

§ 3430.903

§ 3430.903 Eligibility.

Applications may be submitted by either:

(a) Public or private nonprofit community colleges, or

(b) Advanced technological centers, *either of which must:*

(1) Be located in a *rural area* (see definition in § 3430.902);

(2) Have been in existence as of June 18, 2008;

(3) Participate in agricultural or bioenergy research and applied research;

(4) Have a proven record of development and implementation of programs to meet the needs of students, educators, and business and industry to supply the agriculture-based, renewable energy or pulp and paper manufacturing fields with certified technicians, as determined by the Secretary; and

(5) Have the ability to leverage existing partnerships and occupational outreach and training programs for secondary schools, 4-year institutions, and relevant nonprofit organizations.

§ 3430.904 Project types and priorities.

For each RFA, CSREES may develop and include the appropriate project types and focus areas based on the critical needs identified through stakeholder input and deemed appropriate by CSREES.

(a) In addition, priority in funding shall be given to eligible entities working in partnerships to:

(1) Improve information-sharing capacity;

(2) Maximize the ability to meet the requirements of the RFA; and

(3) To address the following two RTP goals:

(i) To increase the number of students encouraged to pursue and complete a 2-year postsecondary degree, or a certificate of completion, within an occupational focus of this grant program; and

(ii) To assist rural communities by helping students achieve their career goals to develop a viable workforce for bioenergy, pulp and paper manufacturing, or agriculture-based renewable energy.

(b) Applicants may submit applications for one of the three project types:

(1) Regular project proposal (the applicant executes the project without

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the requirement of sharing grant funds with other project partners);

(2) Joint project proposal (the applicant executes the project with assistance from at least one additional partner and must share grant funds with the additional partner(s)); and

(3) Conference/planning grant to facilitate strategic planning session(s).

§ 3430.905 Funding restrictions.

(a) *Prohibition against construction.* 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.

(b) *Prohibition on tuition remission.* Tuition remission (*e.g.*, scholarships, fellowships) is not allowed.

(c) *Indirect costs.* Subject to § 3430.54, indirect costs are allowable with the exception of indirect costs for Conference/Planning grants, which are not allowed.

§ 3430.906 Matching requirements.

There are no matching requirements for grants under this subpart.

§ 3430.907 Stakeholder input.

CSREES shall seek and obtain stakeholder input through a variety of forums (*e.g.*, public meetings, requests for input and/or Web site), as well as through a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, from the following entities:

(a) Community college(s).

(b) Advanced technological center(s), located in rural area, for technology development, applied research, and/or training.

§ 3430.908 Review criteria.

Evaluation criteria. CSREES shall evaluate project proposals according to the following factors:

(a) Potential for Advancing Quality of Technology Development, Applied Research, and/or Training/Significance of the Program.

(b) Proposed Approach and Cooperative Linkages.

(c) Institution Organization Capability and Capacity Building.

(d) Key Personnel.

(e) Budget and Cost-Effectiveness.

§ 3430.909 Other considerations.

(a) *Amount of grants.* An applicant for a regular project proposal (single institution/organization) under this subpart may request up to \$125,000 (total project, not per year). An applicant for a joint project proposal (applicant plus one or more partners) under this subpart may request up to \$300,000 (total project, not per year). A conference/planning grant applicant may request up to \$10,000 (total project/not per year).

(b) *Duration of grants.* The term of a grant for a standard RTP project under this subpart shall not exceed 5 years. No-cost extensions of time beyond the maximum award terms will not be considered or granted.

PART 3431—VETERINARIAN MEDICINE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

Subpart A—Designation of Veterinarian Shortage Situations

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 3151a; Public Law 106-107 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

SOURCE: 74 FR 32793, July 9, 2009, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Designation of Veterinarian Shortage Situations

§ 3431.1 Applicability of regulations.

This part establishes the process and procedures for designating veterinarian shortage situations as well as the administrative provisions for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA), 7 U.S.C. 3151a.

§ 3431.2 Purpose.

The Secretary will follow the processes and procedures established in Subpart A to designate veterinarian shortage situations for the VMLRP. Applications for the VMLRP will be accepted from eligible veterinarians who agree to serve in one of the designated shortage situations in exchange for the repayment of an amount of the principal and interest of the veterinarian's qualifying educational loans. The administrative provisions for the VMLRP, including the application process, are established in Subpart B.

§ 3431.3 Definitions and acronyms.

(a) *General definitions.*

Act means the National Veterinary Medical Service Act, as amended.

Agency or CSREES means the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

Department means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Food animal means the following species: bovine, porcine, ovine/camelid, cervid, poultry, and any other species as determined by the Secretary.

Food supply veterinary medicine means all aspects of veterinary medicine's involvement in food supply systems, from traditional agricultural production to consumption.

Insular area means the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the