

AgrAbility – Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities

FY 2017 Request for Applications (RFA)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2017

ELIGIBILITY: See Part III, A of RFA



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRABILITY: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES

INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE: This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.500.

DATES: Applications must be received by **5 p.m. Eastern Time on February 15, 2016**. Applications received after this deadline will normally not be considered for funding (see Part IV, C of this RFA). Comments regarding this request for applications (RFA) are requested within six months from the issuance of this notice. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT: We at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) seek your comments about this RFA. We will consider your comments when we develop the next RFA for the program, if applicable, and we'll use them to meet the requirements of section 103(c)(2) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613(c)(2)). Submit your written stakeholder comments by the deadline set forth in the DATES portion of this notice via email to Policy@nifa.usda.gov. (This email address is only for receiving comments regarding this RFA and *not* for requesting information or forms.) In your comments, please state that you are responding to the AgrAbility RFA.

Your proposal has a chance to be designated under Center of Excellence (COE) criteria. A grantee whose application is not only found to be highly meritorious by a peer panel, but meets additional criteria, can receive this designation. Please visit the [NIFA website](#) to access a factsheet on the Center of Excellence (COE) designation process, criteria, and a list of programs for FY 2017. You may also review COE outreach webinars held in February and March of 2015 from the site.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: NIFA requests applications for the *Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities* (from here onward *AgrAbility*) for fiscal year (FY) 2017 to increase the likelihood that farmers, farm workers and farm family members with disabilities experience success in agricultural production. The amount available for support of this grant in FY 2017 is expected to be approximately \$4.1 million. NIFA anticipates that approximately \$540,000 will be available for support of new **State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs)**. The remainder of the funds will be used to support a competitively awarded National AgrAbility Project (NAP) and State and Regional AgrAbility project (SRAP) awards eligible for continuation. Applications for the continuing NAP and SRAPs will be solicited via separate RFAs. This RFA is being released prior to the passage of an appropriations act for FY 2017. Enactment of additional continuing resolutions or an appropriations act may affect the availability or level of funding for this program.

This notice identifies the objectives for AgrAbility projects, deadline dates, funding information, eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and application forms and associated instructions needed to apply for an AgrAbility grant.

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PART I—FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Legislative Authority and Background

The AgrAbility program is authorized under the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, as amended (7 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) and in Section 1680 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5933), as amended. Section 7403 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act (FCEA) of 2008 (P.L. 110-246) amends section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 [7 U.S.C. 343(d)] regarding eligibility.

Beginning in FY 1995, the eligibility to compete for AgrAbility funding was broadened to include 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, including Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University, the University of the District of Columbia, and Central State University. Funding is provided under Section 3(d) of the Smith Lever Act for *Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification*.

B. Purpose and Priorities

The AgrAbility program supports the United States rural communities by encompassing the USDA/NIFA's agricultural, social and human sciences. The program addresses:

- USDA's Strategic Plan for FY 2014-2018 <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/usda-strategic-plan-fy-2014-2018>
- *(Goal 1. Assist Rural Communities to Create Prosperity so They Are Self-sustaining, Repopulating, and Economically Thriving; Objective 1.2: Increase agricultural opportunities by ensuring a robust safety net, creating new markets, and supporting a competitive agricultural system);*
- 2014 USDA's Research, Education, and Economics (REE) Action Plan <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/ree-action-plan>, Goal 7 (Rural Prosperity/Rural-Urban Interdependence and Prosperity; specifically, *Strategy 3 of Goal 7: Support information and technology transfer and translational research, "transformational extension," to inform citizens and enable and support vibrant and resilient communities; and Strategy 4 of Goal 7: Build new partnerships with underserved and non-traditional populations*);
- NIFA Strategic Plan for 2014-2018 https://nifa.usda.gov/search?keyword=NIFA%20strategic%20Plan&sort_by=search_api_relevance (*Goal 1: Catalyze Exemplary and Relevant Research, Education and Extension Programs; Sub-goal 1.1: Advance our Nation's ability to achieve global food security and fight hunger; and Sub-goal 1.7: Ensure the development of human capital, communities, and a diverse workforce through research, education, extension and engagement programs in food and agricultural sciences to support a sustainable agriculture system*).
- NIFA's Agricultural Systems Portfolio priorities in the area of agricultural safety in farming and ranching, and Family & Consumer Sciences Portfolio priorities in the areas of family well-being and community vitality.

AgrAbility increases the likelihood that individuals with disabilities and their families engaged in production agriculture (AgrAbility customers) will become more successful. The program supports cooperative projects in which State Cooperative Extension based at either 1862 or 1890 Land-Grant universities subcontract to private, non-profit community-based direct service disability organizations with capacity to provide service at a state, regional or national level. Measures of success may include improved access to agricultural and life activities, improvements in the financial stability of customers and increased capacity of the states and regions to deliver services this population requires in a timely and satisfying manner.

NIFA is soliciting applications for the AgrAbility Program under the following area:

State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs)

To address the specialized needs of AgrAbility customers, the program builds service capacity on national, regional, state, and local levels through **education** and **networking**. In the absence of capacity, projects provide **assistance** to customers. AgrAbility projects use **marketing** activities to direct the public to initiatives in AgrAbility-related education, networking and assistance.

1. Education

The AgrAbility program has particular interest in funding educational activities with the following elements:

- (a) Within the context of production agriculture, learning objectives focus on accommodating disabilities and avoiding secondary injuries in persons with disabilities;
- (b) Audience includes health, farm, and government service providers;
- (c) Delivery formats include authoring or adapting printable resources, live presentations taught in-person or remotely, recorded presentations that may encourage audience interaction, and internet presence; and
- (d) Means to appraise efficacy of AgrAbility educational efforts.

