



Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Nebraska Dry Bean Commission (NDBC) works to promote the economic well-being of the Nebraska dry bean industry by creating opportunities and fostering collaboration.

The Nebraska dry bean industry is faced with the challenge of producing enough supply of the various market classes to meet local, national and international demands while maintaining the land and resources for future generations. The purpose of this solicitation is to request proposals for developing research-based technologies and practices to enhance dry bean production, usage and marketing with the highest return for the industry. NDBC will support research that will lead toward regionally integrated system of plant production practices, dry bean usage and market development designed to produce long-term results such as:

- Sustaining economic viability of dry bean production in Nebraska
- Improving management of all inputs and resources required for production
- Mitigating threats from pests and diseases and their effects on harvest quality and return per acre
- Identifying and expanding economically significant value-added opportunities for dry beans and dry bean ingredients in the region
- Evaluating the effect of dry bean consumption on gut health and overall human health and nutrition
- Innovating new uses for dry beans and dry bean ingredients in food products, if substantial market potential exists

Proposal Submission and Contact: Submit proposal electronically in the format described below to:

Lynn Reuter, Executive Director, Nebraska Dry Bean Commission
(308) 632-1258, E-mail: dryediblebeans@nebraska.gov

The deadline for submitting proposals to NDBC is 5:00 PM Mountain Standard Time (MST) on January 19, 2024. Proposals will be considered by the NDBC members at a regular meeting in February 2024.

Award duration: Awarded funding for research projects has a duration of one (1) year. NDBC will consider funding multi-year projects. However, funds will be dispersed for only one fiscal year, with projects reviewed for subsequent funding on an annual basis.

Conditions of Funding Acceptance: NDBC requires the following reports and activities for all funded projects.

1. Quarterly financial reports submitted to the NDBC Office
2. Brief, quarterly project updates in non-technical language, including photos, videos and/or other visual aids for use on social media or other communication with the Nebraska dry bean industry.
3. Ten (10) minute verbal, non-technical report **in person** at the NDBC Research Reporting Session (usually in December). If unable to attend, the verbal report may be completed **in person** at another NDBC meeting during the year and the Research Reporting Session may be attended via Zoom or by submitting a recorded presentation.
4. Final written report submitted within 45 days of project completion or by April 1, 2025, whichever comes first.

5. Project Reports are also to be submitted to the Nebraska Dry Bean Growers Association for publication in the Bean Bag.

Application submission: Proposals should contain the following to be considered for funding.

1. **Cover Page** – Use Attached Template
2. **Budget and Budget Narrative** – Use Attached Template – Funding is based on a reimbursement of expenses as outlined in the proposal (documentation of all expenses must be submitted to receive reimbursement). Therefore, a detailed budget information is required for each line item. Project funding is granted on a year-by-year basis.
3. **Proposal Body** – limited to three (3) pages and including:
 - a. Name of commodity board receiving the application – **Nebraska Dry Bean Commission**
 - b. Project Title – as listed on the cover page
 - c. Project Year/Time Period. PI's need to indicate whether this is a new proposal or if it is a request for continuation of the next year in an existing project. If a continuation, include sequence; i.e. year 2 of 3 year project. PI's need to list the original total budget amounts for the start year, middle year, and last year in the original 2 or 3 year project. Extension Educators need to only indicate the fiscal year and time period of these one-year projects.
 - d. Identify the Principal Investigator(s) or Extension Educator(s); Department or District Center; Phone number and Email address.
 - e. Proposal Executive Summary – Brief and to the point.
 - f. Description of the research project including research locations and experimental procedures.
 - g. Statement about the novelty of the research relative to prior published research and prior/ongoing NDBC funded research.
 - h. Clear and concise set of project metrics, economic impact on dry bean farmers and performance measures, milestones and deliverables, including:
 - i. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or performance metrics and how those will be measured.
 - ii. An analysis and/or description of program/project economic impact, significance to dry bean farmers, and return on the dry bean checkoff investment.
 - i. Technology Transfer and how the results of the project will be shared to the producers and other dry bean industry members in Nebraska.
4. A **Bio-Sketch** (2-page max) & **Current and Pending Form** are required for each PI or co-PI submitting a proposal. Please submit them as separate documents from the proposal documents. If submitting more than one proposal, only submit one Bio-Sketch and one Current and Pending form.
5. **Video** – (Optional) Non-technical video less than 3 minutes in length highlighting the importance of the project to the Nebraska dry bean industry and why it should be funded.



**Project Proposal Form
Cover Page**

Project Title: (12 words or less)
Principal Investigator:
Co-Investigator(s):

Research Area (check all that apply)

- Irrigation
 Weeds
 Insects
 Disease
 Breeding & Genetics
 Crop Management Systems
 Fertility
 Human Health & Nutrition
 Innovative Food Products & Ingredients
 Other: _____

	Prior Project Funding		
	Current Year	Prior Year 1	Prior Year 2
Start Date			
End Date			
Funds Requested			

RESEARCH/EDUCATION OBJECTIVES: (Non-technical statement of objectives to be accomplished with this project.)

How does this project benefit all Nebraska Dry Bean Producers in the short-term and long-term? (in non-technical bulleted text, describe the deliverables that will be generated in this project)

Nebraska Dry Bean Commission – Proposal Budget

PROJECT TITLE:			
Principal Investigator:			
PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY	FUNDS REQUESTED FOR		
	Current Year	Prior Year 1	Prior Year 2
A. Salaries and Wages - NDBC does not pay the cost for Principal Investigators			
1. Senior Associates			
2. Research Associates — Post doctorate			
3. Other Professionals			
4. Graduate Students			
5. Undergraduate Students			
6. Secretarial			
7. Technical, Shop, Other:			
B. Fringe Benefits			
1. Faculty & Staff @ 30%, 41% or 52%			
2. Graduate Student: Tuition \$353/credit hr plus Health Ins. (\$3,205) & 8% FICA + Work Comp			
3. Part-Time Employees			
C. Non-Expendable Capital Equipment (\$5,000 or more; more than 2 years use)			
D. Travel			
1. Domestic			
2. International			
E. All Other Direct Costs - Materials & Supplies, Subcontracts, Publication Costs, etc. (Budget Narrative should list these individual items and dollar amounts separately)			
F. TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT			

INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln or _____ (complete this blank if PI is from another institution) is committed to providing Institutional resources necessary to successfully implement and complete this project.

Nebraska Dry Bean Commission – Budget Narrative

A. Salaries & Wages:
B. Fringe Benefits:
C. Non-Expendable Capital Equipment:
D. Travel:
E. All Other Direct Costs: (Itemize separately by the categories as noted in budget box E on previous page)