

**SECONDARY and TWO-YEAR POSTSECONDARY
AGRICULTURE EDUCATION CHALLENGE GRANTS
PROGRAM SUMMARY -- FY 2005**

**Higher Education Programs
Science and Education Resources Development
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Launched in 1999, the Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants program is administered by the USDA Office of Higher Education Programs under the authority contained in section 1417(j) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3152(j)). This program is designed to award grants to eligible public secondary schools to strengthen education in the broad areas of agriscience and agribusiness. Beginning in FY 2002 eligibility was extended to proposals from two-year postsecondary institutions.

The purpose of the Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge (SPEC) Grants Program is to promote and strengthen teaching programs in agriscience and agribusiness, at secondary and 2-year postsecondary institutions, by enhancing curricula, increasing faculty teaching competencies, promoting higher education to prepare students for scientific and professional careers, incorporating agriscience or agribusiness subject matter into other instructional programs, facilitating joint initiatives among other educational institutions, and to respond to identified State, regional, national or international educational needs.

Proposals may be submitted by any public secondary school, or by any public or private, nonprofit community or junior college, with a demonstrated commitment to teaching agriscience and agribusiness. For FY 2005, for proposals submitted from secondary schools, only those proposals targeted for grades 9-12 in public secondary schools were supported. For secondary schools, each separate school in a school district that meets the definition of a public secondary school is eligible to submit a proposal.

For the FY 2005 award cycle, \$937,664 was available for project grant awards after subtracting administrative costs. This amount was further divided into two groups: proposals from secondary schools and proposals from two-year, postsecondary institutions.

From this point forward in this document, summary information is grouped and reported by either the Secondary School Group or Two-Year, Postsecondary Institution Group.

Secondary Schools-Group Summary-FY 2005

A total of 23 institutions from 15 states submitted proposals requesting \$ 739,009. In March 2005, an eight-member peer review panel evaluated these proposals. The peer panel included faculty members from secondary schools, two-year postsecondary, land grant and non-land grant colleges and universities, and practitioners from the food and agricultural sciences community.

Funds were available to support a total of 14 awards from 14 institutions in 12 states. Four projects were formal Joint Project Proposals requiring partnerships between two or more institutions.

The following tables summarize this year's Secondary School Group of the Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants program:

Table 1. FUNDS REQUESTED/AWARDED BY EMPHASIS AREAS				
FY 2005 Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants				
Secondary Schools – Group Summary				
TARGET ACADEMIC EMPHASIS AREAS	NUMBER OF PROPOSALS		AMOUNT OF FUNDS	
	Requested	Awarded	Requested	Awarded*
Agribusiness Mngt. and Marketing (M)	7	5	\$245,988	\$ 203,975
Agricultural Social Sciences (S)				
Agricultural/Bio. Engineering (E)	2	1	\$84,546	\$ 34,739
Animal Sciences (A)				
Aquaculture (Q)	2	2	\$65,750	\$ 65,259
Conservation (Including Nat. Res. (C)				
Entomology (Plant) (T)				
Environmental Sciences (L)				
Family/Consumer Sciences (H)				
Food Sciences (F)	1	1	\$23,955	\$ 23,776
General (G)	2	0	\$57,810	\$ -
Interntional (I)				
Nutrition (N)				
Plant Sciences (P)	7	5	\$205,960	\$ 133,281
Related Biological Sciences (B)	2	0	\$55,000	\$ -
Soil Science (D)				
Veterinary Medicine (V)				
Water Sciences (W)				
Other (O)				
TOTALS	23	14	\$739,009	\$ 461,030

* Not all programs request the maximum funds allowed per institution under this grant (\$35,000 - Regular Proposals, or \$50,000 - Joint Project Proposals). These amounts represent the total Federal dollars awarded to each lead institution, including the funds that will be subcontracted to collaborating institutions for joint projects. With fund transfer restrictions taken into account, no single institution will receive more than \$35,000 (Regular or Joint proposals). All funded projects in this grants program require 1:1 non-Federal matching funds. Matching funds are not reflected in these Federal award amounts.