2. Networking

The program has particular interest in funding networking activities with the following elements:

- (a) Objectives encourage the sharing of information among, and the provision of services, value, or funds from, individuals or organizations not employed by AgrAbility;
- (b) Partners include customers, peer supporters, volunteer groups, university student groups, stakeholders, and public and private funding organizations;

- (c) Delivery formats include the donation of goods and services of direct benefit to AgrAbility customers; and
- (d) Means to appraise economic value of services rendered to AgrAbility and its customers.

3. Assistance

Assistance addresses AgrAbility customer's immediate needs that are inadequately addressed by health, farm, and government service providers. This program has particular interest in funding assistance activities with the following elements:

- (a) Objectives focus on individualized consultative services that increase the likelihood that AgrAbility customers and their farm operations experience success;
- (b) Audience includes AgrAbility customers and others working on the same farms;
- (c) Delivery formats include product selection advice, accessibility and ergonomic recommendations; life activities and farm operations planning guidance; and advocacy to obtain service and financial aid. Assistance can occur in person or from a distance; and
- (d) Means to appraise successes experienced following intervention.

4. Marketing

Marketing does not address education, networking, or assistance objectives but is intended to make key audiences aware of an AgrAbility project and its initiatives. Appropriate marketing activities have the following elements:

- (a) Objectives concentrate on program or project awareness to the exclusion of information required to provide education, assistance, or facilitate networking;
- (b) Audience includes everyone;
- (c) Delivery formats include public appearances with displays and the production or distribution of program awareness materials, press releases, public service announcements, print advertisements, Web pages with awareness content, newsletters, or electronic notices; and
- (d) Means to link these activities with registration, information and consultation requests, and networking successes.

C. Program Area Description

State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs)

Program Area Code: *LQ* (program code name is *AgrAbility*)

Application Deadline: February 15th, 2017 (5:00 p.m. ET)

Grant Type: Collaborative

Project Type: Extension -- These projects lead to measurable, documented changes in learning, actions, or conditions in an identified audience or stakeholder group.

Proposed Budget Requests: Proposed budgets must not exceed \$180,000 per year for project periods of up to 4 years. Program anticipates making 3 new awards. Grant applications requesting more than \$180,000 per year will not be reviewed.

Program Area Contacts: Dr. Aida Balsano (202-720-4436 or abalsano@nifa.usda.gov); Dr. Steven J. Thomson (202-603-1053 or steven.j.thomson@nifa.usda.gov)

The lead applicant must subcontract to a private, non-profit community-based direct service disability organization with capacity to provide service at a state, regional or national level.

The AgrAbility program encourages proposals from 1890 Land-Grant Institutions as lead institutions. Beginning in FY 1995, the eligibility to compete for AgrAbility funding was broadened to include 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, including Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University, the University of the District of Columbia, and Central State University.

The program encourages collaborations among 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Institutions within or across state lines on joint, single grant applications, as well as with Land Grant Institutions not eligible to apply as lead institutions (such is the case with 1994 Land Grants), within or across state lines. However, all such applications must show that Land Grant Institutions collaborating on a joint SRAP proposal have a substantial and equitable involvement in the project throughout the life of the project.

PART II—AWARD INFORMATION

A. Available Funding

The anticipated amount available for the AgrAbility grants in FY 2017 is approximately \$4.1 million. NIFA anticipates that approximately \$540,000 will be available to support new SRAPs. The remainder of the funds will be used to support a competitively awarded National AgrAbility Project (NAP) and State and Regional AgrAbility project (SRAP) awards eligible for continuation. Applications for the continuing NAP and SRAPs will be solicited via separate RFAs. There is no commitment by USDA to fund any particular application or to make a specific number of awards. This RFA is being released prior to the passage of an appropriations act for FY 2017. Enactment of additional continuing resolutions or an appropriations act may affect the availability or level of funding for this program.

The Automated Standard Applications for Payment System (ASAP), operated by the Department of Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service, is the designated payment system for awards resulting from this RFA. For more information see https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/fsservices/gov/pmt/asap/asap_home.htm.

B. Types of Applications

In FY 2017, you may submit an application to the AgrAbility program only as one of the following types of requests:

New application. This is a project application that has not been previously submitted to the AgrAbility program. We will review all new applications competitively using the screening for administrative requirements and panel evaluations of proposals using evaluation criteria and selection process described in Part V—Application Review Requirements.

Resubmitted application. This is an application that had previously been submitted to the AgrAbility program but not funded. Project Directors (PDs) must respond to the previous panel review summary (see Response to Previous Review, Part IV). Resubmitted applications must be received by the relevant due dates and will be evaluated in competition with other pending applications and according to the same evaluation criteria (Part V, B) as new applications.

C. Project Types

In FY 2017, the AgrAbility program has established a maximum award size of \$180,000 per year. Applications requesting more than the maximum will not be considered for funding. Total project periods may not exceed 4 years.

Number of New Awards Anticipated for FY 2017	Estimated Minimum Award	Estimated Maximum Award
up to 3 SRAPs	\$150,000	\$180,000

AgrAbility supports two project types – SRAPs and the National AgrAbility Project (NAP). In FY 2017, NIFA is not soliciting applications for a new NAP, but it does plan to continue funding the NAP and SRAPs eligible for continuation, plus 3 new SRAPs.

Since funded SRAPs are expected to cooperate with the NAP team, both project types are explained below.

1. State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs)

SRAPs operate within a geographic area defined on the basis of counties, states, or both. SRAPs within the same State may function independently of each other. States with insufficient potential clientele to merit individual AgrAbility projects or seeking to partner with 1862, 1890 and/or 1994 institutions outside their state, may submit regional, multi-state proposals.

At a minimum, the lead (i.e. primary) institutions on a SRAP grant applicant must subcontract to one private, non-profit community-based direct service disability organization with capacity to provide service at a state, regional or national level..

