AGRICULTURE

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Agriculture and Natural Resources Science for Climate Variability and Change

The purpose of Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is to support research, education, and extension work by awarding grants that address key problems of national, regional, and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture, including farm efficiency and profitability, ranching, renewable energy, forestry (both urban and agroforestry), aquaculture, rural communities and entrepreneurship, human nutrition, food safety, biotechnology, and conventional breeding. Through this support, AFRI advances knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. It also allows AFRI to support education and extension activities that deliver science-based knowledge to people, allowing them to make informed practical decisions. This AFRI RFA is announcing anticipated funding opportunities for Integrated Research, Education, and/or Extension Projects. Due to limited resources and in the interest of encouraging linkages between research, education, and extension, NIFA is only soliciting Integrated Projects under this RFA. Eligible applicants for the programs implemented under this RFA include: 1) colleges and universities; 2) 1994 Land-Grant Institutions; and 3) Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities. The deadline for Integrated Approaches to Climate Adaptation and Mitigation in Agroecosystems is December 16, 2011.
Deadline: October 20, 2011 (LOI)
Maximum Grant: $750,000
Grant Link: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/12_climate.pdf

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Sustainable Bioenergy

The Sustainable Bioenergy Challenge Area RFA focuses on the societal challenge to secure America's energy future. In the Sustainable Bioenergy Challenge Area RFA, specific program areas are designed to achieve the long-term outcome of reducing the National dependence on foreign oil through the production of sustainable bioenergy. Project types supported by AFRI within this RFA include single-function Research, multi-function Integrated Research, Education, and/or Extension Projects, and Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants. The AFRI Sustainable Bioenergy Program will fund grants that target vital topical areas related to the development of regional systems for the sustainable production of bioenergy, biopower and biobased products. These programs will, where appropriate, align with existing Regional Bioenergy Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP) to promote NIFA's goal and mission of economic, environmental, and rural community sustainability. In FY 2012, subject to availability of funds, it is anticipated that approximately $11 million be made available for support of new awards within the Sustainable Bioenergy Challenge Area within AFRI. The final application is due by December 15, 2011.
Deadline: October 25, 2011 (Required LOI)
Grant Link: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/12_bioenergy.pdf

Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program

NIFA requests applications for the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP) for fiscal year (FY) 2012. The BFRDP provides resources to support the development of educational outreach curricula, workshops, educational teams, training, and technical assistance programs to assist beginning farmers and ranchers (includes beginning forest landowners, hereafter) in the United States and its territories with entering, establishing, building and managing successful farm and ranch enterprises. The primary goal of BFRDP is to enhance food security by providing beginning farmer and rancher producers and their families in the U.S. and its territories, with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to make informed decisions for their operations, and enhance their sustainability. Other goals include enhanced sustainability of resources and consistent availability of inputs for biofuel production. The term "farmer" is used in the broadest sense and should be interpreted to include traditional agricultural farmers, ranchers, and tree farmers. For FY 2012, it is anticipated that approximately $19 million will be made available to fund Standard BFRDP Project grants and the Educational Enhancement Team Project.
Deadline: November 22, 2011
Grant Link: http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/12_bfrdp.pdf

ARTS AND CULTURE

21st Century Museum Professionals

Museum professionals need high levels of knowledge and expertise as they help create public value for the communities they serve. The purpose of the 21st Century Museum Professionals Grants program is to increase the capacity of museums by improving the knowledge and skills of museum professionals in multiple institutions. These

grants are intended to reach broad groups of museum professionals throughout a city, county, state, region, or the nation. Grants fund a wide range of activities, including the development and implementation of classes, seminars, and workshops; resources to support leadership development; collection, assessment, development, and/or dissemination of information that leads to better museum operations; activities that strengthen the use of contemporary technology tools to deliver programs and services; support for the enhancement of pre-professional training programs; and organizational support for the development of internship and fellowship programs. Guidelines for the current fiscal year are made available approximately 90 days before the grant deadline. Until that time, guidelines from the previous year are available for your reference, but you must use the current fiscal year's guidelines when you apply.
Deadline: March 15, 2012
Maximum Grant: $500,000
Grant Link: http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=1

