plants

Crop Production; Pest  
Management; Plant  
Breeding; Plant Health



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# NIFA

## *Program Overview*





# Purpose and Priorities

In FY 2023, the FSOP will maintain and continue funding training, education, outreach, and coordination by soliciting new Community Outreach, Collaborative Education and Training, and Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects.

## **Community Outreach Projects**

- Award Amount - \$80,000 – \$150,000
- Grant Duration – 24 months

## **Collaborative Education and Training Projects**

- Award Amount - \$200,000 – \$400,000
- Grant Duration – 36 months

## **Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects**

- Award Amount - \$75,000- \$150,000
- Grant Duration – 36 months

\*Note: Applicants may request an additional \$150,000 for Collaborative Engagement Supplements

# Purpose and Priorities

## Community Outreach Projects

- **Community Outreach Projects** will support the development of and expansion of new food safety education and outreach programs in local communities that address the needs of small, specialized audiences whose education needs have not previously been adequately addressed.
- Community Outreach Projects fund projects that are being used to develop new food safety education programs and can be used for FSMA training for applicants with minimal food safety experience that have close ties with target audiences and would like to expand to FSMA trainings within their communities.
- Projects that support growth and expansion of existing food safety education and program will reach a broader audience, provide technical assistance, and/or expand to new audiences.

# Purpose and Priorities

## Collaborative Education and Training

- **Collaborative Education and Training Projects** will support the development of multi-county, state-wide or multi-state food safety education and outreach programs. For example, these projects will support collaborations among states not necessarily located within the same regions, but have common food safety concerns, or address common commodities.
- Potential applicants must have an established track record of working with target audiences and must be capable of developing and modifying food safety training curricula to meet new FSMA rules for a variety of agricultural production and processing systems.

# Purpose and Priorities

## Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills

- **Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects** will support the development and refinement of grant writing skills and provide grant writing resources for entities that support individuals or groups that are led by and directly interact with underserved populations including new applicants, CBOs, and MSIs to strengthen applications from these entities.
- These projects must work collaboratively with the FSOP Regional Centers to ensure broad coverage and outreach to their specific regions and communities, to include coordinating and communicating workshops and sessions through the centers as well as utilizing Regional Center websites, portals, and social media feeds to share toolkits, webinars, and other resources.
- The training resources will strengthen Food Safety Outreach Program proposals from organizations that support food safety education and training, servicing the FSOP's target audience.

# Collaborative Engagement Supplement

Collaborative Engagement Supplements will be available for applications submitted under Community Outreach, Collaborative Education and Training, and the Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects that support **significant** collaboration among 1890s, 1862s, 1994s, entities in Insular Areas, ANNH, HSACU, HBCUs, and community-based organizations reaching underserved populations. Applications that include significant collaborations will receive an additional \$150,000 above the listed award amounts.

- **Community Outreach w/ supplement** – up to \$300,000
- **Collaborative Education and Training w/ supplement** – up to \$550,000
- **Technical Assistance – Grant Writing skills w/ supplement** – up to \$300,000

# Eligibility

- The Cooperative Extension Service for a U.S. state or territory;
- Non-government organizations and/or community-based organizations representing owners and operators of farms, small food processors, or small fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers that has a commitment to public health and expertise in administering programs that contribute to food safety;
- Federal, State, local, or tribal agencies;
- An institution of higher education (as defined in Section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1862. 1001(a)) or a foundation maintained by an institution of higher education;
- A collaboration of two or more eligible entities.



# Application Submission & Award Limitations

- Project Directors may not submit more than **1** application to this program as a lead institution.



# Cost Share or Matching

- No matching is required.
- Matching resources will not be factored into the review process as evaluation criteria.





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*Application Details and Documents*

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# Application Changes from Prior Year

In FY 2023, NIFA is seeking Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects

# Application Details

- RFA is available online at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/food-safety-outreach-program>
- FAQs are available online at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/food-safety-outreach-program-frequently-asked-questions-faqs>
- **Application Deadline:** February 16, 2023, 5 p.m. Eastern Time Submitted through Grants.gov
- Total funding available in FY 2023: ~\$9,600,000
- Program Code: A4182
- Proposals per Institution: No restriction; however, Project Directors may only submit one application.
- Awards per Institution: No restriction

# Application Details (contd.)

## Community Outreach Projects

- Project Narrative has a **10-page limit** and will be strictly enforced.
  - 1.5 spacing
  - 12-point font
  - Font size for figures should be no smaller than 11-point font

