# USDA Sponsor Tip Sheet #07: Department of Agriculture (USDA)



# ABOUT USDA

- Funds research, development, and outreach of new varieties and technologies to mitigate animal/plant diseases and increase productivity, sustainability and quality
- Many funding opportunities provided through <u>National Institute of Food and</u> <u>Agriculture (NIFA.)</u>
- <u>Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS)</u> coordinates USDA research, education and extension across government, university and private partners.

Research, Education and Economics Action Plan priority research topics:

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- Climate and Energy Needs
- Nutrition and Childhood Obesity
- Education and Science Literacy
- Food Safety
- Global Food Supply and Security
- Rural-urban Interdependence/Rural Prosperity
- Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

# APPLYING TO USDA



## MISSION

"...provides leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition and related issues based on sound public policy, the best available science, and efficient management."

#### GOVERNANCE

The USDA is a federal executive department, led by the Secretary of Agriculture, who reports to the president. Individual programs have governance boards that provide strategic leadership.

## WEBSITE

### www.usda.gov

# ADDRESS

1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250





#### 1) Search for Grant

- a. Find a funding opportunity: search USDA site or Grants.gov
- b. Determine Eligibility
- c. Each funding opportunity page provides links to RFAs and application forms
- d. RFAs contain instructions for preparing and submitting applications

#### 2) Application Requirements

a. Plan and prepare, closely adhere to requirements

#### 3) Apply for Grant

- a. Submit your application via Grants.gov's Workspace
- b. To be considered for funding, all forms must be submitted
- c. If you missed the deadline due to extenuating circumstances, you should review the <u>late application</u> <u>consideration documentation</u> for further information

#### 4) USDA Reviews List of Grant Applicants

- 5) USDA sets up a review panel (Review Panelists Selected)
  - a. National Program Leaders (NPL) exercise principal responsibility for panel proceedings and award administration

#### 6) USDA holds Grant Panel

- a. Peers conduct online evaluation prior to meeting
- b. Peer Review Panel held; discussions to reach consensus

#### 7) USDA Reviews Applications

- a. Applicants may receive questions and have opportunity to respond
- b. The NPL considers the panel's consensus on rankings to make funding recommendations

#### 8) USDA makes award Announcements

a. Applicants selected

#### 9) Hear back from NIFA

a. Applicants notified

#### **10) USDA Administrative Review**

- a. Review of budget and other considerations necessary
- b. You may be asked to submit additional information or documentation

#### 11) Respond to Agency

a. Project may be negotiated, if applicable

#### 12) Award

a. Finalized

<u>Please Note:</u> application process varies based on type of funding - <u>competitive</u>, <u>capacity</u>, or <u>non-competitive grant</u>

### RESOURCES

- General Grant Writing Tips for Success
- Logic Model Planning Process
- Budget and Project Evaluation Webinar