CAPACITY BUILDING

Microsoft Software Donation Program
Microsoft recognizes the great work that nonprofit organizations do to support our communities and individuals in need. They are honored to support nonprofits by donating software to help them achieve their missions. Microsoft offers free and low-cost software as well as software donations for nonprofits. While the specific software titles and versions offered are subject to change, this list (http://www.microsoft.com/about/corporatecitizenship/en-us/community-tools/nonprofits/whats-available/available-software/) provides an overview of the types of Microsoft software available to your nonprofit organization. Microsoft software donations include several valuable benefits (referred to as Software Assurance benefits) to help you get the greatest value from your software. After your organization is awarded a grant from the Microsoft Software Donation Program, you are entitled to access several benefits for a period of two years from the date of your donation. These Software Assurance benefits apply to donations received directly from Microsoft or via our nonprofit software donation partner, TechSoup Global.
Deadline: Open
Grant Link: http://www.microsoft.com/about/corporatecitizenship/en-us/community-tools/nonprofits/apply-now/

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program
NIFA requests applications for the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP) for fiscal year FY 2012 to support: (1) the development of Community Food Projects with a one-time infusion of federal dollars to make such projects self-sustaining; (2) Planning Projects to assess the food security needs and plan long-term solutions to help ensure food security in communities; and (3) a project that provides Training and Capacity Building on a nationwide basis to entities interested in developing new Community Food Projects or assisting current grantees and others to effectively operate their food security projects. The primary goals of the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP) are to:
- Meet the food needs of low-income individuals;
- Increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for the food needs of the communities;
- Promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues; and
- Meet specific state, local or neighborhood food and agricultural needs including needs relating to: Infrastructure improvement and development; Planning for long-term solutions; or the creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers.

Community Food Projects are intended to bring together stakeholders from the distinct parts of the food system and to foster understanding of national food security trends and how they might improve local food systems.
Deadline: November 17, 2011
Maximum Grant: $500,000
Grant Link: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/12_community_food.pdf

EDUCATION

The Collectors Foundation
The Collectors Foundation promotes educational or training programs that are especially important to the long-term interests of the collector vehicle and classic boat hobbies, sometimes even initiating unsolicited proposals. The Foundation seeks to fund four main areas: 1) Educational scholarships are established with educational institutions that have specific programs or majors in restoration technology, rod and custom building, wooden boat building, and transportation design. Interested institutions may submit their request for scholarship support for these areas of study; 2) Vocational high schools are welcome to submit proposals for developing, expanding, or enriching vocational programs in historic vehicle restoration; 3) At-risk youth development programs working in conjunction with museums, clubs, or other nonprofit organizations in which hobbyists are used as mentors are encouraged to submit a proposal;

and 4) Other innovative, or collaborative programming that have potential to preserve the collector vehicle and classic boat hobbies are also considered. Applications are due quarterly on January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, and October 1st.
Deadline: October 1, 2011
Grant Link: http://www.collectorsfoundation.org/index.php/what_we_do/

Discovery Research K-12

The Discovery Research K-12 program (DRK-12) seeks to significantly enhance the learning and teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by preK-12 students, teachers, administrators and parents. All DRK-12 projects should be framed around a research question or hypothesis that addresses an important need or topic in preK-12 STEM education. The emphasis in DRK-12 is on research projects that study the development, testing, deployment, effectiveness, and/or scale-up of innovative resources, models and tools. DRK-12 invites proposals that address immediate challenges that are facing preK-12 STEM education as well as those that anticipate a radically different structure and function of pre-K 12 teaching and learning. DRK-12 especially encourages proposals that challenge existing assumptions about learning and teaching within or across STEM fields, envision the future needs of learners, and consider new and innovative ways to support student and teacher learning. DRK-12 is particularly interested in projects that hold promise for identifying and developing the next generation of STEM innovators. There are four strands described in detail in the solicitation: 1) Assessment; 2) Learning; 3) Teaching; 4) Scale-up. Full proposals are due by January 10, 2012
Deadline: November 17, 2011 (LOI)
Maximum Grant: $4,000,000
Grant Link: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11588/nsf11588.htm