## Collaborative Education and Training Projects

- Project Narrative has a **20-page limit** and will be strictly enforced.
  - 1.5 spacing
  - 12-point font
  - Font size for figures should be no smaller than 11-point font

## Technical Assistance – Grant Writing Skills Projects

- Project Narrative has a **10-page limit** and will be strictly enforced.
  - 1.5 spacing
  - 12-point font
  - Font size for figures should be no smaller than 11-point font

# Application Details

## Key Documents

Key components of your Application:

- SF-424
- Budget and budget justification
- Personnel
- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Data Management Plan
- Other Documents (See RFA and [NIFA Grants Application Guide](#))

# Data Management Plan (DMP)

- Investigators must provide a detailed (up to 2 pages) DMP including:
  - Expected data type
  - Data format
  - Data storage and preservation
  - Data sharing, protection and public access
  - Roles and responsibilities
- Please also review: [nifa.usda.gov/resource/data-management-plan-nifa-funded-research-projects](https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/data-management-plan-nifa-funded-research-projects)

# Application Submission

- NIFA only accepts **electronic** submission of applications.
- NIFA Grants Application Guide available:  
[nifa.usda.gov/resource/nifa-grantsgov-application-guide](https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/nifa-grantsgov-application-guide)
- Application documents **must be in Portable Document Format (PDF)** to be accepted by NIFA, including your narrative and budget justifications.
  - Grants.gov may allow other formats, but NIFA does ***not***
  - Do not use third-party PDF builders





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## *Proposal Evaluation Process*

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# Evaluation Process

Proposals are assigned for review to at least 3 reviewers with expertise in the proposed topic.

Reviewers will produce individual reviews of each proposal, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses.

These written reviews are used to begin panel discussions with other reviewers serving on the peer-review panel.

Through these discussions, peer-review panelists come to consensus on the final ranking of proposals.

\*Evaluation criteria starts on Page 18 of the RFA

# Timeline of Competitive Programs

## Months 1-3

- Request for Application (RFA) release
- Proposal writing and planning

## Months 4-6

- Proposals due
- Proposal under peer review
- Proposal funding notifications

## 7-9 months

- Awards are finalized and made

**We will keep you updated as much as possible. We appreciate your patience!**



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*Additional Information*

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# Use CRIS to Find Funded Awards

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- Professional Search
- Search Pending Projects

**Other Functions**

- NIFA Admin Functions
- Manual of Classification

**Current Research Information System** More

Welcome to the Current Research Information System (CRIS) web site. The Current Research Information System (CRIS) provides documentation and reporting for ongoing agricultural, food science, human nutrition, and forestry research, education and extension activities for the United States Department of Agriculture; with a focus on the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant programs. Projects are conducted or sponsored by USDA research agencies, state agricultural experiment stations, land-grant universities, other cooperating state institutions, and participants in NIFA-administered grant programs, including Small Business Innovation Research and Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. The Planning, Accountability, & Reporting Staff office of NIFA is responsible for maintaining CRIS.

Use the top "navbar" to navigate through the CRIS web site, or click on the links in the left and right columns to search the CRIS database, to view the Manual of Classification, or to enter our Forms Assistance web site.

**What's New in CRIS ?**

- Avian Influenza
- Biofuels/Bioenergy
- Food Safety (Ala-Mic)
- Food Safety (Min-Wyo)
- Mad Cow/TSE/Rltd
- Nanotechnology
- Obesity/Weight Control
- Soybean Rust
- Tribal Education

- <https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=GC%3Da4182%2A%20AND%20IY%3D1862%3A2021&format=WEBTITLES>

\* Data Gateway is also an option

# Grant Resources

- Funding Opportunities: [nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities](https://nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities)
- Competitive Grants Flowchart: [nifa.usda.gov/competitive-grants](https://nifa.usda.gov/competitive-grants)
- NIFA Grant Resources: [nifa.usda.gov/grant-training](https://nifa.usda.gov/grant-training)
- NIFA Policy Guide: [nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide](https://nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide)
- Indirect Costs: [nifa.usda.gov/indirect-costs](https://nifa.usda.gov/indirect-costs)
- A Guide for Preparation and Submission of NIFA Applications via Grants.gov:  
[apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00249520-instructions.pdf](https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00249520-instructions.pdf)
- Information on Awarded Grants: [cris.nifa.usda.gov](https://cris.nifa.usda.gov)



# Questions?

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