

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program

(FY) 2021 Request for Applications

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 2, 2020



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

McINTIRE-STENNIS COOPERATIVE FORESTRY RESEARCH PROGRAM INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

ASSISTANCE LISTING formerly known as the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: This program is listed in the Assistance Listings under **10.202**.

DATES: Applications must be received by **5:00 p.m. Eastern Time** on October 2, 2020. Comments regarding this request for applications (RFA) are requested within six months from the issuance of this notice. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) seeks your comments about this RFA. We will consider all comments when we develop the next RFA for the program, if applicable, and we will use the input to meet the requirements of [Section 103\(c\)\(2\) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 \(7 U.S.C. 7613\(c\)\(2\)\)](#). Submit written stakeholder comments by the deadline set forth in the DATES portion of this notice to Policy@usda.gov. This email address is intended only for receiving comments regarding this RFA and not for requesting information or forms. In your comments, state that you are responding to the **McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program RFA**.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: NIFA requests applications for the McIntire-Stennis (M-S) Cooperative Forestry Research Program for fiscal year (FY) 2021 to assist all states in carrying out a program of state forestry research at state forestry schools and colleges and developing a trained pool of forest scientists capable of conducting needed forestry research, which should include: (1) ecological restoration; (2) catastrophe management; (3) valuing and trading ecological services; (4) energy conservation, biomass energy and bio-based materials development; (5) forest fragmentation; (6) carbon sequestration and climate change; and (7) ways of fostering healthy forests and a globally competitive forest resources sector.

Additionally, M-S funds should be allocated to the following high priority issues: (1) science of integration (ecosystem or landscape approaches including interdisciplinary multi-state projects); forest ecosystem services; (3) human attitudes and behaviors; (4) conflict, uncertainty, and decision-making; (5) technological advancements (biotechnology, nanotechnology and geospatial technology), productivity, and forest applications; and (6) urban ecosystems.

This RFA is being released prior to the passage of the FY 2021 appropriations bill. Enactment of continuing resolutions (CR) or an Appropriations Act may affect the availability or level of funding for this program. NIFA will make adjustments to the allocations for FY 2021 once appropriations are finalized. The amount available for support of this program in FY 2020 was \$33,802,540. Appendix A of this RFA includes specific FY 2020 distributions. NIFA will issue FY 2021 payments subject to the availability of funds and the applicant having met the previous year's reporting requirements. Part III, B, identifies if matching is a requirement and, if so, you should pay particular attention to the matching instructions included in Part IV, B,4.

This notice identifies the objectives for M-S project/program, the eligibility criterion for projects/program and applicants, and the application forms and associated instructions you need to apply for a M-S grant.

2021 Updates

1. NIFA is continuing the pilot submission of a SF424a budget with budget narrative within FY 2021 capacity applications. It is NIFA's intention to provide capacity grantees with feedback from the pilot and to require capacity grantees (with the exception of Expanded Food and Nutrition Extension Program (EFNEP) grantees, who already have budget submission requirements) to submit high level capacity grant budgets with their grant applications in FY 2022, dependent on the results of the budget pilot conducted in FY2020 and FY2021. The SF424a is available on grants.gov and the NIFA grants.gov application guide has been updated with detailed instructions for completion requirements. For more information on the budget pilot, including the answers to frequently asked questions for applicants choosing to participate in the pilot, please visit the [NIFA website](#).
2. NIFA OGFMS is offering Smith-Lever, Hatch, 1890 Extension, 1890 Research, McIntire-Stennis, Animal Health Disease Research and Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) grantees the opportunity to participate in the continued pilot by submitting a SF424a budget with budget narrative within their FY 2021 applications. If you are participating in the FY 2021 budget pilot, you are required to provide information on the source of match on the SF424a Section C, along with a description in the accompanying budget narrative. Therefore, you do not need to provide an additional source of match document with your application
3. [ezFedGrants](#) is the USDA solution for grants management. NIFA will publish RFAs on its website and to Grants.gov. You will continue to apply through Grants.gov and your applications will automatically be downloaded into [ezFedGrants](#).

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PART I—FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Legislative Authority and Background

The McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Act, Pub. L. 87-778 (76 Stat.806) codified at [16 U.S.C. 582a-582a-7](#), was signed into law on October 10, 1962. This law provides the basis for federal funding in forestry research and graduate education programs at State-certified schools of forestry in the United States. Forestry Research is defined as: 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 land to improve conditions of water flow 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, disease, or other destructive agents; utilization of wood and other forest products; development of sound policies for the management of forest lands and marketing of forest products; and such other studies as may be necessary to obtain the fullest and most effective use of forest resources.

