

***Application Deadline: 11:59 pm on January 31, 2017***

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Supplemental Research Funding  
Enhanced Research Funding

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**For Hatch Multistate Committees that started on October 1, 2016 (4 years of funding) and  
For Hatch Multistate Committees that will start on October 1, 2017 (5 years of funding)**

**<http://ard.unl.edu/hatch-multistate-funding>**

**DESCRIPTION:** The Agricultural Research Division (ARD) / Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station (NEAES) invites faculty to participate in Multistate Research Committees that benefit Nebraska and its citizens. Multistate Research Committees involve faculty from several State Agricultural Experiment Stations that work together to solve complex scientific problems of regional or national scope.

**Faculty Travel to Annual Multistate Committee Meetings:** The NEAES will generally support reasonable travel expenses for one ARD-affiliated IANR investigator to attend the annual meeting of any national Multistate Committee. There are several types of national Multistate Research Committees including: Multistate Research Project, National Research Support Project (NRSP), Coordinating Committee (CC), Education/Extension and Research Activity (ERA), Development Committee (DC), or Advisory Committee (AC; e.g., Department Head Meetings). Faculty must be official members of the national Multistate Research Committee (listed in Appendix E of the National Multistate Research Committee). ARD will consider allocating funds for multiple investigators (that are listed in Appendix E of the national Multistate Research Committee) to attend the annual Multistate Research Committee meetings, depending upon the level of individual faculty participation and available resources. Once an annual Multistate Research Committee meeting is officially authorized, IANR faculty should contact the ARD office for account numbers and follow the UNL travel authorization procedures.

**Multistate Research Committee Programmatic Funding:** Programmatic funding will be available on a competitive basis for Multistate Research Projects (NC, NE, S, or W -xxx) or National Research Support Projects (NRSP -xx). ***Programmatic funding is not available for CC, ERA, DC, or AC projects.*** National Multistate Research Committees are governed by a five-year plan of work approved by the region and the USDA NIFA. If ARD faculty want to receive programmatic funds during the approved funding cycle (usually 5 years) for the national Multistate Research Committee *in addition to funding to travel to the annual, national Multistate Research Committee meeting*, they must submit an application for Hatch Multistate Funding by January 31 of the year in which approval for the new, national Multistate Research Committee is expected. In addition, ARD faculty may resubmit, or submit for the first time, a new or revised application for Hatch Multistate Funding during the first year of a new, national Multistate Research Committee—this application would request funding for the remaining four years of the national Multistate Research Committee. A list of previously awarded projects is available at: <http://ard.unl.edu/hatch-multistate-funding>.

There are two categories of Hatch Multistate Funding:

- Supplemental Research Funding
- Enhanced Research Funding

**Supplemental Research Funding** is designed to complement other external research funding or self-generated research funding (see “Eligibility” below) that is currently available to ARD faculty to support their overall research program in areas linked to the national Multistate

Research Committee. Multiple ARD faculty on a single Multistate Research Committee can submit one application for Supplemental Research Funding and work together as a team to accomplish the relevant goals outlined in the national Multistate Research Committee. Each ARD faculty member on the Multistate Research Committee is eligible to receive up to \$10,000/year (see below for additional eligibility requirements). In these applications, *each ARD faculty member must clearly describe their individual roles and responsibilities on the project.*

Alternatively, and especially in cases where ARD faculty are working on different objectives and different areas of science, ARD will accept more than one individual (or small group) application for a single Multistate Research Project. Supplemental Research Funds are NOT designed to serve as the sole support for any research program. If ARD faculty do not have external or self-generated sources of support for the programmatic area associated with the national Multistate Research Committee, Supplemental Research Funding will not be granted.

