

HSI Education Grants Program at USDA Applications Due FEB 8, 2008

Presented by Dr. Irma Lawrence
National Program Leader, *CSREES*

(202)720-1793** ilawrence@csrees.usda.gov
CSREES

2

What are we looking for?

- Projects that develop and implement academic coursework that prepares students to address the USDA/CSREES priorities and areas of need
- Projects that implement or recruit for programs in areas of student shortages on priority areas
- Projects that form partnerships among several colleges and universities to more efficiently deliver academic instruction and could positively impact large number of students

3

Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program

- Applications due February 8th, 2008
- Via Grants.gov
- Narrative 20 pages double space
- 25 to 33 percent success rate
- **New!!** Up to 3 applications per institution

4

Encouraging in FY 2008 HSI Education Grants Program

- Performance-based Objectives
- Aligning objectives with USDA's Mission
- Collaboration with **USDA agency**
- External evaluator (use up to 10% funds)
- A web page as part of dissemination
- Supplemental funds for scholarship for an underrepresented student

5



6

Guidelines

The HSIs Education Grants Program promotes and strengthens HSIs' ability to execute higher education programs in the food & agricultural sciences.

- **ALL Projects-- Duration** – 24 to 36-months
- **Regular** \$250,000 –Reg. Project
- **Collaboration--** Max \$450,000
Lead min 25% funds
- Up to \$50K additional for student scholarship
(request what you need for **ONE** scholarship)

7

NEED AREAS

- 1. Curricula Design, Materials Development and Library Resources**
- 2. Faculty Preparation and Enhancement for Teaching**
- 3. Instruction Delivery Systems**
- 4. Scientific Instrumentation for Teaching**
- 5. Student Experiential Learning**
- 6. Student Recruitment and Retention**

8



9

Applications via Grants.gov

- Register with Grants.gov to apply
- Program questions **HSIGrants@csrees.usda.gov**
- Electronic application questions
support@grants.gov
- CSREES Help Desk at
electronic@csrees.usda.gov
- **Due on February 8, 2008 at 5:00 pm EST**
- Know who is responsible to submit the application in your institution

10

USDA/CSREES Priorities

- Agricultural and Environmental Quality
- Agricultural Security
- Genomics and Food and Fiber Production
- Obesity, Human Nutrition, and Food Science
- Food Safety
- Rural and Community Development

11



12

What Academic Disciplines will you be Targeting?

- **Entomology - Plant**
- **Human Nutrition**
- **General Food & Agricultural Sciences**
- **Aquaculture**
- **Veterinary Medicine/Science**
- **Watershed Management**
- **Agricultural/Biological Engineering**
- **Entomology - Animal**
- **Environmental Sciences/Management**
- **Animal Sciences**
- **Soil Sciences**
- **Family & Consumer Sciences**
- **International Education/Research**
- **Plant Sciences and Horticulture (including Turf Sciences)**

13

Academic Disciplines (cont.)

- **Conservation and Renewable Natural Resources (includes Forestry and - Ecology/Wetlands)**
- **Food Science/Technology & Manufacturing/Food Safety**
- **Related Biological Sciences (General/Basic Biotechnology, Biochemistry, and Microbiology)**
- **Water Science/Water Resources (including Water Quality)**
- **Agribusiness Management and Marketing (incl. Erg. Economics)**
- **Agricultural Social Sciences (includes Agricultural Education, Agricultural Communications, and Rural Sociology)**
- **OTHER (Statistics, Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math)**

14



15

USDA Agencies

- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
- Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Rural Development Agency (RD)
- the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
- Economic Research Service (ERS)
- Forest Service (FS)
- Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA)
- Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- Risk Management Agency (RMA)
- Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
- National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

16

What do I include in my application?

(Electronic Application vs. Evaluation Criteria)

Five Evaluation Factors (Total 100 points)

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| ■ Potential for advancing education quality | 30 points |
| ■ Approach and cooperative linkages | 25 points |
| ■ Institutional commitment and resources | 15 points |
| ■ Key personnel | 20 points |
| ■ Budget and cost-effectiveness | 10 points |

17

Potential for Advancing Education Quality 30 points

- Likelihood to **have an impact** upon and advance the quality of food and agricultural sciences
- Likelihood of **strengthening institutional capacities** to meet **clearly delineated needs**
- Part of your **institutional long-range goals**
- CSREES/USDA's Strategic Goals and/or Objectives
- Identification of a problem or opportunity to be addressed
- Justification for the project
- Innovation *****
- Potential for advancing educational equity
- Multidisciplinary and/or problem-based focus
- Potential for adoption by other institutions

18

Approach and Cooperative Linkages 25 points

Soundness of the proposed approach including:

- Objectives
- Methodology
- Plan of operation
- Timetable
- Expected products and results, evaluation
- Dissemination plans
- Emphasis is placed on the quality of educational support provided to the applicant institution through its partnerships and collaborative initiatives, and on the potential cooperative linkages likely to evolve as a result of this project.

19

Institutional Capability and Commitment 20 points

- Institution's capability to perform the project
- Degree to which the project will strengthen its teaching capacity
- Institution's commitment to the project
- Adequacy of institutional resources (administrative, facilities, equipment, and/or materials) available to carry out the project
- Potential for academic enhancement
- Plans for project continuation/expansion beyond funding

20

Budget & Cost-Effectiveness 10 points

- Extent to which the total budget adequately supports the project
- Cost effectiveness
- Necessity and reasonableness of costs to carry out project activities and achieve project objectives
- Appropriateness of budget allocations between the applicant and any collaborating institution(s)
- Adequacy of time committed to the project by key project personnel
- Degree to which the project maximizes the use of limited resources, optimizes educational value for the dollar, achieves economies of scale
- Focuses expertise and activity on high-priority Educational Need Areas.

21

Key Personnel 15 points

- Adequacy of the number and qualifications of key persons who will develop and carry out the project
- Qualifications of project personnel who will provide for the assessment of project results and impacts and dissemination of these findings.

22

Thank You !!!

Visit our Website:

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov>

HSI Education Grants Program Website

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fundview.cfm?fonum=1094>

To Apply to be a Peer Panel Review Member

Please contact: David Sosa, (202)720-1973

dsosa@csrees.usda.gov