



Rural Development Funding Opportunities
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Smith-Lever Special Needs Program

Funding Source: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)/ U.S. Department of Agriculture

Funds Available: Approximately \$460,000

Deadline: May 26, 2009

Overview: CSREES announces the availability of grant funds and requests applications for the Smith-Lever Special Needs Program (Extension Special Needs) for fiscal year (FY) 2009 to support innovative extension education approaches to addressing risks, hazards and disasters. The Cooperative Extension Service (CES) has an important role in reducing the impact of disasters through Extension education. The Extension Special Needs program sponsors targeted projects that enable CES to assist in preparing for, providing an educational response to, and recovering from disasters. Education programming funded by this program will help communities, families and individuals become more self-sustaining by strengthening and increasing their resiliency to disaster. Some types of hazards and disaster related events funded in previous years include uncertainties caused by losses of economic infrastructure, severe weather or other natural disasters, security breaches, human disease, or high consequence animal diseases and plant pests.

For More Info: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/09_smithlever.pdf

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for K-12 Schools

Funding Source: Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Funds Available: \$250,000 (\$45,000 Award Ceiling)

Deadline: May 29, 2009

Overview: This grants program will underwrite costs of installing renewable energy and energy efficiency equipment in K – 12 schools in Appalachia, and provide support for the implementation of associated science, environment, and business curricula in the classroom. Renewable energy equipment eligible for this RFP will include: wind power; solar power, both solar thermal or photovoltaics; fuel cells; biofuels; and geothermal systems. A range of energy efficiency technologies are also eligible for this grants program. To assist applicants develop proposals, Grants Workshops will be held on the following dates:

- March 20, Ohio University Southern, Ironton, Ohio
- March 20, Northeast State Technical Community College, Blountville, Tennessee

To reserve a place at the workshop please pre-register by sending an email to education@arc.gov noting which workshop you will be attending, and the names and contact information of all who will be attending. Walk-ins will be welcome on a space-available basis.

For More Info: <http://www.arc.gov/energy>

Renewable-Energy and Energy-Efficiency Training and Certification Programs

Funding Source: Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Funds Available: \$250,000 (\$40,000 Award Ceiling)

Deadline: May 29, 2009

Overview: This Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grants program will provide support for the implementation of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy training and certification programs for adults. These programs can be delivered by postsecondary institutions, such as vocational and technical schools, community colleges, and 4-year colleges and universities, as well as by trade associations, non-profit organizations, and government entities. These targeted training programs will be designed to help develop trained employees for supply chain jobs in the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields, as well as provide certified installers of renewable energy (wind, solar, geothermal, fuel cells, or biofuels) and energy efficiency technologies in the marketplace. The grants program will also assist in implementing energy efficiency education curricula, such as USGBC LEED, ASHRAE, IECC and other energy efficiency programming.

For More Info: <http://www.arc.gov/energy>

Funding Source: Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) / U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Funds Available: \$10,000 Award Ceiling
Deadline: June 1, 2009
Overview: The Southern Region USDA Program on Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (**SARE**) is requesting proposals for Graduate Student research projects that address issues of sustainable agriculture of current and potential importance to the Southern Region and the nation. The Southern SARE Graduate Student Grants in Sustainable Agriculture grants a one-time project maximum of \$10,000. Projects may last up to three years. A candidate may receive only one Southern SARE Graduate Student Grant during her or his graduate student career. The Southern SARE program will only consider proposals submitted, and to be conducted, by graduate students (masters and Ph.D.) enrolled at an accredited college or university in the Southern Region.
For More Info: <http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/callpage.htm>

Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Professional Development Program

Funding Source: Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) / U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Funds Available: There is no funding cap for projects. To fund a broad portfolio of projects, priority will be given to those in the range of \$50,000 to \$100,000.
Deadline: June 5, 2009
Overview: The Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Professional Development Program is requesting pre-proposals for projects of one to two year(s) duration that provide training on sustainable agriculture for agricultural professionals and educators who serve farmers and other interested people in USDA's southern region. This region includes: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.
For More Info: <http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/callpage.htm>

