SPONSOR: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

PROGRAM: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Education and Workforce Development (EWP) Program - Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEU) – Fiscal Year 2020

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF FULL PROPOSALS PER INSTITUTION: 3

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF FULL PROPOSALS PER PI: 1

AWARD: $400,000 for projects periods of four years, or $500,000 for project periods up to five years.

OVERVIEW: The Research and Faculty Development (RFD) team in the Office of Research and Economic Development is requesting notice of intent (NOI) to apply to the Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEU) track of the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Education and Workforce Development (EWP) program, a limited submission funding opportunity. The University of Idaho can serve as the lead institution on up to three proposals to AFRI EWD REEU program, and RFD will use an internal review process to determine which proposals will be submitted to USDA. Interested individuals must submit an NOI to RFD by 5:00 p.m. PT on Monday, December 16, 2019.

SYNOPSIS: The Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEU) program area promotes research and extension learning experiences for undergraduates such that upon graduation, they may enter the agricultural workforce with exceptional skills. This initiative allows colleges and universities to provide fellowship opportunities for undergraduate students, including those from underrepresented and economically disadvantaged groups, minority-serving institutions, community colleges, and universities. Projects must provide students opportunities to 1) obtain hands-on experience in research and extension to develop skills to pursue work or graduate studies in the food and agricultural sciences; 2) receive mentoring experiences focused in the food and agricultural sciences; and 3) participate in research and extension projects or programs aimed at developing leadership skills, including communication, critical thinking, and problem solving skills, necessary to support decision making and planning.

NOTE: The AFRI EWD Program encourages projects that train participants with the skills to develop and apply Artificial Intelligence technologies to prepare them for today’s economy and jobs of the future. The AFRI EWD Program is also interested in projects that develop and ensure rural prosperity through e-connectivity, technological innovation, and rural workforce and economic development.

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Key Submission Dates:
- 12/16/2019 NOI due to RFD
- 01/06/2020 Concept paper due to RFD
- 01/24/2020 Anticipated date to notify PIs of internal review outcome
- 04/07/2020 Full proposal to USDA

(UI deadlines are at 5:00 pm Pacific Time. USDA deadlines are 5:00 pm Eastern Time.)

How to Submit NOI:
1. Click on the “Submit NOI” button below.
2. Project Title: Enter a draft proposal title.
3. Program: Choose “Other.”
4. Name of Program: Enter the name of the sponsor and program, using this format: “USDA-AFRI-EWD-REEU”
5. Click “Request.”

Questions or comments? Email Research and Faculty Development at ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu.