

# Facilitating Soils Curricula at Hispanic-Serving and Tribal Institutions

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**CSREES**

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# CSREES Priorities

- Enhance International Competitiveness of American Agriculture
- Enhance the Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural Farm Economies
- Support Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Quality of Life in Rural America
- Enhance the Protection and Safety of the Nation's Agriculture and Food Supply
- Improve the Nation's Nutrition and Health
- Protect the Nation's Natural Resource Base and Environment

# Science Education and Resources Development Unit

## Multicultural Alliances

Promote education, research & extension in the agricultural sciences for traditionally underserved communities

- 1994 Institutions (Tribal Colleges & Universities)
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- 1890 Institutions (Historically Black Colleges, land-grants)
- Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions
- Resident Instruction Grants for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas

# States with 1994 Institutions

- Arizona
- Kansas
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Wisconsin

# States with HSIs

- Arizona (12)
- California (68)
- Colorado (6)
- Florida (10)
- Illinois (8)
- Kansas (1)
- Michigan (1)
- Massachusetts (2)
- New Jersey (4)
- New Mexico (23)
- New York (12)
- North Carolina (1)
- Pennsylvania (1)
- Puerto Rico (37)
- Texas (38)
- Washington (2)

# Funding Sources with Different Potential Applicants

- Challenge Grants
- Tribal Equity
- Secondary-Post Secondary
- HSIs Education Grants Program

# For Example: Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program

- This competitive grants program is intended to promote and strengthen the ability of HSIs to carry out higher education programs in the food and agricultural sciences. Programs aim to attract outstanding students and produce graduates capable of enhancing the Nation's food and agricultural scientific and professional work force.

# 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

# Academic Disciplines Targeted

- **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)**

# Academic Disciplines (cont.)

- 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)
- Other

# What could you do?

(Choose one or more **NEED AREA(S)**)

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

# What could be the role of the HSIs and the TCUs?

- What do they have?
- What do they need?
- What do they need to do?
- Who could help them?

# What do the HSIs have? TCUs?

## Build upon what you have...Link to USDA

### COMPLEMENTARY COURSEWORK

- \* Biology and Plant Sciences
- \* Physics
- \* Chemistry and Water Quality
- \* Mathematics and Statistics
- \* Engineering
- \* Environmental Sciences
- \* GIS/GPS

# •What do HSIs get to support their idea?

A project that 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 (FY 06 Regular of Joint)
- **Collaboration-- Max \$450,000** (FY 06 Consortium)

**Notes:** About two Collaboration grants will be awarded. The lead HSI institution should retain at least 25% of the funds.

## •What do TCUs get to support their idea?

A project that strengthens HSIs' ability to execute higher education programs in the food & agricultural sciences.

- **Regular** \$70,000/year

# What do they need?

- Soils Coursework to complete requirements
  - 457 Series - Soils Conservationist
  - 458 Series - Soils Conservationist Technician
  - 470 Series – Soils Scientist

Who could Help them?

# How could you get involved?

- Develop Working Team
- Needs assessment/Resource inventory
- Determine pre-requisites
- Develop contacts
- Decide on content
- Decide on venue
- Decide on field experience
- Equipment GIS/GPS
- Implement
- Assessment/Feedback

# What do I include in the application?

## (Electronic Application vs. Evaluation Criteria)

### Five Evaluation Factors

- Potential for advancing education quality
- Approach and cooperative linkages
- Institutional commitment and resources
- Key personnel
- Budget and cost-effectiveness

# What is the Potential of the Project for Advancing Education Quality?

- 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

# What is your Approach?

## What are your Cooperative Linkages?

### 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.

# What is the Institutional Capability of my HSI to conduct the Project?

## What is the Capacity Building potential of your project?

- 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

# Is the Budget Appropriate & Cost-Effective?

- 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.

# Who are the Key Personnel?

- 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.

# Could you serve as a Collaborator?

- **Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services**
- **Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services**
- **Food Safety**
- **Natural Resources and Environment**
- **Research, Education, and Economics**
- **Rural Development**
- **Marketing and Regulatory Programs**
- **Other FEDERAL AGENCIES**

# 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](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](mailto:dsosa@csrees.usda.gov)

Notes:

Notes:

# Comments Page

- I am interested in receiving further info about \_\_\_\_\_
- Being a collaborator with \_\_\_ HSI \_\_\_ TCU
- State \_\_\_\_\_
- I am interested in providing suggestions for:
  - Curriculum \_\_\_\_\_
  - Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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■ My contact information is: \_\_\_\_\_

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