Applicants proposing to serve remote and/or diverse customer populations may wish to form partnerships that include one or more Land Grant Institutions, Non-Land Grant Institutions, Hispanic-serving Institutions, or additional private non-profit community-based organizations to effectively serve the entire population eligible to receive AgrAbility services.

SRAPs receive technical assistance and networking support from NAP. They also submit cumulative client demographics data and monthly activities reports to NAP. NIFA views the relationship between the SRAPs and the NAP as critical to the success of the AgrAbility program overall. Hence, prior to applying for AgrAbility funding from NIFA, applicants should contact the current [NAP](#) for detailed information concerning standard operating procedures, best field practices, and access to the NAP's library of AgrAbility-related instructional materials.

SRAP applicants may propose projects with budgets for a maximum duration of four years. **The project period should begin approximately May 1st, 2017. It is anticipated that FY 2017 appropriations will fund the awarded project's first-year budget. Each project may submit a request for up to \$180,000 per year for each year of requested funding.** Funding levels will be adjusted based on technical review of the projects and budget constraints. Multi-year funding will depend on the availability of funds and the demonstration of satisfactory annual progress. Thus, all proposals must include specific, measurable accomplishments for each project year.

SRAP commitments include: attending annual national training workshops with at least one representative from each of the lead university and non-profit community-based direct service disability organizations partners (two-person minimum); participating in NAP-led efforts to collect project outcome and impact data across AgrAbility projects;

and submitting annual and final reports to NIFA (see Part VI, D.). SRAP applicants may request within their proposals funds to pay for these commitments.

2. The National AgrAbility Project (NAP)

NAP helps SRAPs become more successful at meeting their objectives. NAP typically produces or recommends the education materials or forums, networking tactics, assistance protocols, and marketing products SRAPs adopt for their own use. NAP connects all SRAPs by: moderating information sharing forums; identifying, promoting, and addressing opportunities and challenges for AgrAbility; recognizing and capitalizing on economies of scale; and evaluating the program's impacts annually. The NAP also provides limited, on-demand SRAP-type services in geographic areas without SRAPs.

Annually, NAP develops and implements the AgrAbility National Training Workshop (NTW). NTW educates project personnel in addition to the standard education audience. The workshop delivers many sessions, including those focused on new staff orientation; staff development; forums for discussing pressing issues and project progress, successes and failures; and presentation of reports of interest to the entire program.

As noted previously, NIFA views the relationship between SRAPs and NAP as critical to the delivery of a successful AgrAbility program. Because SRAPs symbiotically interact with NAP, failure to comply with NAP's operating, documentation, and reporting requirements will result in NAP suspending service and NIFA suspending funding to the non-compliant SRAP. Prior to applying, applicants should contact NAP for detailed information concerning standard operating procedures and best field practices.

Since FY 2008, NAP has been housed with and led by Purdue University. Applicants may contact NAP at: the National AgrAbility Project; c/o Purdue University; Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering; 225 S. University St.; West Lafayette, IN 47907-2093 Voice/TT (800) 825-4264; Fax: (765) 496-1356; Web: <http://www.agrability.org>.

All delivery formats, training, and educational programs should be marketed as the AgrAbility Project and use the AgrAbility logo (see below). Other branding on any materials produced through this grant requires consent of the NIFA program contact.



D. Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

“In accordance with sections 2, 3, and 8 of 2 CFR Part 422, institutions that conduct USDA-funded extramural research must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity, bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, and maintain and effectively communicate and train their staff regarding policies and procedures. In the event an application to NIFA results in an award, the Authorized Representative (AR) assures, through acceptance of the award that the institution will comply with the above requirements. Award recipients shall, upon request, make available to NIFA the policies, procedures, and documentation to support the conduct of the training. See <http://nifa.usda.gov/responsible-and-ethical-conduct-research> for more information.”

PART III—ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted only by Cooperative Extension at 1862 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, including the University of the District of Columbia, Tuskegee University, West Virginia State University, and Central State University.

Applicants must partner on their projects with private non-profit community-based direct service disability organizations with capacity to provide service at a state, regional or national level.

Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply (such as 1994 Land-Grant Colleges, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, eXtension) provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project.

The 1862 and 1890 Land Grant Institutions may partner with each other and/or other Land Grant Institutions (e.g., 1994 Land Grants) and Non-Land Grant Institutions within their state or their region on joint proposals.

Failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the time of application deadline may result in the application being excluded from consideration or, even though an application may be reviewed, will preclude NIFA from making an award.

B. Cost Sharing or Matching

NIFA does not require matching or cost sharing support for this program, and matching resources will not be factored into the review process as evaluation criteria or during final ranking of proposals.

C. Centers of Excellence

Pursuant to Section 7214 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79), beginning in Fiscal Year 2015, for applicable competitive research and extension programs, NIFA will recognize and provide priority in the receipt of funding to applications from “centers of excellence” that implement research, extension, and education activities that relate to the food and agricultural sciences. NIFA held listening sessions in July 2014 and accepted written comments from stakeholders to inform NIFA’s implementation of the COE provision. Information from the webinars and a summary of the input are available on NIFA’s website at <http://nifa.usda.gov/centers-excellence>.

A COE is composed of one or more of the following entities that provide financial or in-kind support to the COE.

- (A) State agricultural experiment stations;

- (B) Colleges and universities;
- (C) University research foundations;
- (D) Other research institutions and organizations;
- (E) Federal agencies;
- (F) National laboratories;
- (G) Private organizations, foundations, or corporations;
- (H) Individuals; or
- (I) any group consisting of two or more of the entities described in (A) through (H).

PART IV—APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Electronic Application Package

Only electronic applications may be submitted via Grants.gov to NIFA in response to this RFA. We urge you to submit early to the Grants.gov system. For information about the pre-award phase of the grant lifecycle see <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants/grants-101/pre-award-phase.html>.