Open Society Youth Initiative: Global Debates

The Open Society Youth Initiative encourages students to engage in critical, reasoned discussion about issues important to their lives and communities and to advocate for positive change around the world. The Youth Initiative supports debate programs and events in higher education and for young people around the world in any language. Global Debates was launched in 2011 to strengthen debate programs at colleges and universities around the world. The goal is to help engage students in the policy issues that will have a lasting impact on their future. This $20 million program will, among other things, provide up to three years of funding to colleges, universities, and other educational institutions to promote and integrate debate across disciplines. Grants are available for institutions that have either very small debate programs or none at all. Grants are also available for institutions seeking to promote public debates within the broader communities that they serve. Grant applications are invited in the following areas: 1) Debate organized by consortia of colleges and universities; 2) Debate sponsored by departments and schools within colleges and universities; 3) Debate in students clubs and societies; and 4) Supporting debate events. Concept papers/full proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis until funding has been exhausted.
Deadline: Open
Grant Link: http://www.soros.org/initiatives/youth/focus/global-debates/grants

HEALTH – RELATED

Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program

The Office of Rural Health Policy's Outreach Program supports projects that demonstrate effective models of outreach and service delivery through collaboration, adoption of an evidence-based or promising practice model, demonstration of health outcomes, replicability and sustainability. Proposed projects will have an outcomes-oriented approach that will enhance and sustain the delivery of effective health care in rural communities by tracking specific health indicators that will demonstrate the impact of their project at the end of their grant period. They will be based on evidence-based or promising practice models in order to avoid "reinventing the wheel" and demonstrate health status improvement in rural communities. Proposed Outreach projects can take the framework of an evidence-based or promising practice model and tailor it to their community's need and organization. The estimated amount of this competition is $12,000,000 to be awarded to approximately 80 applicants. The estimated project period is 3 years with up to $150,000 awarded per year.
Deadline: November 22, 2011
Maximum Grant: $150,000
Grant Link: https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=84DFE9B8-153A-4FCD-BF96-D8BA768AE928&ViewMode=EU&GoBack=&PrintMode=&OnlineAvailabilityFlag=&pageNumber=&version=&NC=&Popup=

Neurological Emergencies Treatment Trials (NETT) Network Clinical Site Hubs

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA), issued by NINDS, is to invite new and renewal applications to participate as a Clinical Site Hubs in the Neurological Emergencies Treatment Trials (NETT) Network. The goal of this existing network is to develop and widely implement efficacious treatments for patients

with a broad spectrum of neurological emergencies in order to decrease the morbidity and mortality associated with neurological disease. Their objective is to conduct multiple, large, streamlined phase III clinical trials involving neurological emergencies.
Deadline: December 9, 2011
Maximum Grant: $200,000
Grant Link: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-342.html

Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations
The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to develop, adapt, and test the effectiveness of health promotion and disease prevention interventions in Native American (NA) populations. NA populations are exposed to considerable risk factors that significantly increase their likelihood of chronic disease, substance abuse, mental illness, and HIV-infection. The intervention program should be culturally appropriate and promote the adoption of healthy lifestyles, improve behaviors and social conditions and/or improve environmental conditions related to chronic disease, the consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, mental illness or HIV-infection. The intervention program should be designed so that it could be sustained within the entire community within existing resources, and, if successful, disseminated in other Native American communities. The long-term goal of this FOA is to reduce mortality and morbidity in NA communities.
Deadline: May 15, 2012
Grant Link: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-346.html

HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Humanities: Collaborative Research Grants
Collaborative Research Grants support interpretive research undertaken by a team of two or more scholars, for full-time or part-time activities for periods of a minimum of one year up to a maximum of three years. Support is available for various combinations of scholars, consultants, and research assistants; project-related travel; field work; applications of information technology; and technical support and services. All grantees are expected to communicate the results of their work to the appropriate scholarly and public audiences.
Eligible projects include:
- research that significantly adds to knowledge and understanding in the humanities;
- conferences on topics of major importance in the humanities that will benefit scholarly research;
- archaeological projects that include the interpretation and communication of results (projects may encompass excavation, materials analysis, laboratory work, field reports, and preparation of interpretive monographs); and
- research that uses the knowledge and perspectives of the humanities and historical or philosophical methods to enhance understanding of science, technology, medicine, and the social sciences.

These grants support full-time or part-time activities for periods of one to three years with awards ranging from $25,000 to $100,000 per year.
Deadline: December 8, 2011
Maximum Grant: $100,000
Grant Link: http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/collaborative.html

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: Badges for Lifelong Learning
Badges For Lifelong Learning is designed to encourage individuals and organizations to create digital tools that support, identify, recognize, measure, and account for new skills, competencies, knowledge, and achievements for twenty-first century learners wherever and whenever learning takes place. A *badge* is a validated indicator of accomplishment, skill, quality or interest that can be earned in any of these learning environments. Badges can support learning, validate education, help build reputation, and confirm the acquisition of knowledge. They can signal traditional academic attainment or the acquisition of skills such collaboration, teamwork, leadership, and other 21st century skills. Together, competition participants will contribute to a robust badge ecosystem, where traditional and 21st century skills and achievements are inspired, recognized, translated across contexts, and displayed and managed across the web. The result for learners: new learning and knowledge, real-world outcomes like jobs, credit for new skills and achievements, and whole new ways to level up in their life and work. Award amounts will be based on level and complexity of proposed work, type and duration of required expertise, level of institutional support and correspondence between proposed budget and expert judge's estimate of work. Stage One: Badge Content and Programs is due on October 14, 2011. Stage Two: Badge Design and Tech is due on December 2, 2011.
Deadline: October 14, 2011
Maximum Grant: $200,000
Grant Link: http://www.dmlcompetition.net/Competition/4/badges-competition-cfp.php

Software Infrastructure for Sustained Innovation: Scientific Software Innovation Institutes
NSF's vision of a Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) identifies advancing new computational infrastructure as a priority for driving innovation in science and engineering. Scientific Software Innovation Institutes (S2I2) will focus on the establishment of long-term hubs of excellence in software infrastructure and technologies, which will serve a research community of substantial size and disciplinary breadth. It is expected that outcomes of S2I2 goes beyond the software itself and also includes the infrastructure and process by which software is developed and sustained in response to, and to successfully enable, transformative new science. These institutes will provide expertise, processes and architectures, resources, and implementation mechanism to transform computational science and engineering innovations and community software into robust and sustained software infrastructure for enabling science and engineering, which in turn will transform research practices and productivity. S2I2 proposals are expected to bring together interdisciplinary teams of scientists, engineers, and educators together with software engineers and technologists. Approximately $5,000,000 will be available for 8 to 12 proposals submitted with the typical award expected to be $500,000 for 1 year.
Deadline: December 14, 2011
Grant Link: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11589/nsf11589.htm

Cyberlearning: Transforming Education
Through the *Cyberlearning: Transforming Education* program, NSF seeks to integrate advances in technology with advances in what is known about how people learn to

- better understand how people learn with technology and how technology can be used productively to help people learn, through individual use and/or through collaborations mediated by technology;
- better use technology for collecting, analyzing, sharing, and managing data to shed light on learning, promoting learning, and designing learning environments; and
- design new technologies for these purposes, and advance understanding of how to use those technologies and integrate them into learning environments so that their potential is fulfilled.