Section 7412 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 amended section 2 of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act ([16 U.S.C. 582a-1](#)-) to include the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions and made this change effective October 1, 2008. USDA contacted the Governor of each state in which an eligible 1890 institution is located about the legislative changes and has received from the Governor's Designee the names of the M-S certified institutions and the proportionate amount of the state's M-S funding that is to be allocated to each.

Funding is provided to the states through a formula-based allocation process which depends on several factors. First, a base amount (approximately \$25,000) is allocated to each State; however, this base amount is excluded from the formula. The balance of funding to each State is determined through a ranking process and dependent upon the following three factors:

1. forty percent of the remaining balance is allocated based on the area of non-federal commercial forest land;
2. forty percent is allocated based upon the volume of timber cut annually from stock; and
3. twenty percent is allocated based on the total expenditures for forestry research from non-federal sources.

Funds are then distributed to the eligible State-certified Institutions within the State as determined by the Governor's designee.

B. Purpose and Priorities

The purpose of this funding is to increase forestry research in the production, utilization, and protection of forestland; to train future forestry scientists; and to involve other disciplines in forestry research. The eligible forestry research mandated areas as defined by the McIntire-Stennis legislation are:

1. reforestation and management of land for the production of crops of timber and other related products of the forest;
2. management of forest and related watershed lands to improve conditions of water flow and

- to protect resources against floods and erosion;
3. 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;
 4. protection of forest land and resources against fire, insects, diseases, or other destructive agents;
 5. utilization of wood and other forest products; and
 6. 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.

All research projects submitted to NIFA must fall in one or more of the seven forestry research mandated areas listed above.

McIntire-Stennis aligns with the USDA Strategic Goals FYs 2018-2022

<https://www.usda.gov/our-agency/about-usda/strategic-goals>;

Goal 5: Strengthen the stewardship of private lands through technology and research.

In addition to the eligible forestry research mandated areas described above, FY 2021 funding should also address three critical goals for strengthening the M-S Program as described in the current M-S Strategic Plan: “The McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program 2017 Strategic Plan” as follows:

- a. create the future generation of forestry educators, scientists, and practitioners through graduate education;
- b. build and sustain strategic relationships that enhance overall program effectiveness and support;
- c. Communicate and educate the importance, impact, and successes of the McIntire-Stennis Program.

The M-S Strategic Plan can be accessed as follows: [M-S Strategic Plan 2017](#).

PART II—AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funding

Subject to any FY 2021 Continuing Resolution, NIFA will distribute funds to the institutions according to the amounts allocated in FY 2020. NIFA will make adjustments to the allocations for FY 2021 once appropriations are finalized. The amount available for support of this program in FY 2020 was \$33,802,540.

The Automated Standard Applications for Payment System (ASAP), <https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/asap/> operated by the Department of Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service, will be the payment system for all NIFA grant awards.

B. Type of Application

In FY 2021, submit applications to the M-S Program as a “new” application.

C. Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

In accordance with sections 2, 3, and 8 of 2 CFR Part 422, institutions that conduct USDA-funded extramural research must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity, bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, and maintain and effectively communicate and train their staff regarding policies and procedures. In the event an application to NIFA results in an award, the Authorized Representative (AR) assures, through acceptance of the award that the institution will comply with the above requirements. Award recipients shall, upon request, make available to NIFA the policies, procedures, and documentation to support the conduct of the training.

See [Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research](#) for further information.

PART III—ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

Applications may only be submitted by State-certified Schools of Forestry as stipulated in accordance with Section 2 of P. L. 87-788, McIntire-Stennis Act.

