

Call for Proposals

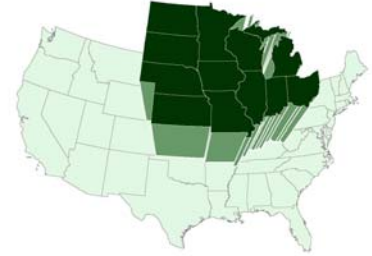
Multi-State Rural Development Research or Extension Projects North Central Region

The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD) at Michigan State University announces a competition for seed grants aimed at enhancing the ability of Land Grant institutions to positively influence the quality of life in rural areas of the North Central region of the United States (see figure).

Eligible applicants include current faculty and staff of Land Grant institutions in the North Central region and their partners.

Proposals must involve participants from at least two states and two North Central Land Grant institutions. Proposals that bridge social and biophysical sciences are strongly encouraged.

Proposals that engage both Extension and Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) personnel are also encouraged. Types of grants may include, but are not limited to:



1. Development of proposals for major funding for a rural development-related research or extension activity from a federal agency or foundation. Funds can be used for activities such as proposal team meetings, literature review, preliminary data collection, or other types of piloting. In this case the deliverable associated with the NCRCRD grant will be a fully completed proposal to another funding source.
2. Production of white papers or blogs on emerging issues of importance to rural areas of North Central states. The content is expected to influence action on the part of North Central Land Grant employees working in areas pertinent to rural development.
3. Organized conferences and proceedings relevant to topical rural development issues in North Central states (conference location must be in North Central region.)
4. Development or piloting of Extension curricula aimed at enhancing the system's ability to deliver educational programming on rural development topics.

Fixed price¹ grants may range from \$1,000 to \$20,000 each. Up to \$144,000 will be awarded. The Center does not pay overhead.

Selection criteria:

- Potential for the project to impact the ability of Land Grants to influence economic development, poverty reduction, and sustainability of rural areas of the North Central region.
- Innovation
- Quality and breadth (geographic, disciplinary) of the project team
- Measurable outcomes that enhance the Center's ability to accomplish its mission

Proposals should include:

Principal investigator contact information

¹ Alternative administrative arrangements will be considered upon request by proposal authors.

Co-Investigator contact Information

Curriculum vita of all project partners

Project narrative (5 pages maximum) including other resources (cash or in-kind) available to the project.

Time table including specific deliverable or deliverables

Budget justification

Signoff from AES Director for AES appointed PI or Co-PIs.

Signoff from Extension Director for CES appointed PI or Co-PIs.

Signoff from PI and Co-PI immediate supervisors.

Entire proposal package should be saved as one pdf and emailed to: loverid2@msu.edu

Proposals are due at 5:00 p.m. Eastern time, September 10, 2009. Pre-proposals are welcome and can take the form of a brief (half-page) project abstract and list of collaborators. Pre-proposals received before August 14, 2009 will receive higher priority for timely feedback.

Award decisions will be made at the NCRCRD meeting on October 8, 2009.

A list of frequently asked questions is available on the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development Facebook group.