

From: [Flage, Lynette](#)
To: NC-CRDPROGLEAD@LIST.MSU.EDU
Subject: FW: Request for pre-proposals - 2019 NCR Program Priority Funding
Date: Monday, June 10, 2019 3:45:03 PM

Hi to all,

Many of you are with me at NACDEP this week, so I wanted to forward this message from Robin Shepard right away about the multi-state, Extension-led project opportunity to build rural community vitality and prosperity. While in Asheville, it may be a great time to connect with others in person about the pre-proposal letters described below (and due July 12).

Enjoy your week!
Lynette

From: ROBIN L SHEPARD <robin.shepard@wisc.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2019 2:36 PM
To: naughtonb@missouri.edu; Bates, Ronald <bates@msu.edu>; Flage, Lynette <lynette.flage@nds.u.edu>; Bebo, Pat (bebo.1@osu.edu) <bebo.1@osu.edu>; 'wweber@KSU.EDU' <wweber@KSU.EDU>
Cc: 'nccea-dirs@lists.wisc.edu' <nccea-dirs@lists.wisc.edu>; Olson, Travis <travis.olson@ces.uwex.edu>
Subject: Request for pre-proposals - 2019 NCR Program Priority Funding

****Please distribute this announcement to your respective groups.***

TO: North Central Region, Cooperative Extension – Chairs and Discussion leaders for Associate Directors and State Program Leaders/Directors
Blake Naughton – Associate Directors
Ron Bates – ANR Program Leaders/Directors
Lynette Flage – CRD Program Leaders/Directors
Pat Bebo – FCS Program Leaders/Directors
Wade Weber – Youth/4H Program Leaders/Directors
COPY: North Central Region – Cooperative Extension Deans/Directors

FR: North Central Cooperative Extension Association (Robin Shepard, Executive Director).

SUBJ: Request for pre-proposal letter for the 2019 North Central Region Program Priority Funds.

The North Central Cooperative Extension Association (NCCEA) is seeking **pre-proposal letters of interest** for multistate, Extension-lead projects that address rural community vitality and prosperity in the 12 states of the North Central Region (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD and WI).

We are asking for pre-proposal letters describing your potential ideas. Of those pre-proposal letters received, one-to-three projects will be encouraged to submit full applications for competitive

funding. Ultimately, one grant will be awarded for up to \$100,000 total for a three (3) year period. Annual expenditure shall not exceed \$40,000 in any one year, and not to exceed \$100,000 over the three (3) years.

Priorities for funding, include:

- Programming that addresses trends in the agricultural economy contributing to stress in rural communities (e.g., elements of a proposal are expected to be broadly based and may including economic, political, environmental, societal, and individual health and family fiscal well-being).
- Programming that addresses rural economic challenges (i.e., workforce development, economic diversification, community development, rural and urban interdependence, etc.).

Letters of pre-proposals are due Friday, July 12, 2019 (Close of Business Day) to Robin Shepard [robin.shepard@wisc.edu] with subject line: **NCR Program Priority Funding**. The pre-proposal letter of interest should address the following in approximately 1,500 words (or less).

- A. Project Title
- B. Amount Requested
- C. Contact Person(s)
- D. What states will be involved in the project, and briefly describe who/how a project team will guide these efforts?
- E. What is the significance of the issue/problem/challenge to states in the North Central Region?
- F. How will the project integrate campus-based expertise with that of local Extension agents/educators?
- G. How will the project directly result in community-based Extension programming – what are your expectations for local Extension programming?

Again, this is a specific request for pre-proposal letters of interest – **which are due July 12 (COB)**.

If you have questions, please contact: robin.shepard@wisc.edu [608.890.2688].

Additional Background (June 10, 2019)

North Central Region – Program Priority Funds

The North Central Cooperative Extension Association (NCCEA) is seeking letters of pre-proposals aimed at increasing our multistate capacity and delivery of Extension programs within the 12-state region. This grant program is intended to stimulate leadership and innovation in addressing emerging issues across the North Central Region.

- A. Letters of pre-proposal must address priorities identified by the North Central Region’s Cooperative Extension Deans/Directors.

Priority topics include:

- Programming that addresses trends in the agricultural economy contributing to stress in rural communities (e.g., elements of a proposal are expected to be broadly based and may including economic, political, environmental, societal, and individual health and family fiscal well-being).