Table 1: States-Certified Schools of Forestry

School	School	School	School
Alabama A&M University	Louisiana State University	Tennessee State University	University of Minnesota
Alcorn State University	Louisiana Tech University	Texas A&M University	University of Missouri
American Samoa Community College	Michigan State University	Tuskegee University	University of Montana
Auburn University	Michigan Technological University	University of Alaska	University of Nebraska
California Polytechnic State University	Mississippi State University	University of Arizona	University of New Hampshire
California State University	New Mexico State University	University of Arkansas	University of Nevada
Central State University	Northern Arizona University	University of California	University of Puerto Rico
Clemson University	North Carolina State University	University of Connecticut	University of Rhode Island
College of the Virgin Islands	North Dakota State University	University of Delaware	University of Tennessee
Colorado State University	Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center	University of Florida	University of Vermont
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (New Haven)	Oklahoma State University	University of Georgia	University of Washington
Cornell University	Oregon State University	University of Guam	University of Wisconsin
Delaware State University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Hawaii	University of Wyoming
Florida A&M University	Purdue University	University of Idaho	Utah State Agricultural Experiment Station
Fort Valley State University	Rutgers State University	University of Illinois	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Humboldt State University	Salish Kootenai College	University of Kentucky	Virginia State University
Iowa State University	Stephen F. Austin State University	University of Maine	Washington State University
Kansas State University	South Dakota State University	University of Maryland (College Park)	West Virginia State University
Kentucky State University	Southern Illinois University	University of Maryland (Eastern Shore)	West Virginia University
Leech Lake Tribal College	Southern University and A&M College	University of Massachusetts	N/A
Lincoln University	State University of New York	University of Michigan	N/A

Award recipients may subaward to organizations not eligible to apply provided the subcontracts are necessary for the conduct of the project. Failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the time of application deadline may result in the application being excluded from consideration, or, even though an application may have been reviewed, will preclude NIFA from making an award.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

M-S Capacity grant recipients are to provide matching (see Part IV, B.4.), either cash or in-kind, on a dollar-for-dollar basis on all federal funds allotted. [16 U.S.C. 582a-3](#) states “The amount paid by the Federal Government to any State-certified institutions eligible for assistance under this subchapter shall not exceed during any fiscal year the amount available to and budgeted for expenditure by such college or university during the same fiscal year for forestry research from non-Federal sources”. The matching funds requirement is not applicable to the Virgin Islands and Guam. Eligible institutions located in other insular areas (i.e., American Samoa, Micronesia and Northern Marianas) are not required to match if the allocation is below \$200,000.

7 CFR 3419.6 states, “The required matching funds for the capacity programs must be used by an eligible institution for the same purpose as Federal award dollars: Agricultural research and extension activities that have been approved in the plan of work required under sections 1445(c) and 1444(d) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, section 7 of the Hatch Act of 1887, and section 4 of the Smith-Lever Act. For all programs, tuition dollars and student fees may not be used as matching funds.”

The matching documentation must include the non-federal sources (specify whether the source is 3rd party, cash, state or non-state, county or non-tax) and amount of all matching support including matching from outside the applicant institution. It must be in PDF format (see Part III, Section 3. of the guide for attachment requirements) and included as a separate attachment to the Attachment Form.

Applicant must establish the value of applicant contributions in accordance with applicable cost principles. Refer to 2 CFR Part 200, “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,” for further guidance and other requirements relating to matching and allowable costs. For additional information on matching requirements see Part IV, B. 4.

PART IV—APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Electronic Application Package

Submit only electronic applications via Grants.gov to NIFA in response to this RFA. We urge you to submit early to the Grants.gov system. For information about the pre-award phase of the grant lifecycle, see <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants/grants-101/pre-award-phase.html>.

New Users of Grants.gov

Prior to preparing an application, we recommend that the project director/principal investigator (PD/PI) first contact an authorized representative (AR, also referred to as Authorized Organizational Representative or AOR)¹ to determine if the organization is prepared to submit electronic applications through Grants.gov. If not (e.g., the institution/organization is new to the electronic grant application process through Grants.gov), you must complete the one-time registration process PRIOR to submitting an application. The registration process can take as long as two weeks to complete. It is, therefore, critical to begin the process as soon as possible. To register, the AR should select “**Register**” in the top right corner of the Grants.gov web page (or go to <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>).

Steps to Obtain Application Package Materials

To receive application materials:

1. You must download and install a version of [Adobe Reader](#) compatible with Grants.gov to access, complete, and submit applications. For basic system requirements and download instructions, see <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html>. Grants.gov has a test package that will help you determine whether your version of Adobe Reader is compatible.
2. To obtain the application package from Grants.gov, go to <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html> and enter the funding opportunity number in the appropriate box and click “Download Package.”