**Enhanced Research Funding** provides an opportunity for an individual ARD faculty or a team of ARD faculty to request additional funds to facilitate a more significant impact on the research area(s) being investigated by the national Multistate Research Committee. Enhanced Research Funding is designed to enable significant impact and productivity regardless of other available funding to ARD faculty. ARD faculty may request any amount up to \$100,000/year per Multistate Research Committee. In recent years, applications from interdisciplinary research teams have been more successful for Enhanced Research Funding than applications from individual investigators. Projects most likely to receive funding from this program are strongly linked to vital agricultural, natural resource, family/community, or nutritional interests in Nebraska. Projects supported by Enhanced Research Funding are likely to be in research areas for which additional investment would enable investigators to leverage these funds to obtain significant extramural funding.

**ELIGIBILITY:** The Project Director (PD) must have a tenure or tenure-track appointment with ARD; those with adjunct appointments or those in non-tenure track positions with Research Professor or Professor of Practice (assistant, associate or full) titles are also eligible, if they are the lead PD on a current external research grant (with a PCS code of Research in NUgrant and routed via IANR in NUgrant). Co-PDs and collaborators can be affiliated with any University of Nebraska campus, or be employed outside the University of Nebraska system. Collaborators employed outside the University of Nebraska system, however, may invoice expenses to this project.

For *Supplemental Research Funding*: 1) the lead PD on the application for Supplemental Research Funding must be the lead PD on a current, external research grant (with PCS code of Research in NUgrant and routed via IANR in NUgrant) that is related to the national Multistate Research Committee or be the PD on self-generated funding (e.g., revolving funds); and 2) if funding is requested for one or more Co-PDs (up to \$10,000 per year per Co-PD), the Co-PD(s) must also be the lead PD on a current, external research grant (with PCS code of Research in NUgrant and routed via IANR in NUgrant) that is related to the national Multistate Research Committee or be the Co-PD on self-generated funding (e.g., revolving funds).

#### **DEADLINES AND EXPECTATIONS:**

- **Faculty Travel to Annual Multistate Committee Meetings:** Faculty must be official members of the national Multistate Research Committee (e.g., listed in the Appendix E of the national Multistate Research Committee) and should follow the standard UNL travel authorization procedures. Contact the ARD/NEAES office for travel approval and account numbers well before the scheduled annual meeting.

- **Supplemental or Enhanced Research Funding:** Any ARD faculty member who wants to receive funding to support their participation in a national Multistate Research Committee must submit an application for either *Supplemental Research Funding* or *Enhanced Research Funding* for four or five years of support during the NIFA-approved national Multistate Research Committee.
  - Applications for **five** years of Supplemental Research Funding or Enhanced Research Funding are due to the ARD office by January 31 of the year the national Multistate Research Committee is scheduled to start (e.g., January 31, 2017 due date for new, national Multistate Research Committees starting **October 1, 2017**).
  - Applications for **four** years of Supplemental Research Funding or Enhanced Research Funding are due to the ARD office by January 31 of the first year of the national Multistate Research Committee (e.g., January 31, 2017 due date for new, national Multistate Research Committees that started **October 1, 2016**).

Regardless of previous Hatch Multistate Research funding allocations to ARD faculty, the maximum allocation (if awarded) will be \$10,000 per PD per year (see additional eligibility requirements for PD and Co-PDs above) for those receiving *Supplemental Research Funding*. Up to \$100,000 (per application per year) is available for those applying for *Enhanced Research Funding*. Faculty who choose to seek *Enhanced Research Funding* will be automatically considered for *Supplemental Research Funding*, if their proposal is unsuccessful in the *Enhanced Funding Program* and if they meet the eligibility requirements described above. **Revised or new applications for national Multistate Research Committees that started on October 1, 2016 should be for the remaining 4-year period starting October 1, 2017. Applications will not be considered for national Multistate Research Committees that started prior to October 1, 2016.**

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION FORMAT:** Applications for Hatch Multistate Funding will be accepted ONLY via NUgrant (<http://nugrant.unl.edu>). First-time users of NUgrant should log-in using their my.UNL username and password. To start an application, after login, click “[add new]” next to the “Internal Competitions” link.

***Information required as part of the online NUgrant application:***

1. **Project Director/Principal Investigator and CV/Biosketch** (NUgrant online form): Two-page CV must be in the PDF file format.
2. **Other Investigators** (NUgrant online form): List all other Co-Investigators. Two-page CV must be in the PDF file format.
3. **Key Personnel:** List all other essential project participants.
4. **Project Title, Start/End Dates, Support, Field, and Compliance/Export Control** (NUgrant online form): Project title must include the five-year national Multistate Research Committee number. Start and end dates must match those of the national committee (e.g., October 1, XXXX – September 30, XXXX). **An “other support” entry is essential** if applying for Supplemental Research Funding or if those seeking Enhanced Research Funding want to be eligible for Supplemental Research Funding, if their application for Enhanced Research Funding is not approved.
5. **Abstract / Non-Technical Summary** (NUgrant online form; 250 word limit): Describe the situation that creates a need for this project as well as the purpose or rationale for the project. Include general statements describing the methods to be used, the expected outcomes/impacts, and the anticipated benefits. Provide information at a level that most citizens (legislative and other public audiences) can understand. The project should describe research to be conducted at UNL and how this research relates to the goals and objectives of the national Multistate Research Committee.

6. **Project Description** (attached as a PDF file): Include sufficient detail to convince reviewers of the project's scientific merit consistent with the requirements of the program area and **written in language understandable to scientifically trained non-specialists**. The Project Description should also include information to demonstrate to reviewers that the proposed work is important/relevant to Nebraska. The Project Description is limited to 5 pages and must include the following sections (e.g., sections a-g within 5 pages):

a. Statement of Issues and Justification:

- Provide rationale/significance for the project and why the work needs to be done.
- Describe the relevance and importance of the work to citizens, businesses, farmers/ranchers in Nebraska.

b. Related Current & Previous Work:

- A summary of findings from a REEIS search (formerly CRIS) is required (<http://www.reeis.usda.gov>). The REEIS search summary should identify work being conducted to meet objectives similar to yours. If the REEIS search provides limited results, describe findings from elsewhere (including your own preliminary studies) that are supportive of the feasibility for the research.
- This section should help to define the problem under study and explain how the proposed work will supplement and extend previous work.
- A classical in-depth literature review should NOT be included within the project outline.

c. Goals/Objectives/Expected Outputs:

- List (verbatim) the overall goals and specific objectives of the national Multistate Research Committee.
- List the Nebraska-specific objectives and describe how the work at Nebraska will contribute to the goals and objectives of the national Multistate Research Committee.

d. Methods of the Nebraska project:

- Describe the methods to be used, with emphasis on the general scientific methods and any unique aspects or significant departures from usual methods.
- Include a description of how the results will be analyzed, evaluated, and interpreted.
- Identify specific research that ARD/NEAES funds will target and clearly describe:

*For Supplemental Research Funding:*

- The source and programmatic objectives of all current research funding that relates to the Multistate Research Committee. **Each PD** (and Co-PD, if applicable) must have some external source of related research funding to be eligible for Supplemental Research Funding (see "Eligibility" above).

*For Enhanced Research Funding:*

- The source and programmatic objectives of all current research funding that relates to the Multistate Research Committee.
- Plans for leveraging Enhanced Research Funding into significant external funding for the project, including timeline for submitting external applications; name of the funding source; program priorities; conversations with program officers; etc.

- e. Target Audience:
- Provide a description of the target audience(s) that will be the focus of the project.
  - Target audiences include individuals, groups, market segments, or communities that will be served by the project.
  - Where appropriate, also identify population groups such as racial and ethnic minorities and those who are socially, economically, or educationally disadvantaged.
- f. Expected Outcomes:
- Describe what will be different (change in knowledge, actions, and/or conditions) if this project is successful.
- g. Milestones and Timeline:
- Milestones are timeline-linked accomplishments that need to be completed before subsequent activities can begin, or can be completed.
  - Include a timeline for completion of the proposed studies, by objective.
- h. Previous Impact -- one additional page is allowed to describe previous impact of ARD funding (excluding start-up packages). Include the one page of Previous Impact immediately after the Project Description in one PDF.
- Faculty with previous Hatch Multistate Research or other ARD funding (excluding start-up packages) should outline outputs (publications, grants, trainees, etc.), impacts (changes in knowledge, actions, and/or conditions) generated by previous efforts and how these outputs and impacts have benefited Nebraska and the region. A description of how ARD funds have been leveraged to generate external funding for research must also be included.
  - Those faculty that have not had previous Hatch Multistate Research or other ARD funding do not need to complete this section.
- i. Literature Citations: Literature citations (references) are NOT included in the 5-page project description and may be included on one additional page. Include the one page of literature citations immediately after the Project Description or the Previous Impact section (if applicable) in one PDF.

