Agriculture and Food Research Initiative
Competitive Grants Program

FY 2009 Request for Applications

Please Note: As of 4/24/2009, pages 9 and 159 of this RFA have been modified to reflect an extension of the submission deadline for the Sustainable Agroecosystems Science Long-Term Agroecosystem Program. Changes can be found in Bold Red Text. The deadline for this program has been extended from 4/25/2009 to 4/27/2009.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
C. Submission Dates and Time

Electronic applications must be submitted by Grants.gov by 5:00 P.M Eastern Time (not local time) on the dates indicated in the TABLE 5 AFRI PROGRAM DEADLINE DATES at the end of this RFA. Applications received after applicable deadlines (5:00 P.M Eastern Time, not local time) will be returned without review.

D. Funding Restrictions

Section 7132 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act amended section 1462(a) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310(a)), increasing the limit on recovery of indirect costs from 19 percent to 22 percent of total Federal funds provided under the award. Therefore, the recovery of indirect costs on awards made by CSREES under this program area may not exceed the lesser of the institution's official negotiated indirect cost rate or the equivalent of 22 percent of total Federal funds awarded.

Funds made available for grants under the AFRI program shall not be used for the construction of a new building or facility or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building or facility (including site grading and improvement, and architect fees).

E. Other Submission Requirements

1. Submission and Receipt of Applications

   Applications must be submitted electronically via Grants.gov. The applicant should follow the submission requirements noted in “CSREES Grants.gov Application Guide: A Guide for Preparation and Submission of CSREES Applications via Grants.gov” and the additional information provided in this RFA. Note instructions in this RFA supersede those in the CSREES Grants.gov Application Guide.

   The receipt of all applications will be acknowledged by e-mail (see Section A. of this Part for description of the four e-mails that will acknowledge receipt). Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to provide accurate e-mail addresses where designated.

   If an applicant has not received within 30 days of the submission deadline an e-mail either providing a CSREES application number (i.e., 2009-XXXXX) or indicating the application was not accepted for review, the applicant must contact the agency contact (see Part VII) immediately and ask for the status of the application. Failure to do so may result in the application not being considered for funding by the peer review panel. Once the application has been assigned an application number, this number should be cited on all future correspondence.

2. Multiple Submissions

   See Part III, 5. of “CSREES Grants.gov Application Guide: A Guide for Preparation and Submission of CSREES Applications via Grants.gov.” Duplicate, essentially duplicate, or predominantly overlapping applications submitted to one or more program areas within the AFRI (including Enhancement Awards) in any one fiscal year will be returned without review. In addition, applicants also may not submit to the AFRI an application that is considered duplicate, essentially duplicate, or predominantly overlapping with an application submitted to another CSREES program in the same fiscal year.