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NIFA-10202-MSCFRXXX-21-0001

From the search results, click “Download” to access the application package. A Grant Application Package is tied to a particular funding opportunity. Applications must be submitted ONLY to the particular funding opportunity to which the Grant Application Package is associated. The application package also contains the “NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.” This guide contains an introduction and general Grants.gov instructions, additional information about the Grants.gov registration process, information about how

¹The Authorized Representative (AR) must have the authority to represent and bind the organization for any agreement (i.e., the individual who is authorized to commit the awardee’s time and other resources to the project, to commit the awardee to comply with the terms and conditions of the award instrument including those set out herein, and to otherwise act for or on behalf of the awardee institution or organization).

to use a Grant Application Package in Grants.gov, and instructions on how to complete the application forms.

If you require assistance to access the application package (e.g., downloading or navigating Adobe forms) **or submitting the application**, refer to resources available on the Grants.gov website (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>). Grants.gov assistance is also available at:

Grants.gov customer support
(800)518-4726 toll-free or (606)545-5035
Business Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Closed on [federal holidays](#). Email: support@grants.gov

Grants.gov iPortal (see <https://grants-portal.psc.gov/Welcome.aspx?pt=Grants>): Top 10 requested help topics (FAQs), searchable knowledge base, self-service ticketing and ticket status, and live web chat (available 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Eastern Time).

Have the following information available when contacting Grants.gov:

1. Funding opportunity number (FON)
2. Name of agency to which you are applying
3. Specific area of concern

B. Content and Form of Application Submission

You should prepare electronic applications following Parts V and VI of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. This guide is part of the corresponding application package (see Section A of this part). The following **additional information** is needed to prepare an application for this RFA. **If there is discrepancy between the two documents, the information contained in this RFA is overriding.**

Note the attachment requirements (e.g., PDF) in Part III, Section 3 of the guide. **ANY PROPOSALS THAT ARE NON-COMPLIANT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS (e.g., content format, PDF file format, file name restrictions, and no password protected files) WILL BE AT RISK OF BEING EXCLUDED FROM NIFA REVIEW. Partial applications will be excluded from NIFA review. We will accept subsequent submissions of an application until the established deadline in the RFA (see Part V, 2.1 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for further information).**

For any questions related to the preparation of an application, review the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide and the applicable RFA. If you need further assistance, contact:

- a. Email: capacitygrantquestions@usda.gov
- b. Business hours: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. ET, excluding [federal holidays](#).

Each grant application must contain the following:

1. "Application for Federal Assistance," Form SF-424 R&R Cover Sheet (including SF-424a if participating in the Budget Pilot Program)
2. Key Contacts Form

3. NIFA Supplemental Information Form
4. Attachment Form (including attachments in PDF format)

The NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide includes instructions for additional forms that are not needed for an application in response to this RFA. Complete and submit only the forms associated with the funding opportunity package and as instructed below.

1. SF 424 R&R Cover Sheet

Information related to the questions on this form is available in Part V, 2 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. The following are additional instructions. Please note new instructions are included below for Field 5. The Organizational Information NIFA has included in Appendix A is based on FY2020 applications received for this program. If your organization intends to submit an application using information other than what appears in Appendix A, please contact us at capacitygrantquestions@usda.gov prior to submitting your application

- a. **Field 1. Type of Submission** – Check “Application.”
- b. **Field 5. Applicant Information**
 1. Enter Legal Name of the Applicant as registered in the System for Awards Management which appears in the first column of Appendix A to this RFA.
 2. Enter Organizational DUNS as it appears in the second column of Appendix A to this RFA.
 3. Enter Department Name of Eligible Recipient, if applicable.
- c. **Field 6. Budget** - For participants in the FY 2021 budget pilot, SF 424a Budget. Detailed information related to the information required on the SF 424a Budget form is available in Part V, 7 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.
- d. **Field 8. Type of Application** – Enter “new.”
- e. **Field 15. Estimated Project Funding** – For item a, enter your institution’s FY 2019 allocation as listed in Appendix A to this announcement
- f. **Field 17. Complete Certification** - See Part V, Section 2.18 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for the required certifications and assurances (e.g., Prohibition Against Entities Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements)

2. Key Contacts Form

Information related to the questions on this form is available in Part VI, 5 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

- a. **Contact 1 Project Role:** Enter the contact information for the Administrative -Technical Representative
- b. **Contact 2 Project Role:** Enter the contact information for the Administrative -Technical Representative designee, if applicable.
- c. **Contact 3 Project Role:** Enter the contact information for the Business Office Manager/Administrator for this program.
- d. **Contact 4 Project Role:** Enter the contact information for the person responsible for drawdowns.

3. Supplemental Information Form

Information related to the questions on this form is available in Part VI, 1 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. The following are additional instructions.