New Users of Grants.gov

Prior to preparing an application, we recommend that the Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) first contact an Authorized Representative (AR, also referred to as Authorized Organizational Representative, or AOR) at his/her institution to determine if the organization is prepared to submit electronic applications through Grants.gov. If not (e.g., the institution/organization is new to the electronic grant application process through Grants.gov), then the one-time registration process must be completed PRIOR to submitting an application. It can take as long as two weeks to complete the registration process so it is critical to begin as soon as possible. In such situations, the AR should go to **“Register,” in the top right corner of the Grants.gov web page (or go to <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>), for information on registering the institution/organization with Grants.gov.** Part II,1 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide contains detailed information regarding the registration process. Refer to item 2, below, to locate the “NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.”

Steps to Obtain Application Package Materials

To receive application materials:

1. You must download and install a version of [Adobe Reader](#) compatible with Grants.gov to access, complete, and submit applications. For basic system requirements and download instructions, see <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html>. Grants.gov has a test package that will help you determine whether your current version of Adobe Reader is compatible.
2. To obtain the application package from Grants.gov, go to <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html> and enter the funding opportunity number

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NIFA-SLBCD-006186

From the search result, click “Select Package” to access the application package. A Grant Application Package is tied to a particular funding opportunity. You may submit an application ONLY to the particular funding opportunity to which the Grant Application Package is associated.

Contained within the application package is the “NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.” This guide contains an introduction and general Grants.gov instructions, information about how to use a Grant Application Package in Grants.gov, and instructions on how to complete the application forms.

If you require assistance to access the application package (e.g., downloading or navigating Adobe forms) **or submitting the application**, refer to resources available on the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-tools-and-tips.html>). Grants.gov assistance is also available at:

Grants.gov customer support
800-518-4726 Toll-Free or 606-545-5035
Business Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Closed on [federal holidays](#).
Email: support@grants.gov

Grants.gov iPortal (see <https://grants-portal.psc.gov/Welcome.aspx?pt=Grants>):
Top 10 requested help topics (FAQs), Searchable knowledge base, self-service ticketing and ticket status, and live web chat (available 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. EST).
Have the following information available when contacting Grants.gov:

- Funding Opportunity Number (FON)
- Name of agency you are applying to
- Specific area of concern

B. Content and Form of Application Submission

You should prepare electronic applications following Parts V and VI of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. This guide is part of the corresponding application package (see Section A of this part). The following is **additional information** you need to prepare an application in response to this RFA. **If there is discrepancy between the two documents, the information contained in this RFA is overriding.**

Note the attachment requirements (e.g., PDF) in Part III, Section 3 of the guide. ANY PROPOSALS THAT ARE NON-COMPLIANT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS (e.g., content format, PDF file format, file name restrictions, and no password protected files) WILL BE AT RISK OF BEING EXCLUDED FROM NIFA REVIEW. Grants.gov does not check for NIFA required attachments or whether attachments are in PDF format; see Part III, Section 6.1 of the guide for how to check the manifest of submitted files. Partial applications will be excluded from NIFA review. We will accept subsequent submissions of an application until close of business on the closing date in the RFA (see Part V, 2.1 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for further information).

For any questions related to the preparation of an application, review the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide and the applicable RFA. If assistance is still needed for preparing application forms content, contact:

- Email: electronic@nifa.usda.gov
- Phone: 202-401-5048
- Business hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST, excluding [federal holidays](#).

1. SF 424 R&R Cover Sheet

Information related to the questions on this form is dealt with in detail in Part V, 2 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. See Part V, Section 2.18 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for the required certifications and assurances (e.g., Prohibition Against Entities Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements).

2. SF 424 R&R Project/Performance Site Location(s)

Detailed information related to the questions on this form is available in Part V, 3 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

3. R&R Other Project Information Form

Detailed information related to the questions on this form is available in Part V, 4 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

a. Field 7. Project Summary/Abstract.

The summary should also include the relevance of the project to the goals of the AgrAbility Program. See Part V. 4.7 of NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for further instructions and a link to a suggested template.

All proposals must include an Abstract of 300 words or less. The Abstract should indicate the following, in the order listed below:

- Proposal type (New Submission or Resubmission);
- Project title;
- Names and affiliated organizations of PD, Co-PDs, and key project personnel;
- Name of the partnering non-profit community-based disability organization (if not already listed);
- Names of other partnering institutions/organizations (if not already listed);
- A brief description of main activities to be undertaken, focusing on: overall project goals, supporting objectives, and partners' roles; and
- Funding amount requested per year and in total.

b. Field 8. Project Narrative.

NOTE: The Project Narrative shall not exceed 20 pages of written text, regardless of whether it is single- or double-spaced, with standard Times New Roman 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Up to 6 additional pages are permitted for figures and tables. We have established this maximum (26 pages) to ensure fair and equitable competition.

The Project Narrative must have six distinct sections, titled and presented in the following order:

- Introduction;
- Objectives, Activities, and Timeline;
- Division of Labor;
- Performance Measurement and Evaluation;
- Management Plan;
- Budget Justification; and
- Project Sustainability Plan.

1) Introduction (25 pts)

Justify the need for the project by describing the nature and magnitude of the issue the project is seeking to address. Provide the most recent relevant data for the State(s) in which your proposed SRAP will be implemented, including data on the incidence of injuries and health issues among the farming population. Provide references for data. Explain and substantiate any assumptions made.

