



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

Federal Demonstration Partnership Meeting



FOOD PRODUCTION
AND SUSTAINABILITY



YOUTH, FAMILY,
AND COMMUNITY



FOOD SAFETY
AND NUTRITION



INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS



BIOENERGY, CLIMATE,
AND ENVIRONMENT

September 2014



USDA NIFA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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NIFA Update

- NIFA Overview
- NIFA Policy Guide
- Farm Bill Implementation
- Request for Applications
- Financial Reporting in REEport
- Contact Information



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National Institute of Food and Agriculture

- The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- One of four USDA agencies that make up its Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area.
- Organizational Structure – see http://www.nifa.usda.gov/about/offices/pdfs/nifa_org_chart.pdf



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NIFA's Mission

To lead food and agricultural sciences to create a better future for the Nation and the world by supporting research, education, and extension programs in the Land-Grant University System and other partner organizations.

Provides funding at the state and local level and program leadership .

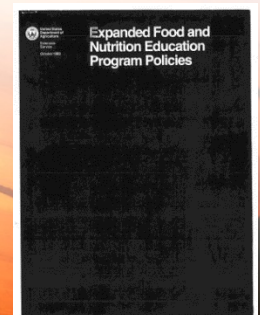
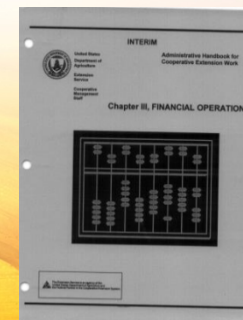
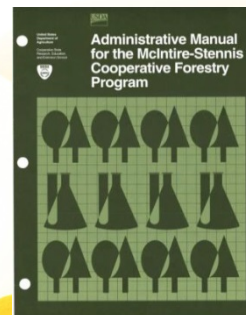
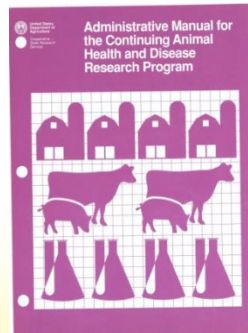
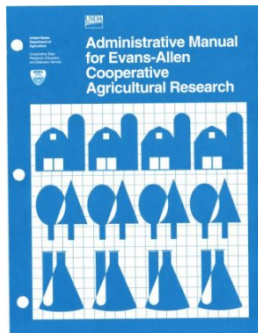


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Federal Assistance Policy Guide ("NIFA Policy Guide")

- Single, comprehensive guidance document for **competitive** and **capacity** grants
- Based on laws, regulations, USDA guidance, NIFA guidance/policy, and Administrative Manuals
- Will replace Administrative Manuals (*shown below*)





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Policy Guide Development Timeline

Current Status: Addressing Stakeholder comments

Date	Goal
✓ April 15, 2014	Comment deadline for Policy Guide stakeholder review and comment.
✓ May, 2014	Policy Guide published in Federal Register for 45 day public comment period
June – Sept, 2014	Final USDA and NIFA revisions and review
Oct. 1 2014	Final Policy Statement published and effective



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Farm Bill Implementation Update

- **Centers of Excellence (Section 7128)**
 - Synthesizing input from July 2014 webinars
 - FY15 RFAs will provide priority funding across competitive research and extension programs
- **Commodity Boards for AFRI (Section 7404)**
 - FR Notice in coming week invites stakeholder input via Sept. webinars
 - Developing procedures to invite proposals from commodity boards for RFAs on particular issues within AFRI – 100% match required



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Farm Bill Implementation Update

- **New Matching Requirement of 100%**
 - Guidance pending on covered competitive programs
 - Majority of grantees excepted
 - Non-land grants can be certified, excepted – public with 4 year food and ag science degrees
- **Farm Bill Funded RFAs Pending Release**
 - Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program \$35m
 - Biomass Research Development Initiative \$6m



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Request for Applications (RFA)

- RFAs already released - see www.NIFA.usda.gov.
- RFAs to be released in near term
 - Organic Agriculture Research & Extension Initiative (OREI)
 - Organic Transitions
 - Speciality Crop Research Initiative (SCRI)
 - IR-4
 - 15 Capacity RFAs



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RFAs - continued

- RFAs to be released in near term – continued.
 - AFRI
 - Agricultural & Natural Resources Science for Climate Variability & Change;
 - Childhood Obesity;
 - Food Safety;
 - Food Security;
 - Foundational;
 - NIFA Fellowships; and
 - Water.



Financial Reporting in REEport

- AD – 419, “Funding and Staff Support” from CRIS will be called “REEport Project Financial Report” in REEport
 - Allows NIFA to report to Congress and stakeholders more comprehensively at the project level on funds that support and are leveraged in specific subject areas.
 - Actual data fields are the same
 - Functionality is different
 - Training: Online documentation and webinars (go to http://www.csrees.usda.gov/about/strat_plan_web.html to sign up for webinar email notifications)



Financial Reporting in REEport

- All FY14 Capacity projects are to use REEport
 - due by Feb 1, 2015
- Non-Capacity Projects is being reinstated (official Memo released last month)
 - This requirement will only apply to awards made beginning October 1, 2014 (modified award terms and conditions will be included in new awards and awards receiving an increment of funding).
- REEport Contact - reeport@nifa.usda.gov



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Contact Information

Office of Grants and Financial Management

Cynthia Montgomery

- OGFM Deputy Director
- Financial Operations Division Director
- FDP Administrative Contact

Maria Koszalka Policy & Oversight Division Director

Edward Nwaba Awards Management Division Director

For a full list of OGFM staff and their contact info -
<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/awards/fundingcontacts.html>