- a. **Field 2. Program to which you are applying.** Enter the program code name (i.e., enter “McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research”) and the program code (i.e., enter “MSCFR”).
- b. **Field 8. Conflict of Interest List.** Do not attach a conflict of interest list.

4. Attachment Form

Information related to the questions on this form is available in Part VI, 6 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. The following are additional instructions.

- a. **Felony Convictions or Tax Delinquent Status** - See Part V, Section 4.12. of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for instructions regarding mandatory Felony Convictions or Tax Delinquent Status. For Capacity programs, this mandatory information must be either included as an attached PDF and identified on the Attachment Form or appropriately answered within the “Reps and Certs” section of your SAM.gov registration.

b. Matching Requirement

If matching funds are required as specified under Part III, B. Cost-Sharing or Matching, the matching is an eligibility criterion and you must include the non-federal source documentation with the application. We will consider this documentation when ascertaining final matching requirements or in determining if required matching can be waived. NIFA retains the right to make final determinations regarding matching requirements.

The matching documentation is to include the non-federal sources (specify the type of match as third party or cash; the source of match state or non-state, county or non-tax; and the amount of match for each source) and the amount of all match support including support from outside the applicant institution. The match information should be in PDF format (see Part III, Section 3. of the guide for attachment requirements) and included as a separate attachment identified on the Attachment Form.

Establish the value of applicant contributions in accordance with applicable cost principles. Refer to 2 CFR Part 200, “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards”, for further guidance and other requirements relating to matching and allowable costs.

If you are participating in the FY 2021 budget pilot, non-federal funds information will be included as part of the SF 424a budget and accompanying budget narrative. See the NIFA grants.gov application guide for additional information.

C. Submission Dates and Times

Instructions for submitting an application are included in Part IV, of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

Applications must be received by Grants.gov by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on October 2, 2020. Applications received after this deadline will normally not be considered for funding.

In case of trouble submitting an application to Grants.gov, you should FIRST contact the Grants.gov Help Desk to resolve any problems. Keep a record of any such correspondence. See Part IV, A for Grants.gov contact information.

Once NIFA accepts your application, you may check the status of your application in the ezFedGrants portal or by looking in Grants.gov. Please refer to the training tab on the ezFedGrants page to learn how to access ezFedGrants: <https://www.nfc.usda.gov/ezFedGrants>.

If you are not able to validate that NIFA received your application contact the Agency Administrative Contact identified in Part VII of this RFA. Failure to do so may result in the application not being processed and funding being held. You should cite your Grants.gov tracking number on all inquiries until an award number is assigned.

D. Funding Restrictions

(1) Approved M-S Projects

M-S federal funding must be used on approved M-S projects.

(2) Indirect Costs and Tuition Remission

In accordance with section 1473 of NARETPA (7 U.S.C. 3319), indirect costs and tuition remission are unallowable as M-S capacity grant expenditures.

(3) Matching

See Part III, B. for additional information.

(4) Carryover of Funds

McIntire-Stennis funds are expected to be fully expended in the fiscal year of appropriation; however, funds may be carried over for up to 1 year after the end of the fiscal year for which they were appropriated. No prior approval is required to carry over funds for one additional year if the carryover is less than 50 percent. Carryover greater than 50 percent must be approved by NIFA Program Staff, no other additional carryover requests may be considered or approved. Any unused funds at the end of the period of performance must be returned to the U.S. Treasury.

E. Other Submission Requirements

You should follow the submission requirements noted in Part III, of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

For information about the status of a submitted application, see Part III, Section 6 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Award Management (SAM) – each applicant (unless excepted under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the federal awarding agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d)) is required to:
be registered in SAM before submitting its application;
provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and
continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a federal awarding agency.

If you have not complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements you may be considered unqualified to receive an award.

Your SAM registration information determines your organization ID in the ezFedGrants system, and the information must match your ASAP recipient DUNS and EIN.

PART V—APPLICATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

A. General

NIFA will review submitted documents to determine if all program, financial, and administrative requirements are met and are current.

B. Organizational Management Information

Specific applicant organizational management information shall be submitted on a one-time basis, with updates submitted as needed. If this information has not been submitted under this or another NIFA program, it is the responsibility of the organization to do so for determination of eligibility prior to the award of a grant identified under this RFA.