In addition, please address the following elements:

- Briefly discuss related programs currently available in the state(s) in which your proposed AgrAbility project will operate and how your project will address existing gaps and limitations among currently available programs/services.
- Clearly identify farming population(s) your proposed SRAP will reach out to and serve (e.g., in addition to farmers with disabilities in general, indicate if your SRAP will seek to serve specific farmer groups such as beginning farmers with disabilities, farmer veterans with disabilities, women farmers with disabilities, ethnic/racial and/or linguistic minority farmers with disabilities, etc.). Support for identifying these specific groups must be clearly reflected in the data and estimates provided for the state(s) in which the proposed SRAP will operate.
- Provide an estimate for how many new and returning farmers with disabilities you expect to serve directly during each year of the proposed project. Indicate what percentage of your SRAP clients, per year, will be from minority farmer groups you identified.
- If proposing to work with specific minority farmer groups, describe prior experience your SRAP team has had in addressing the needs of that target audience. Describe your ability and readiness to provide appropriate (i.e., ethnically-, racially-, linguistically- and socio-economically-sensitive) education, training, and outreach for such an audience(s). For example, if you will be serving Spanish-speaking farmers or Native American communities, how will you ensure that your outreach and services are culturally appropriate and understandable?
- Justify your institution's and team's ability to meet the gaps and limitations in services by detailing your accomplishments from similar projects. If the project involves collaboration between Land Grant Institutions, clearly identify each institution's relevant previous work that speaks to its ability to successfully participate on the proposed SRAP.
- Identify your non-profit community-based direct service disability organization partner. Note that such organization must have capacity to provide service at a state, regional or national level. Provide justification for selection of the non-profit disability organization partner. Clearly state the organization's previous and current work that make it a good fit for the proposed project. If the non-profit organization has worked with/served farming communities in the past, in general, and farmers with disabilities, in particular, please indicate so and describe how the organization's past

- experiences and successes will be used to ensure quality service for your SRAP customers.
- Clearly identify any other partners on the proposed project and briefly indicate how the organizations' past experiences and successes will contribute to the success of your proposed SRAP.
 - *If the proposed SRAP is currently funded by the AgrAbility program or has been funded by the AgrAbility program in the past, you must include also the following in your Introduction section:*
 - A brief history of the current/past SRAP project, including data on total number of clients served, site visits/assessments made, the data trends over time, and the role of the non-profit disability organization and other partner(s) on the project;
 - A brief account of participation in AgrAbility National Training Workshops;
 - Description of to-date efforts to contribute to NAP-led national evaluation of SRAPs' outcomes and impacts. If the SRAP has not been able to make such contributions to date, briefly describe challenges faced and how those challenges will be addressed should your proposal be recommended for funding in FY 2017.
 - If your SRAP had a gap in funding from NIFA, explain how and at what level the SRAP was sustained since it last received funding from NIFA.

2) Objectives, Activities, and Timeline (25 pts)

Projects should provide a clear description of the project objectives and activities. Please use Theory of Change Logic Model (for example resource, see https://cyfar.org/ilm_1_1). The following elements must be addressed:

- Objectives must address program priorities listed in Part I, Section B.
- Explain how the activities will help to achieve the objectives and which target audience is the intended beneficiary.
- Clearly show the relationships between objectives, inputs, activities, desired outcomes, and anticipated impacts.
- The sum of activities under each objective must lead to completion of those objectives within the 4-year maximum project duration. Group activities and associated outcomes and impacts by project year (FY 2017, FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2020).
- When describing project outcomes to be tracked, indicate when (e.g., before and/or after a given activity) you plan to monitor your project outcomes and how you intend to measure them. Outcomes monitoring plan should allow you to annually review outcomes achieved and to use results to inform, refine and adjust future project plans as needed. If you intend to participate in SRAPs Outcome Evaluation (via NAP's Quality of Life Survey) make sure that is

reflected in this section of your proposal.

- Provide a Timeline to demonstrate the duration and the sequence of project activities, as well as division of labor (as noted in the next section of this RFA). Each objective may have multiple activities. Chart against a quarterly scale, so that the Timeline depicts 4 years and 16 quarters.
- Identify implementation challenges and project procedures limitations you might encounter during the course of the proposed projects. Briefly describe how you plan to address those challenges and limitations.

3) Division of Labor (10 pts)

State Cooperative Extension System and non-profit disability organization partners may jointly or individually provide leadership for different objectives/activities.

- List State Cooperative Extension System and non-profit disability organization partner(s) collaborating on the project. For each, briefly describe type of activities for which they will provide leadership. For further details regarding division of labor, refer readers to the project timeline.
- Within the project timeline, include a column that shows responsibilities of the respective organizations under appropriate objectives/activities.
- Land Grant Institutions submitting joint applications must demonstrate that the institutions' roles and responsibilities in regards to main aspects of project development, implementation and outcome evaluation will be equitable and appropriate.
- Applicants may consult with the current SRAPs, the current NAP, or consumer advisory-type groups in developing disability organizations' role assignments.

4) Performance Measurement and Evaluation Plan (10 pts)

Proposals should contain a strong performance measurement/evaluation plan. Plans should clearly state the goals of the project and explain how project activities will lead to results (both outputs and outcomes). The plan should identify the project's most significant outcomes and explain the methods by which those outcomes will be measured. We strongly recommend that these plans include or refer to the project's logic model or theory of change. Please be as specific as possible in describing the linkages among activities, outputs, and different types of outcomes (e.g., changes in participant knowledge, awareness, competency, and behavior or changes in condition).

NIFA strongly encourages projects to include an evaluator on the project who can help develop an evaluation plan and, if funds are available, carry out the evaluation. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide additional insight into the project's achievements or missed opportunities and best practices that could be applied to future projects. For

example, a goal of an evaluation might be to explain differences in results across target populations.