- Programming that addresses rural economic challenges (i.e., workforce development, economic diversification, community development, rural and urban interdependence, etc.).

Approaches should highlight:

- An integrated response by Extension and research.
- Multidisciplinary and cross-program area responses.
- The unique role and local presence of Cooperative Extension.
- Expanded partnerships with public and private sectors entities.

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B. Considerations – Required Elements:

- Multistate project teams consisting of integrated groups of Extension faculty, staff and local educators.
- Multidisciplinary approaches and teams.
- Region-wide impacts and collaboration by multiple states (at least three or more institutions with clear roles) within the North Central Region.
- Program models that can be deployed locally, within three years.
- Project approaches must be transferrable (ability to be scaled up) to other states and/or areas within the North Central Region.
- Efforts should complement current approaches and programming.
- All products and deliverables by the project must be applicable and accessible to all North Central States. *(Some form of fee generation associated with materials, publications, curriculum, etc. may be considered to support the project longer-term. However, general use restrictions, licensing, subscriptions or user fees for implementing programs created by the project within the North Central Region are not allowed.)*

C. Additional Considerations – Strongly Encouraged Elements:

- Cross-program area endorsement, support and contributions.
- Letters of support from one or more members of the regional leadership groups (CES State Program Leaders/Directors).

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Evaluating Pre-proposals and Full Proposals:

Pre-Proposal letters will be reviewed by the NCR's Cooperative Extension Directors. It is anticipated that one-to-three pre-proposals will be asked to submit full proposals for consideration of funding by mid-August. Full proposals will be reviewed by a Proposal Review Subcommittee (PRS) that is appointed by the NCCEA Executive Committee. This Review Subcommittee will (at a minimum) include: 3 Deans/Directors and 2 Program Directors. Topic/content expertise (1-3 additional members) may be invited as ad hoc members. The PRS will provide a recommendation to NCCEA's voting members (Extension Deans/Directors) for final determination of all awards.

Proposals will be judged on:

- Innovative approaches.
- Evidence of direct collaborative relationships across North Central states.
- The appropriateness of objectives.
- Feasibility in attaining objectives.

- The likelihood that states (CES) in the NCR will expand their capacity on the stated priorities.
- The likelihood that local programming will be enhanced (and offered) by this project within the life of the grant (within three years of first receiving funding).
- The sustainability of the effort and the extent to which it will generate leveraged funding, program revenue, and partnerships needed for a comprehensive response to an issue.
- The evaluation of impact (e.g., at a minimum the ability to accomplish stated objectives).
- The appropriateness of the budget.

FULL PROPOSALS WILL BE INVITED – additional elements for full proposals (follow):

- One grant will be awarded for up to \$100,000 total for a three (3) year period. Annual expenditures shall not exceed \$40,000 in any one year, and not to exceed \$100,000 over the years. NOTE: The program is considered a pilot grant program for 2019-2021.
- All proposals must identify additional funding mechanisms and show leveraged support, especially in ways that display multistate involvement. Goals for matching and leveraging are:
 - Direct cash match of 25% or greater is strongly encouraged.
 - In-kind contributions plus cash of one-to-one (100% match) is strongly encouraged.
 - Funds should not be requested to offset current faculty or staff salaries.
- The funded project will be assigned a three (3) person mentor committee for the purpose of annual review. That mentor committee will consist of two (2) NCR Deans/Directors (voting members of NCCEA) and the NCCEA Executive Director.
- The deadline for INVITED full proposals will be mid-August [specific date is to be determined].

Funds Disbursement

Reimbursement for approved projects will be made to a lead/host institution. That host institution will submit a single annual invoice to NCCEA for the completed work. That annual invoice and annual project report should be submitted at, or near the end of each federal fiscal year. All funding must be expended by September 30, 2021. A final project report shall be due by December 31, 2021. **NOTE:** Contracts will not be accepted as these are project support dollars only. More instructions will follow upon receipt of successful submission.



*North Central
Cooperative Extension Association*

**Robin Shepard
Executive Director**

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 Phone: 608-890-2688 or 608-358-8768 Additional Assistance: 608-890-2711
 FAX: 608-262-9166
 NCCEA Office email: nccea@uwex.edu WEB: www.nccea.org

