



From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: USDA NIFA HSI Education Grants Program (USDA-NIFA-HSI-006951)

Date: September 30, 2020

UNM Researchers,

NIFA requests applications for the HSI Education Grants Program for fiscal year 2021 to promote and strengthen the ability of HSIs to carry out higher education programs that attract, retain, and graduate outstanding students capable of enhancing the nation's food, agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences (FANH) professional and scientific workforce. This 2021 NIFA HSI Program will only accept Education/Teaching Projects with potential to impact and become models for other institutions that serve underrepresented students at the regional or national level.

The HSI program will support applications from any number of disciplines in the FANH sciences. Projects that integrate social and behavioral sciences with biological sciences to provide experiential learning opportunities for students in community development programs are encouraged.

There are three grant types for the HSIs Education Grants Program, two of which are limited: Collaboration grants and Conference grants. For FY 2021, an institution may not submit more than **two Collaboration and two Conference applications as a lead institution**.

Collaboration Grants must be submitted by a group of two or more HSIs. Grants are designed to help institutions develop competitive projects, and to attract new students into careers in high-priority areas of national need. To ensure the cost-effectiveness of funded projects, the institutions will work together to **graduate a minimum of fifteen undergraduate and ten graduate students from underrepresented groups** in an Associate, Baccalaureate, MS or PhD degree program. Collaboration Grants will be funded up to \$1,000,000 total for a project period of four years.

Conference Grants support scientific meetings that bring together educators to identify research, education/ teaching, and/or extension needs, update information, or advance an area of education/teaching. Individual conference grants must not exceed \$50,000 total for a project period of up to two years.

Applicants of collaboration or conference grants are encouraged, but not required, to partner with a USDA agency in order to leverage resources and expertise for the proposed project. For complete details, please see the RFA at: <https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/rfa/HSI-RFA-FY-2020-2021-01032020.pdf>.

The deadline for Collaboration proposals is January 27, 2021; and for Conference proposals is January 28, 2021.

This is a limited competition. If you are interested in submitting a proposal to either program, please email a statement of interest with a tentative title, names of collaborating HSIs (if Collaboration type), a brief project description (200 words), and names and departments of all senior personnel by **noon, Thursday, October 15, 2020** to limited@unm.edu with the subject line indicating: **NIFA HSI Collaboration – OR – NIFA HSI Conference - your name**. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competitions Management Team may announce a call for pre-proposals.

Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.