We will provide you the forms to fulfill these requirements as part of the pre-award process. Although an applicant may be eligible, there are factors that may exclude an applicant from receiving federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual involved or a determination an applicant is not responsible based on submitted organizational management information).

PART VI—AWARD ADMINISTRATION

A. General

Within the limit of funds available for such purpose, the NIFA awarding official shall make grants to those responsible, eligible applicants.

B. Award Notice

The notice of federal award is the authorizing document. The award document contains award provisions and other pertinent information. See [Notice of Award](#) for further details.

C. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These may include, but are not limited to, those listed at [USDA/NIFA Federal Regulations](#).

NIFA Federal Assistance Policy Guide—a compendium of basic NIFA policies and procedures applying to all NIFA awards, unless there are statutory, regulatory, or award-specific requirements to the contrary, is available at the [USDA/NIFA Policy Guide](#).

D. Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research.

Refer to Part II, C for more information.

E. Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements

The following is a description of project data reporting requirements through the REEport system (<https://portal.nifa.usda.gov/>), as well as the SF-425 reporting requirements.

1. Institutions must submit a REEport Project Initiation, which includes the Project Description, Project Classification, Assurance Form and Project Proposal through the REEport System prior to initiation of each capacity-funded project. The project must undergo a review process and be approved before it is incorporated into the Program of Research.
2. Each institution must submit a REEport Progress Report annually for each eligible project. All Progress Reports are based on the federal fiscal year and must be submitted by March 1, 2021, for the preceding fiscal year.
3. A Final Report must be submitted to NIFA through REEport for each completed or terminated project. Such reports must be submitted at the same time as progress reports on active projects and should include a summary of accomplishments for the entire life of the project.
4. A Project Financial Report must be submitted to NIFA through REEport annually for all eligible projects from the preceding fiscal year. A Project Financial Report is also required for expenditures on all state projects to be included in the non-federal funds and matching funds computation. Reports shall be made on the federal fiscal year basis.

5. Financial reporting via the SF-425, Federal Financial Report for FY 2021 is due within the ezFedGrants portal, no later than Dec. 31, 2021, for the period of performance Oct.1, 2020, through September 30, 2021, and annually thereafter until the award is closed. Information on how to access the ezFedGrants portal can be found under the training on the ezFedGrants page [ezFedGrants \(eFG\) Grants and Agreements System](#).

[McIntire-Stennis webpage](#): for additional details of annual, final technical, and financial reporting requirements.

Instructions for using the REEport system are included on the [NIFA web site](#).

PART VII—AGENCY CONTACTS

For questions regarding **M-S** projects/program, please contact:

Dr. Daniel Cassidy, National Program Leader
Division of Environmental Systems; Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment;
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
2312 East Bannister Road
Mail Stop 10000 (ten thousand)
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Linda Cambron
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For questions relating to REEport forms and submissions, please contact the Planning, Accountability and Reporting Staff; Email: electronic@usda.gov.

PART VIII—OTHER INFORMATION

The USDA NIFA home page for the McIntire-Stennis (M-S) is:
<https://www.nifa.usda.gov/program/mcintire-stennis-capacity-grant>.

APPENDIX A
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
FY 2020 Distribution of Funds to Eligible State Institutions or
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Appendix A – Final

Recipient Name	DUNS Number	State	Allocation	Required Match
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SYSTEMS GRANTS & CONTRACTS	615245164	AK	\$ 615,032	\$ 615,032
ALABAMA A & M UNIVERSITY	079121448	AL	348,629	348,629
TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY	128214178	AL	348,629	348,629
AUBURN UNIVERSITY	066470972	AL	464,839	464,839
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - FAYETTEVILLE ARKANSAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION	140031639	AR	1,008,920	1,008,920
AMERICAN SAMOA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	854990793	AS	46,083	-
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA GCM CHICAGO	961605172	AZ	209,044	209,044
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY	806345542	AZ	209,044	209,044
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIF DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES	080668243	CA	629,654	629,654
CAL POLY CORPORATION	029326246	CA	134,925	134,925
HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY SPONSORED PROG HSU FOUNDATION	014302074	CA	134,925	134,925
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION	149546160	CO	396,205	396,205
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE SPONSORED PROGRAMS	614209054	CT	120,934	120,934
CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT	877902333	CT	362,802	362,802
DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY	114337629	DE	97,210	97,210
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE	059007500	DE	145,816	145,816
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES	623751831	FL	98,703	98,703
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA DIVISION OF SPONSORED RESEARCH	969663814	FL	888,334	888,334
FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY	073459083	GA	120,586	120,586
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA OFFICE FOR SPONSORED PROGRAMS	619003127	GA	1,085,277	1,085,277
UNIVERSITY OF GUAM UOG	779908151	GU	111,730	-
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE & HUMAN RESOURCES	930124792	HI	330,557	330,557
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	005309844	IA	571,267	571,267
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO	075746271	ID	658,798	658,798
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY OFC. OF SPONSORED PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION	939007555	IL	274,692	274,692
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, THE	041544081	IL	274,692	274,692
PURDUE UNIVERSITY	072051394	IN	593,150	593,150
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY PRE-AWARDS SERVICES	929773554	KS	352,440	352,440
KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY	071317788	KY	115,231	115,231
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY	007400724	KY	652,979	652,979
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENT	786908579	LA	188,049	188,049