*Type size must be 11 points or larger. Margins must be at least 1 inch on all four sides and line spacing should not exceed 6 lines of text within a vertical space of 1 inch. The file must be in the PDF file format.*

7. **Project Budget and Justification** (NUgrant online forms): The budget section should be prepared to cover the annual and total amount requested for the entire project period (4 or 5 years). Download the OSP Budget Template (old format; available at: <https://unl.app.box.com/s/guh578jtb4d88tqys3pmsk6n53rsgtfc>), enter budget information for the project, save the file as a PDF to your computer, and upload the PDF into your NUgrant application. Seek assistance from your grant specialist regarding allowable expenditures of Hatch funds (e.g., Hatch funds cannot be used to pay tuition remission). Funds from this program must not be used for construction, renovation, administrative assistance, international travel (including lodging or meals in a foreign country), summer salary for faculty, or release time for teaching. ARD must pre-approve requests to purchase equipment. Sub-awards outside the UNL system are not allowed; however, collaborators at other institutions may invoice expenses to this project.

The Budget Justification section must include a general description of costs (salaries, operating, travel, publications, etc.) for *each year* of the project as well as a justification for these annual expenses.

Departments/Units of PDs will be responsible for expenditures beyond the approved budget. Unless a formal request for a no-cost extension has been made and approved at least 30 days prior to the project's termination date, any funds remaining after the end of the project will be transferred back to the ARD/NEAES office.

**REVIEW PROCESS:** The ARD Deans will conduct an initial review of applications for Hatch Multistate Funding. Decisions on applications for Supplemental Research Funding will be made without external review. Applications for Enhanced Research Funding may be triaged by the NEAES Director and Associate Directors. ARD reserves the right to use external reviews for applications submitted to the Enhanced Research Funding program. Names of external reviewers may be solicited from faculty. External reviewers will be asked to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement. Upon receipt of external reviews, the NEAES Director and Associate Directors will make funding decisions. The NEAES Director and Associate Directors are federally authorized to approve participation in national Multistate Research Committees and to make funding allocation decisions on Hatch Multistate Research Projects. This Request for Applications is the selected method to inform the NEAES Director's decisions.

If awarded, the Lead PD will be required to enter the project outline into the USDA REEport database. Instructions for this process will be sent by e-mail after an award notification has been sent. Regardless of the funding decision on applications submitted to the Hatch Multistate Funding program, the USDA NIFA must approve the national, five-year Multistate Research Committee and the NEAES-approved application for Supplemental Research Funding or Enhanced Research Funding before funding is released by the NEAES.

The NEAES will NOT release funds, if:

- a) Your application for Hatch Multistate Funding is not approved under this competition;
- b) The USDA NIFA does not approve the new, national, five-year Multistate Research Committee;
- b) Your application, although approved by NEAES, is not approved by the USDA NIFA; or
- c) The USDA NIFA does not provide sufficient Hatch funding to the NEAES for multistate research activities.

The format of this RFA is designed to minimize the additional work by ARD faculty to initiate and seek approval of Hatch Multistate Research Projects from the USDA NIFA.

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**Applications that do not follow submission instructions or format rules will be returned without review. Applicants are strongly encouraged to ask one or more colleagues to review their application prior to submission and to clarify questions with the ARD Office (402-472-2045).**