1890 Facilities Grant Program

Funding Source: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)/ U.S. Department of Agriculture
Funds Available: \$17.2 Million (\$1.4 Million Award Ceiling)
Deadline: June 5, 2009
Overview: The 1890 Facilities Grants Program provides funds for the acquisition and improvement of agricultural and food sciences facilities and equipment, including libraries, so that the 1890 land-grant institutions, Tuskegee University and West Virginia State University, may participate fully in the production of human capital in the food and agricultural sciences. Eligible applicants are the 1890 land-grant institutions, Tuskegee Univ. and W. Virginia St. Univ. They are: Alabama A&M Univ., Tuskegee Univ., Univ. of Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Delaware St. Univ., Florida A&M Univ., Fort Valley St. Univ., Kentucky State Univ., Southern Univ., Univ. of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Lincoln Univ., Alcorn St. Univ., North Carolina A&T St. Univ., Langston Univ., South Carolina St. Univ., Tennessee St. Univ., Prairie View A&M U., and Virginia St. Univ.
For More Info: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/1890_facilities.html

Rural Development Rural Utilities Community Connect Grant Program

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
Funds Available: \$13.4 Million (\$1 Million Award Ceiling)
Deadline: June 19, 2009
Overview: The Community-Oriented Connectivity Broadband Grant Program is designed to provide financial assistance to furnish broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where such service does not currently exist. Grant funds may be utilized to deploy broadband transmission service to critical community facilities, rural residents, and rural businesses and to construct, acquire, or expand, equip, and operate a community center that provides free access to broadband services to community residents for at least two years. Grants will be awarded, on a competitive basis, to entities serving communities of up to 20,000 inhabitants to ensure rural consumers enjoy the same quality and range of telecommunications service as are available in urban and suburban communities. Eligible applicants include the following: state governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, for profit organizations other than small businesses, and small businesses.
For More Info: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/commconnect.htm>

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

Funding Source: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)/ U.S. Department of Agriculture

Funds Available: \$191 Million (\$4 Million Award Ceiling)

Deadline: July 30, 2009

Overview: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program Section 7406 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA) (Pub. L. 110-246) (i.e., the 2008 Farm Bill) amends subsection (b) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) to authorize the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). AFRI is a new competitive grant program to provide funding for fundamental and applied research, extension, and education to address food and agricultural sciences. While AFRI covers an equally broad scope of topics and will support many of the grant types offered by the former National Research Initiative (NRI), the new authority allows greater flexibility in the types of projects funded to include: single function projects in research, education and extension, and integrated research, education and/or extension awards. AFRI is the new core competitive grant program for research, education, and extension.

For More Info: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/afri/pdfs/program_announcement.pdf

Economic Development Assistance Programs

Funding Source: Economic Development Administration (EDA), Department of Commerce

Funds Available: As of October 1, 2008, FY 2009 appropriations are not available. The FY 2008 amounts are provided for your information. Appropriations provided by the continuing resolution allocate a level of funding based on FY 2008 funding levels, but on a prorated basis until the enactment of another appropriation act, or March 6, 2009, whichever occurs earlier. Funds in the amount of \$249,100,000 were appropriated for FY 2008 and shall remain available until expended.

Deadline: September 30, 2009 (Applications are accepted on a continuing basis and processed as received).

Overview: Pursuant to the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended, EDA announces general policies and application procedures for grant-based investments under the Public Works, Planning, Local Technical Assistance, and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs that will promote comprehensive, entrepreneurial and innovation-based economic development efforts to enhance the competitiveness of regions, resulting in increased private investment and higher-skill, higher-wage jobs in regions experiencing substantial and persistent economic distress. Pursuant to PWEDA, eligible applicants for and eligible recipients of EDA investment assistance include a(n): (i) District Organization; (ii) Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; (iii) State, a city or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; (iv) institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or (v) public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

For More Info: http://www.eda.gov/ImageCache/EDAPublic/documents/pdfdocs2008/single_5fapplication_5fedap_5fffo_5ffinal_2epdf/v1/single_5fapplication_5fedap_5fffo_5ffinal.pdf