Of particular interest are technological advances that allow more personalized learning experiences, draw in and promote learning among those in populations not served well by current educational practices, allow access to learning resources anytime and anywhere, and provide new ways of assessing capabilities. It is expected that Cyberlearning research will shed light on how technology can enable new forms of educational practice and that broad implementation of its findings will result in a more actively-engaged and productive citizenry and workforce.
Cyberlearning awards will be made in three research categories, each focusing on a different stage of research and development: Exploratory (EXP), Design and Implementation (DIP), and Integration and Deployment (INDP). The Cyberlearning program will also support small Capacity-Building Projects (CAP) and a Cyberlearning Resource Center (CRC). Up to $36 million will be available in FYs 2012 and 2013 combined to fund proposals submitted in response to this solicitation. The intention is to fund 12 to 18 EXPs, 6 to 12 DIPs, 2 to 4 INDPs, 7 to 14 CAPs, and 1 CRC over that 2-year period. The full proposal deadlines for each category are as follows: December 15, 2011 – EXPs, January 18, 2012 – DIPs, February 15, 2012 – CRC, and July 16, 2012 – INDPs.
Deadline: December 15, 2011
Grant Link: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11587/nsf11587.htm

TRANSPORTATION

Hybrid Fuel California Transit Bus Technology Research
The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), hereby requests proposals from public entities that will ultimately result in the award of one cooperative agreement to demonstrate, in revenue service, a small transit vehicle employing a hybrid propulsion system. For this project, small transit vehicles are defined as vehicles less than 30-feet in length. The demonstration project will support the development and analysis of advanced propulsion technologies for small transit vehicles. Due to legislative restraints the project must benefit the state of California specifically. Two of FTA's Strategic Research Goals are to protect the environment and promote energy independence. Proposals should address both objectives identified under this goal: Facilitate development of technologies to improve energy efficiency and reduce transit vehicle emissions; and identify and overcome barriers to adoption of clean technologies.
Deadline: October 16, 2011
Maximum Grant: $241,065
Grant Link: http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppId=124533

Capital Grants for Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Projects
The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications for eligible rail line relocation and improvement projects. To assist State and local governments in mitigating the adverse effects created by the presence of rail infrastructure, Congress, in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA–LU). In accordance with SAFETEA–LU, eligible projects are construction projects undertaken for the improvement of the route or

structure of a rail line that either: (1) Are carried out for the purpose of mitigating the adverse effects of rail traffic on safety, motor vehicle traffic flow, community quality of life, or economic development; or (2) involve a lateral or vertical relocation of any portion of the rail line. FRA wants to emphasize that in order for the project to be eligible, *the rail line must be the element that is moved or improved*. Finally, if an applicant is applying for an improvement project, FRA emphasizes that, in accordance with SAFETEA–LU, *the project must mitigate the adverse effects of rail traffic on safety, motor vehicle traffic flow, community quality of life, or economic* development. At least $11,588,085 is available for awards under this solicitation.

Deadline: October 19, 2011
Grant Link: https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=12970

National Center for Safe Routes to School Mini-Grants Program
The National Center for Safe Routes to School is now accepting applications for 25 mini-grants of $1,000 each. These mini-grants support the goal of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs, which is to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bicycle to school. SRTS programs are implemented nationwide by parents, students, schools, community leaders, and local, state, and tribal governments. Mini-grants fund activities that range from the nuts and bolts that help start or sustain a program to new ideas that explore the range of benefits of safe walking and bicycling. Selected mini-grant proposals will fit a school's identified needs and interests around safe walking and bicycling.

Deadline: October 19, 2011
Maximum Grant: $1,000
Grant Link: http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/funding-portal/mini-grants/call-for-applications

If you haven't already, be sure to sign up for GOStream^{TM}, the FREE and daily updated stream of grant funding opportunities accessible directly from the San Bernardino County Grants Office website at: http://www.sbcounty.gov/grantsoffice/Gostream. Start using it today!