Table 2. PROPOSALS RECEIVED/AWARDED - by State		
FY 2005 Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants		
Secondary Schools – Group Summary		
State	# Received	# Awarded
Alabama	2	1
California	1	1
Hawaii	1	1
Iowa	2	1
Indiana	1	1
Kansas	2	
Kentucky	1	1
Michigan	1	
Montana	1	1
New Jersey	2	1
New York	1	1
Oregon	2	2
Pennsylvania	3	1
Tennessee	1	
Wisconsin	2	2
Total	23	14

Two-Year, Postsecondary Institutions – Group Summary – FY 2005

A total of 24 institutions from 17 states submitted proposals requesting \$ 935,324. In March 2005, an eight-member peer review panel evaluated these proposals. The panel comprised faculty members from two-year postsecondary, land grant and non-land grant colleges and universities, and practitioners from the food and agricultural sciences community.

Funds were available to support a total of 12 awards in 12 institutions from 9 states. Five of the projects were formal Joint Project Proposals requiring partnerships between two or more institutions.

The following tables summarize this year's Two-Year, Postsecondary Institution Group of the Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants program:

Table 1. FUNDS REQUESTED/AWARDED BY EMPHASIS AREAS				
FY 2005 Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants				
Two-Year, Postsecondary – Group Summary				
TARGET ACADEMIC EMPHASIS AREAS	NUMBER OF PROPOSALS		AMOUNT OF FUNDS	
	Requested	Awarded	Requested	Awarded*
Agribusiness Mngt. and Marketing (M)	6	2	\$251,372	\$79,644
Agricultural Social Sciences (S)				
Agricultural/Bio. Engineering (E)	8	4	\$315,140	\$145,403
Animal Sciences (A)				
Aquaculture (Q)	3	2	\$119,398	\$65,631
Conservation (Including Nat. Res. (C)	2	1	\$84,953	\$46,904
Entomology (Plant) (T)				
Environmental Sciences (L)				
Family/Consumer Sciences (H)				
Food Sciences (F)				
General (G)	1	1	\$49,706	\$46,628
Interntional (I)	1	0	\$35,000	\$0
Nutrition (N)				
Plant Sciences (P)				
Related Biological Sciences (B)	2	2	\$79,755	\$74,817
Soil Science (D)				
Veterinary Medicine (V)				
Water Sciences (W)				
Other (O)	1	0	\$32,063	\$0
TOTALS	24	12	\$935,324	\$459,027

* Not all programs request the maximum funds allowed per institution under this grant (\$35,000)

- Regular Proposals, or \$50,000 - Joint Project Proposals). These amounts represent the total Federal dollars awarded to each lead institution, including the funds that will be subcontracted to collaborating institutions for joint projects. With fund transfer restrictions taken into account, no single institution will receive more than \$35,000 (Regular or Joint proposals). All funded projects in this grants program require 1:1 non-Federal matching funds. Matching funds are not reflected in these Federal award amounts.

Table 2. PROPOSALS RECEIVED/AWARDED - by State

**FY 2005 Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary
Agriculture Education Challenge Grants**

Two-Year, Postsecondary – Group Summary

State	# Received	# Awarded
Alabama	1	
California	1	1
Florida	1	1
Iowa	3	3
Illinois	3	1
Kansas	2	2
Massachusetts	1	1
Missouri	2	1
Mississippi	1	1
North Dakota	1	
Nebraska	1	
New York	1	1
Ohio	1	1
Texas	2	1
Total	21	14

**Table 3. FUNDED PROJECT INFORMATION and DESCRIPTIONS
FY 2005 Secondary and Two-Year Postsecondary Agriculture Education Challenge Grants**

Combined Secondary Schools & Two-Year, Postsecondary Institutions

Access the following link: [FY 2005 SPEC Funded Projects](#)* to display project information.
Data is from the CSREES Current Research Information System database.

* CRIS URL is = http://cris.csrees.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=CG=2005-38414*&format=WEBTITLESF