Request for Submission of Research Proposals to the CFAES Emerging Needs Program

The new Emerging Needs program provides funding for areas of research that directly support CFAES stakeholders and for which current external funding is limited or not yet available. The program will also consider funding projects that allow faculty to learn or develop new techniques or approaches that will position CFAES to better serve stakeholders or make faculty more competitive for future funding opportunities. An area of emphasis will be selected each year by the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education in consultation with the CFAES Research Advisory Committee and CFAES leadership (chairs, associate deans, and dean/VP). The Fiscal Year 2020 program is described below. Please read this carefully to ensure projects submitted in response to this request fall within the 2020 program objective.

Fiscal Year 2020 Objective: Fund new and applied research in direct support of addressing critical issues affecting one or more commercial agricultural products important for Ohio and for which external funding is not readily available or adequate to support CFAES stakeholders. Preference will be given to projects that:

- Identify solutions to problems that can be directly and immediately implemented by producers
- Represent commercial agricultural products for which no or limited funding opportunities exist

Example projects would include, but are not limited to, soil fertility, insect, disease, pest, or weed issues with fruits, vegetables, berries, hemp, or other specialty crops in conventional or organic production systems.

Eligibility:

- Investigators must have PI status.
- Investigators must have met all reporting requirements from any previous funding through any SEEDS programs
- Investigators currently funded through other SEEDS programs are eligible to submit to the Emerging Needs program, although submitted projects must not be duplicative or extensions of funded SEEDS projects.
- Release of funding for work involving hemp or products produced from hemp is contingent upon project approval from the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Project Size:

Projects are limited to a total of **$50,000 and up to two years in length**. The program as a whole has $200,000 available. Tuition and fees do not need to be included for students enrolled in CFAES, as they will be paid from separate funds and allocated to the department; however, you must indicate in the budget narrative the number of semesters of tuition and fees for which you are requesting. NOTE: To access the tuition/fee account, the Graduate Student MUST be paid from this grant.

Deadlines:

Proposals for Fiscal Year 2020 are due March 2, 2020. **All proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date.**
Submission Process:

All proposals are to be submitted online through the SEEDS website (oarcl.osu.edu/seeds). The online submission process automatically closes at 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date. Proposals submitted after 5:00 p.m. will not be accepted. Portions of a proposal will not be accepted after the stated deadline. Faxed or emailed submissions are unacceptable and will be automatically disqualified.

Give yourself ample time to submit, as you will need to complete the initial registration screens before uploading and submitting the proposal.

Select the competition “Emerging Needs Program” from the dropdown menu.

Online submission requires that you prepare your proposal as a single PDF file. Once your proposal is prepared as a PDF, simply go to oarcl.osu.edu/seeds, click on “submit a proposal” and follow the instructions. We strongly recommend that you check your work prior to submitting your proposal.

The screen that appears after you click on the submit button is your receipt. The receipt will provide you with the number of your proposal (e.g., 2020-###) and the date and time of receipt. The submitting investigator will also receive an email receipt. We encourage you to save your receipt.

For all submission issues or technical issues, please contact David Lohnes (Lohnes.2@osu.edu).

Proposal Format and Required Content

All proposals should be set to print on standard 8.5-inch by 11-inch paper. All margins must be at least 1-inch. Type size must be 12-point or larger with no more than six lines per inch, single-spaced. All pages of the proposal except for the cover page should be numbered at the bottom center of the page; this includes pages that are not part of the page limitations.

Note: Margins and 12-point type size must be consistent throughout each required section of the proposal. This includes figure and table captions. Proposals not meeting the formatting guidelines or with missing and/or unaddressed sections will be dismissed from the competition without review.

Cover Page (Limit to one page)

Include, limited to one page, the following items:

- Title of the project.
- Investigator details, including a complete campus address, email address and title for each investigator. A contact investigator must be identified. The contact investigator will have overall responsibility for the project, including submission of reports.
- Names, titles and affiliations of any collaborators.
- Anticipated start date and duration of the project
- The amount of funding being requested.
- Investigators should indicate what external funding sources are available, if any, and whether those sources have been approached for funding the work. If applications for funding have been made, indicate the reasons that the work was not funded or not funded adequately.
**Project Narrative (Limit to two pages)**
Include, limited to two pages, the following items:

- Briefly describe the long-term goal(s) and supporting objectives of the proposed project.
- Rationale behind the proposed research.
- Describe the study’s probable end products and their significance.
- Plainly state the activities proposed or problems being addressed, and clearly describe the approaches applied.
- Investigators must demonstrate that the proposed work represents a critical need for producers of commercial agricultural products important for Ohio. Letters of support from relevant stakeholder groups are required (not included in the two-page limit).
- Investigators should clearly articulate the potential economic benefit to agricultural producers if the project is funded.

**References**
In this section, reference all works cited throughout the text. All references must be complete (i.e., must include titles and all co-author names) and must conform to an acceptable journal format. There is no page limit to the references section.

**Budget (Limit to one page)**
A budget template is available on the SEEDS website (oardc.osu.edu/seeds).

Tuition and fees do not need to be included for students enrolled in CFAES, as they will be paid from separate funds and allocated to the department; however, you must indicate in the budget narrative the number of semesters of tuition and fees for which you are requesting. NOTE: To access the tuition/fee account, the Graduate Student MUST be paid from this grant.

Projects should be completed within two years and all project funds must be expended within the project period.

Those with Principal Investigator and/or Co-Investigator status cannot charge their wages or fringe benefits to the SEEDS program.

**Budget Narrative (Limit to one page)**
Provide a detailed summary describing the role and type of personnel (graduate students, post-doctoral trainees, technicians, etc.) needed. Include salaries and wages, fringe benefits, materials and supplies, travel, publication costs, rental fees, etc.

Explain other expenditures that will be supported by the requested funds.

The Emerging Needs program does not pay indirect costs on projects.

**Supplemental Material**
Provide up to 4 support letters from relevant stakeholders.
Awards, Post-Award Administration, Intellectual Property & Compliance

For details regarding notice of award, post-award administration (including reporting requirements), intellectual property and compliance requirements, please review the SEEDS FY 2020 Faculty RFP: https://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/seeds/images/FY_20_SEEDS_Faculty_RFP_FINAL.pdf