5) Management Plan (10 pts)

- Provide a brief summary of key staff that will manage the proposed SRAP, their individual roles on the project, and percent of time they will be dedicating to the project. If the percentages are expected to change in Years 2, 3, or 4 of the proposed project, please indicate and provide an explanation.
- Describe how the relationship between the State Cooperative Extension System and the non-profit disability organization partner will be managed. If the proposed SRAP represents a collaboration between two or more Land Grant Institutions, provide an explanation of how the relationship between the agencies will be managed, as well as the relationship of each agency to the non-profit disability organization partner.
- Describe the fiscal and administrative oversight provided by the Land Grant Institution(s) and the non-profit disability organization partner.
- Indicate who on the team will provide the project outcomes evaluation oversight. NIFA strongly encourages projects to include an evaluator on the project who can help develop an evaluation plan and carry out/oversee the evaluation. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide additional insight into the project's achievements or missed opportunities and best practices that could inform project's future plans and activities.
- Describe planned interface with the non-profit disability organization partner around client demographics data and with NAP around SRAP client demographics data and Quality of Life Survey.

6) Budget (as below #6. R&R Budget) and Budget Justification (10 pts)

- There should be a direct relationship between the items in the budget and budget justification, as well as between budget justification and the objectives/activities contained in the Project Narrative.
- Every item in the budget should be justified in the proposal. The amount of detail depends on the nature of the project and the breakdown of costs.
- Proposed budgets for SRAPs should not exceed \$180,000 per year level or request funding for more than 4 years in total.
- Budget breakdown and justification need to be provided for each year of funding being requested.
- Annual budgets should include estimated 4-day travel costs for 2 persons minimum (one representative from the Land-Grant Institution and one from the non-profit disability organization) to attend AgrAbility NTWs. SRAPS that represent a

- collaboration between two or more Land Grant Institution should include at least one representative from each of the institutions.
- Applicants, especially those new to the AgrAbility program, are encouraged to consult with NAP in estimating costs associated with NTW attendance and project outcomes tracking.
 - In Budget Justification, costs (e.g., personnel, materials, travel, etc.) should be broken down and itemized rather than shown as lump sums.

7) Project Sustainability Plan (10 points)

- Describe steps you will undertake during the course of the proposed SRAP activities to ensure project's sustainability beyond the life of the NIFA AgrAbility grant. Include your proposed project sustainability activities in the proposal timeline.
- Identify opportunities (e.g., resources, trainings, collaborations) you plan to tap-into/develop/enhance during the life of the proposed project that will help you sustain program operations after NIFA funding has expired.
- Describe how you plan to track your project sustainability planning efforts during the course of the proposed SRAP implementation.

8) Center of Excellence Justification

For consideration as a COE, you must provide a brief justification statement, as part of your Project Narrative and within the page limits provided, which describes how you meet the standards of a COE, based on the following criteria:

(A) The ability of the COE to ensure coordination and cost effectiveness by reducing unnecessarily duplicative efforts in the research, teaching, and extension activities outlined in this application;

(B) In addition to any applicable matching requirements, the ability of the COE to leverage available resources by using public-private partnerships among agricultural industry groups, institutions of higher education, and the federal government in the proposed research and/or extension activities outlined in this application. Resources leveraged should be commensurate with the size of the award;

(C) The planned scope and capability of the COE to implement teaching initiatives that increase awareness and effectively disseminate solutions to target audiences through extension activities of the proposed research and/or extension activity outlined in this application; and

(D) The ability or capacity of the COE to increase the economic returns to rural communities by identifying, attracting, and directing funds to high-priority agricultural issues in support of and as a result of the implementation of the proposed research and/or extension activity outlined in this application.

Additionally, where practicable (not required), COE applicants should describe proposed efforts to improve teaching capacity and infrastructure at colleges and universities (including land-grant colleges and universities, cooperating forestry schools, certified Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) (list of certified NLGCA is available at http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/pdfs/nlgca_colleges.pdf), and schools of veterinary medicine).

c. Field 12. Add Other Attachments

See Part V. Section 4.12 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide (Field 12 on the form) for instructions regarding mandatory Felony Convictions or Tax Delinquent Status.

- **Re-submitted Application’s Response to Previous Review - PDF Attachment.** One-page Limit. Title the attachment as “ResponseToPreviousReview”. This requirement only applies to “Resubmitted Applications” as described under Part II, B. (2), “Types of Applications”. PDs must respond to the previous review panel summary. If desired, additional comments may be included in the text of the Project Narrative, subject to the page limitations of that section.
- **Letter of Commitment from the Non-Profit Partner** stating the non-profit organization’s readiness to collaborate on the proposed SRAP and describing the organization’s specific role on the project. Title the attachment as “NonProfitLetter”.
- **Letter(s) of Commitment from other Collaborators on the Proposed SRAP** (e.g., 1862, 1890 or 1994 Land Grant Institutions, Minority Serving Institutions, eXtension.) The letters should state partner institution’s readiness to collaborate on the proposed SRAP and describe the partner’s specific role on the project.

(Note: If partnering with eXtension, you must have a letter of acknowledgement from eXtension and a letter of commitment from the Ag Safety and Health Community of Practice. For detailed guidance on how to partner with eXtension, go to <http://create.extension.org/node/2057>.) Title the attachment(s) as, for example, “LGULetter”, “MSILetter” or “eXtensionLetter”.

4. R&R Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

Detailed information related to the questions on this form is available in Part V, 5 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. This section of the guide includes instructions about senior/key person profile requirements, and details about the biographical sketch and the current and pending support, including a link to a suggested template for the current and pending support.

5. R&R Personal Data – As noted in Part V, 6 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide, the submission of this information is voluntary and is not a precondition of award. Part V.6 also notes the importance and use of the information.

6. R&R Budget

Detailed information related to the questions on this form is available in Part V, 7 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

7. Supplemental Information Form

Detailed information related to the questions on this form is available in Part VI, 1 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

a. Field 2. Program to which you are applying. Enter the program code name (i.e., enter “AgrAbility”) and the program code (i.e., enter “LQ”). Note that accurate entry of the program code is very important for proper and timely processing of an application.

b. Field 8. Conflict of Interest List. See Part VI, 1.8 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide for further instructions and a link to a suggested template.

c. Field 9. Bibliography

No page limit. Submit as an attachment in PDF format. Title the attachment as “BibliographyReferencesCited”.