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LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY	069746725	LA	265,955	265,955
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER	783201833	LA	620,563	620,563
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF GRANT & CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION	153926712	MA	461,853	461,853
UNIVERSITY OF MD EASTERN SHORE LIMES	082611302	MD	131,991	131,991
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURALRESOURCES	837696475	MD	307,979	307,979
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM RESEARCH & SPONSORED PROGRAM	186875787	ME	965,155	965,155
MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY INC	065453268	MI	350,859	350,859
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN	073133571	MI	350,859	350,859
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY	193247145	MI	350,965	350,965
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA OFFICE SPONSORED PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION	555917996	MN	753,052	753,052
LEECH LAKE TRIBAL COLLEGE INC	124673919	MN	102,688	102,688
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY INC	071970164	MO	74,632	74,632
MISSOURI SYSTEM UNIVERSITY OF CURATORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI	153890272	MO	671,695	671,695
ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY	075084897	MS	228,043	228,043
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY	075461814	MS	912,172	912,172
SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE, INC.	113488399	MT	55,782	55,782
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA SYSTEM RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS	010379790	MT	668,662	668,662
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY	042092122	NC	1,118,333	1,118,333
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	803882299	ND	177,378	177,378
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA BOARD OF REGENTS UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA	555456995	NE	264,910	264,910
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION	781484048	NH	505,618	505,618
RUTGERS THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY	030501568	NJ	374,323	374,323
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS	173851965	NM	308,675	308,675
BOARD OF REGENTS NEVADA SYSTEM OFHIGHER NEVADA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION	962894411	NV	133,613	133,613
CORNELL UNIVERSITY INC OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS	872612445	NY	202,994	202,994
THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF STATE UNIVERS SUNY ESF	152606125	NY	608,982	608,982

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY THE OHIO AGRICULTURE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CENTER	171605848	OH	569,048	569,048
CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY	008873747	OH	111,631	111,631
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	049987720	OK	636,915	636,915
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY	053599908	OR	1,183,981	1,183,981
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PENN STATE	003403953	PA	811,976	811,976
UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO ESTACION EXPERIMENTAL AGRICOLA	785565735	PR	89,848	89,848
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND CONTROLLERS OFFICE	144017188	RI	155,496	155,496
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY	042629816	SC	921,390	921,390
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	929929743	SD	221,144	221,144
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY	108814179	TN	125,078	125,078
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE TENNESSEE AGRICULTURE EXPERIEN	133891015	TN	708,779	708,779
STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY	073894727	TX	471,636	471,636
TEXAS A M AGRILIFE RESEARCH	847205713	TX	471,636	471,636
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY USU	072983455	UT	199,261	199,261
VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY	074744624	VA	103,080	103,080
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE & STATE UNIV VIRGINIA TECH	003137015	VA	927,722	927,722
UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS	090003765	VI	46,083	-
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT & ST AGRIC COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT	066811191	VT	527,501	527,501
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY WSU EXTENSION AND CAHNRS	959235664	WA	493,402	493,402
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON GRANT & CONTRACTS DIVISION	605799469	WA	603,048	603,048
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS	161202122	WI	877,624	877,624
WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIV WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	874797876	WV	140,512	140,512
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY	929332658	WV	562,050	562,050
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING SPONSORED PROGRAMS	069690956	WY	286,792	286,792
Payment to States			\$ 33,802,540	\$ 33,598,644
Federal Administration			1,080,000	
Small Business Set-Aside			1,117,440	
Total Appropriation			\$ 35,999,980	