

Kansas Component of Conservation Innovation Grants

Fiscal Year 2012

Announcement for Program Funding

Lyle D. Frees

Kansas CIG Program Manager

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) was authorized as part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) under:

- ✓ **Food Security Act of 1985**
- ✓ **Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002**
and...
- ✓ **Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008**

CIG is a voluntary competitive program

- ✓ to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies
- ✓ to leverage federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection in conjunction with agricultural production

CIIG does not fund research

The purpose is to demonstrate potentially innovative technology and/or approaches

Eligibility Information

Applicant Eligibility

Under CIG, EQIP funds are used to award competitive grants to:

- ✓ non-federal governmental
- ✓ non-governmental organizations
- ✓ federally-recognized Indian tribes
- ✓ individuals

Eligibility Information

Applications are accepted from:

- ✓ all 50 States
- ✓ Caribbean (Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands)
and...
- ✓ Pacific Islands (Guam, American Samoa, and
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

Eligibility Information

Project Eligibility

- ✓ To be eligible for CIG, projects must involve landowners who meet the EQIP eligibility requirements
- ✓ Participating producers are not required to have an EQIP contract

Eligibility Information

Matching Funds

- ✓ Applicants must provide non-federal funding (matching funds) for at least 50% of the project cost (1:1 ratio)
- ✓ At least ½ of the funds used to meet this matching requirement must come from cash resources

Eligibility Information

Matching Funds

An exception regarding matching funds is made for projects funded out of the set-aside. Up to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the required matching funds for such projects (up to 37.5% of the total project cost) may derive from in-kind contributions for

Beginning or Limited Resource Farmers or Ranchers, Indian tribes, or community-based organizations comprised of or representing these entities

Kansas Component

In FY 2012, Kansas NRCS is making available \$200,000 to support CIG

The maximum award amount for any project will not exceed \$50,000

In addition, CIG will fund single- and multi-year projects, not to exceed 3 years

Deadlines

✓ Proposal Deadline

- April 27, 2012

✓ Proposal Determination Deadline

- August 10, 2012

Categories

- ✓ **Nutrient Management**
- ✓ **Energy Conservation**
- ✓ **Soil Health**
- ✓ **Wildlife**
- ✓ **CIG Project Assessment**

How to Submit

Electronically

- ✓ www.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp

Hardcopy

- ✓ Hand-deliver
- ✓ Mail

Key Points

See NRCS as your customer

- ✓ Innovative technology or approach
- ✓ Transferability
- ✓ Benefits to NRCS and agricultural producers

Summary

- ✓ **Review Announcement for Program Funding (APF)**
- ✓ **Complete and sign form SF-424**
- ✓ **Determine applicant eligibility: Federally recognized Indian tribe, state, or local unit of government, non-governmental organization, or individual**
- ✓ **Determine project location eligibility: 50 states, Caribbean (Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands), and Pacific Islands (Guam, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)**
- ✓ **Describe the involvement of landowners who meet the EQIP eligibility requirements in the project**

Summary

- ✓ Establish relation between the project and the APF topical areas
- ✓ Establish project length (1 to 3 years, starting
- ✓ October 1, 2012)
- ✓ Complete project budget information (SF424A) as required in the APF proposal section
- ✓ Establish federal funds request (up to \$50,000)
 - There is a 50% matching funds requirement
- ✓ Submit application by deadline

Contact Information

Lyle D. Frees

Kansas CIG Program Manager

(785) 823-4553

lyle.frees@ks.usda.gov

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