All work cited in the proposal must be referenced in this section of the application. All references must be complete, include titles and all co-authors, conform to an acceptable journal format, and be listed in alphabetical order using the last name of the first author or listed by number in the order of citation.

C. Submission Dates and Times

We recommend that you conduct an administrative review of the application before submission of it via Grants.gov to ensure that it complies with all preparation instructions. An application checklist is included in Part VII of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide to assist with this review.

While the checklist should be used to check the application for completeness, the application should be checked for the following required item(s). This is not an exhaustive list of required items; it only serves to highlight required items that are sometimes overlooked by applicants:

- Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Theory of Change Logic Model
- Timeline
- Bibliography
- Current and Pending Support forms
- Conflict of Interest forms
- Response to Previous Review
- Letters of Commitment

Instructions for submitting an application are included in Part IV, Section 1.9 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

Applications must be received by Grants.gov by **5 p.m. Eastern Time on February 15th, 2017**. Applications received after this deadline will normally not be considered for funding.

If you have trouble submitting an application to Grants.gov, you should FIRST contact the Grants.gov Help Desk to resolve any problems. Keep a record of any such correspondence. See Part IV. A for Grants.gov contact information.

We send email correspondence to the AR regarding the status of submitted applications. We strongly encourage you to provide accurate email addresses, where designated, on the SF-424 R&R Application for Federal Assistance.

If the AR has not received correspondence **from NIFA** regarding a submitted application within 30 days of the established deadline, contact the Agency Contact identified in Part VII of the RFA and request the proposal number assigned to the application. **Failure to do so may result in the application not being considered for funding by the peer review panel. Once the application has been assigned a proposal number, you should cite this number on all future correspondence.**

D. Funding Restrictions

Pursuant to Section 1473 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (NARETPA), as amended, 7 U.S.C. 3319, **indirect costs and tuition remission are not allowable costs under Section 3(d) of Smith-Lever funded projects, and no funds will be approved for this purpose.** Costs that are a part of an institution's indirect cost pool (e.g., administrative or clerical salaries) may not be reclassified as direct costs for the purpose of making them allowable.

NIFA has determined that grant funds awarded under this authority may not be used for the renovation or refurbishment of research, education, or Extension space; the purchase or installation of fixed equipment in such space; or the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of buildings or facilities.

Unallowable costs include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

1. Entertainment Costs not permitted include banquets, award ceremonies, and meals for persons not traveling on behalf of the project except when provided to maintain the continuity of a meeting, tickets to shows or sporting events, and alcoholic beverages.
2. Awards and Certificates of Achievement are disallowed by 2 CFR 200 Subpart E- Cost Principles
3. Facility Costs not permitted include the renovation or refurbishment of research, education, or extension space; the purchase or installation of fixed equipment in such space; or the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of buildings or facilities.

4. Any expense not directly related to the program or project is considered unallowable. Examples include child-care services, kitchen help hired to prepare refreshments, and promotional or appreciation gifts such as clothing, coffee mugs, or bags.

E. Other Submission Requirements

You should follow the submission requirements noted in Part IV, Section 1.9 in the document entitled “NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.”

For information about the **status of a submitted application**, see Part III, Section 6 of the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide.

PART V—APPLICATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

A. General

We evaluate each application in a two-part process. First, we screen each application to ensure that it meets the administrative requirements as set forth in this RFA. Second, a technical review panel will evaluate applications that meet the administrative requirements.

We select reviewers based upon their training and experience in relevant scientific, extension, or education fields, taking into account the following factors:

- the level of relevant formal scientific, technical education, or extension experience of the individual, as well as the extent to which an individual is engaged in relevant research, education, or extension activities;
- the need to include experts from various areas of specialization within relevant scientific, education, or extension fields;
- the need to include other experts (e.g., producers, range or forest managers/operators, and consumers) who can assess relevance of the applications to targeted audiences and to program needs;
- the need to include experts from a variety of organizational types (e.g., colleges, universities, industry, state and federal agencies, and private profit and non-profit organizations) and geographic locations;
- the need to maintain a balanced composition with regard to minority and female representation and an equitable age distribution; and
- the need to include reviewers who can judge the effective usefulness of each application to producers and the general public.

After each peer review panel has completed its deliberations, the responsible program staff of the AgrAbility program will recommend that your project be approved for support from currently available funds or be declined due to insufficient funds or unfavorable review.

The AgrAbility program reserves the right to negotiate with the PD/PI and/or with the submitting organization or institution regarding project revisions (e.g., reductions in the scope of work, funding level, period, or method of support) prior to recommending any project for funding.

We will send copies of reviews, *not* including the identity of reviewers, and a summary of the panel comments to the PD after the review process has been completed.

B. Evaluation Criteria

We will use the evaluation criteria below to review applications submitted in response to this RFA:

Evaluation criteria that will be used in reviewing applications submitted in response to this RFA will encompass all areas of the project summary and narrative as outlined and described in Part IV, B. Section 3 (R&R Other Project Information Form), Fields 7-12. As such, proposals will be evaluated on whether or not they include information requested in this RFA, the quality of information provided, and the feasibility of project's successful completion given proposed objectives, associated activities, time, and partners' commitments. Each component of the Project Narrative is assigned a specific number of points, for a total of 100 points. The points are allocated as follows: Introduction – 25 pts; Objectives, Activities, and Timeline - 25 pts; Division of Labor – 10 pts; Performance Measurement and Evaluation Plan – 10 pts; Management Plan – 10 pts; Budget and Budget Justification – 10 pts; and Project Sustainability Plan – 10 pts.

