

§ 3430.1007 Planning activities.

(a) *Required plan.* The Centers and Subcenter shall jointly develop and submit to NIFA for approval a plan for addressing the bioenergy, biomass, and gasification research priorities of the Department and the Department of Energy at the State and regional levels. To comply with this requirement, NIFA requires that the proposals from each of the five Centers be of similar format and subject matter and complementary to comprise a national program for purposes of serving as the actual “plan.” Each proposal will present a plan that includes a description of what will be done in common and collectively by the Centers and Subcenter, what each will do as a Center and Subcenter, and how each Center and Subcenter will implement its regional competitive grants program. Proposals submitted to the Sun Grant Program must be sufficiently detailed and of high enough quality and demonstrate adequate evidence of collaboration to meet this requirement. Funds available for administrative costs (see § 3430.1005(b)) may be used to meet this requirement.

(b) *Gasification.* With respect to gasification research activities, the Centers and Subcenter shall coordinate planning with land-grant colleges and universities in their respective regions that have ongoing research activities in that area.

§ 3430.1008 Sun Grant Information Analysis Center.

The Centers and Subcenter shall maintain, at the North-Central Center, a Sun Grant Information Analysis Center to provide the Centers and Subcenter with analysis and data management support. Each Center and Subcenter shall allocate a portion of the funds available for administrative or indirect costs under § 3430.1005 to maintain the Sun Grant Information Analysis Center.

§ 3430.1009 Administrative duties.

In addition to other reporting requirements agreed to in the terms and conditions of each award, not later than 90 days after the end of each Federal fiscal year, each Center and Subcenter shall submit to NIFA a report

that describes the policies, priorities, and operations of the program carried out by the Center or Subcenter during the fiscal year, including the results of all peer and merit review procedures conducted as part of administering the regional competitive research, extension, and educational grant programs; and a description of progress made in facilitating the plan described in § 3430.1007.

§ 3430.1010 Review criteria.

Panel reviewers conducting merit reviews on proposals submitted by the Centers will be instructed to ensure that proposals adequately address the plan developed in accordance with § 3430.1007 for consideration of the relevance and merit of proposals.

§ 3430.1011 Duration of awards.

The term of a Federal assistance award made under the Sun Grant Program shall not exceed 5 years. No-cost extensions of time beyond the maximum award terms will not be considered or granted.

PART 3431—VETERINARY MEDICINE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM**Subpart A—Designation of Veterinarian Shortage Situations**

Sec.

- 3431.1 Applicability of regulations.
- 3431.2 Purpose.
- 3431.3 Definitions and acronyms.
- 3431.4 Solicitation of stakeholder input.
- 3431.5 Solicitation of veterinarian shortage situations.
- 3431.6 Review of nominations.
- 3431.7 Notification and use of designated veterinarian shortage situations.

Subpart B—Administration of the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

- 3431.8 Purpose and scope.
- 3431.9 Eligibility to apply.
- 3431.10 Eligibility to participate.
- 3431.11 Application.
- 3431.12 Selection of applicants.
- 3431.13 Terms of loan repayment and length of service requirements.
- 3431.14 Priority.
- 3431.15 Qualifying loans.
- 3431.16 Certifications and verifications.
- 3431.17 VMLRP service agreement offer.
- 3431.18 Service agreement.
- 3431.19 Payment and tax liability.