C. Conflicts of Interest and Confidentiality

During the peer evaluation process, we take extreme care to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may impact review or evaluation. See http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/competitive_peer_review.html for further information about conflicts of interest and confidentiality as related to the peer review process.

D. Organizational Management Information

Specific management information relating to an applicant shall be submitted one-time, with updates on an as-needed basis. This requirement is part of the responsibility determined prior to the award of a grant identified under this RFA, if such information has not been provided previously under this or another NIFA program. We will provide you copies of forms recommended for use in fulfilling these requirements as part of the pre-award process. Although an applicant may be eligible based on its status as one of these entities, there are factors that may exclude an applicant from receiving federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual involved or a determination that an applicant is not responsible based on submitted organizational management information).

E. Application Disposition

An application may be withdrawn at any time before a final funding decision is made regarding the application. Each application that is not selected for funding, including those that are withdrawn, will be retained by the AgrAbility program for a period of three years.

PART VI—AWARD ADMINISTRATION

A. General

Within the limit of funds available for such purpose, the NIFA awarding official shall make grants to those responsible, eligible applicants whose applications are judged most meritorious under the procedures set forth in this RFA. The date specified by the NIFA awarding official as the effective date of the grant shall be no later than September 30 of the federal fiscal year in which the project is approved for support and funds are appropriated for such purpose, unless otherwise permitted by law. The project need not be initiated on the grant effective date, but as soon thereafter as practical so that project goals may be attained within the funded project period. All funds granted by NIFA under this RFA may be used only for the purpose for which they are granted in accordance with the approved application and budget, regulations, terms and conditions of the award, applicable federal cost principles, USDA assistance regulations, and NIFA General Awards Administration Provisions at 7 CFR part 3430, subparts A through E.

B. Award Notice

The award document will provide pertinent instructions and information including, at a minimum, the information described in [2 CFR 200.210](#).

See <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html> to view current NIFA award terms and conditions.

C. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Several federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These may include, but are not limited to, the ones listed on the NIFA web page – <http://nifa.usda.gov/federal-regulations>.

NIFA Federal Assistance Policy Guide—a compendium of basic NIFA policies and procedures that apply to all NIFA awards, unless there are statutory, regulatory, or award-specific requirements to the contrary—is available at <http://nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide>.

Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

Refer to Part II, D for more information.

D. Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements

The output and reporting requirements are included in the award terms and conditions (see <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html> for information about NIFA award terms). If there are any program or award-specific award terms, those, if any, will be identified in the award.

PART VII—AGENCY CONTACT

Applicants and other interested parties are encouraged to contact:

Programmatic Contacts:

Aida Balsano, Ph.D.

National Program Leader
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Waterfront Centre
800 9th St SW
Room 4433
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 720 – 4436
Email: abalsano@nifa.usda.gov

Steven Thomson, Ph.D.

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National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Waterfront Centre
800 9th St SW
Room 3240
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 401 – 6301
Email: Steven.J.Thomson@nifa.usda.gov

Administrative/Business Contact:

Bruce Mertz

Team Leader, Team I
Office of Grants and Financial Management
National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Waterfront Centre
800 9th St SW
Room 2174
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 401 – 5062
Email: bmertz@nifa.usda.gov

PART VIII—OTHER INFORMATION

A. Use of Funds; Changes

1. Delegation of Fiscal Responsibility

Unless the terms and conditions of the award state otherwise, awardees may not in whole or in part delegate or transfer to another person, institution, or organization the responsibility for use or expenditure of award funds.

2. Changes in Budget or Project Plans

In accordance with [2 CFR 200.308](#), awardees must request prior approval from NIFA for the following program or budget-related reasons:

- (i) Change in the scope or the objective of the project or program (even if there is no associated budget revision requiring prior written approval).
- (ii) Change in a key person specified in the application or the federal award.
- (iii) The disengagement from the project for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project, by the approved project director or principal investigator.
- (iv) The inclusion, unless waived by the federal awarding agency, of costs that require prior approval in accordance with 2 CFR 200 Subpart E—Cost Principles of this part or 45 CFR Part 75 Appendix IX, “Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development under Awards and Contracts with Hospitals,” or 48 CFR Part 31, “Contract Cost Principles and Procedures,” as applicable.
- (v) The transfer of funds budgeted for participant support costs as defined in §200.75 Participant support costs to other categories of expense.
- (vi) Unless described in the application and funded in the approved federal awards, the subawarding, transferring or contracting out of any work under a federal award, including fixed amount subawards as described in §200.332 Fixed amount subawards. This provision does not apply to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment, or general support services.
- (vii) Changes in the approved cost-sharing or matching provided by the non-federal entity.
- (viii) The need arises for additional federal funds to complete the project.

The awardee will be subject to the terms and conditions identified in the award. See <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/awards/awardterms.html> for information about NIFA award terms.

B. Confidential Aspects of Applications and Awards

When an application results in an award, it becomes a part of the record of NIFA transactions, available to the public upon specific request. Information that the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be of a confidential, privileged, or proprietary nature will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by law. Therefore, any information that the applicant wishes to have considered as confidential, privileged, or proprietary should be clearly marked within the application. We will retain for three years a copy of an application that does not result in an award. Such an application will be released only with the consent of the applicant or to the extent required by law. An application may be withdrawn at any time prior to the final action thereon.

C. Regulatory Information

For the reasons set forth in the final Rule related Notice to 2 CFR Part 415, Subpart C, this program is excluded from the scope of the Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials. Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the collection of information requirements contained in this notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0039.

D. Definitions

Please refer to [7 CFR 3430, Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-formula Financial Assistance Programs--General Award Administrative Provisions](#), for applicable definitions for this NIFA grant program.

E. Materials Available on the Internet

AgrAbility program information will be made available on the NIFA web site at <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/agrability>. The following are among the materials available on the web page:

1. Information about the program
2. External resources
3. AgrAbility Projects Funded to Date