

federal register

**Wednesday
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Part III

Department of Agriculture

Cooperative State Research Service

**Grants and Cooperative Agreements;
Availability, etc.: Special Research
Program; Aquaculture Research; Notice**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Cooperative State Research Service****Special Research Grants Program, Aquaculture Research; Fiscal Year 1992; Solicitation of Applications**

Applications are invited for competitive grant awards under the Special Research Grants Program, Aquaculture, Research, for fiscal year 1992.

The authority for this program is contained in section 2(c)(1)(A) of the Act of August 4, 1965, Public Law No. 89-106, as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, Public Law No. 101-624 (7 U.S.C. 450j). This program is administered by the Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Under this program, and subject to the availability of funds, the Secretary may award grants for periods not to exceed five years, for the support of research projects to further the program discussed below. Proposals may be submitted by State agricultural experiment stations, all colleges and universities, other research institutions and organizations, Federal agencies, private organizations or corporations, and individuals. Proposals from scientists at non-United States organizations will not be considered for support.

Please note that Section 734 of the Fiscal Year 92 Appropriations Act, Public Law No. 102-142, states: "None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs on research grants awarded competitively by the Cooperative State Research Service that exceed 14 percent of total direct costs under each award."

Applicable Regulations

Regulations applicable to this program include the following: (a) The Administrative Provisions governing the Special Research Grants Program, 7 CFR part 3400 (56 FR 58146, November 15, 1991), which set forth procedures to be followed when submitting grant proposals, rules governing the evaluation of proposals and the awarding of grants, and regulations relating to post-award administration of grant projects; (b) the USDA Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, 7 CFR part 3015; (c) the USDA Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, 7 CFR part 3016; (d) the Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide

Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants), 7 CFR part 3017, as amended; and (e) New Restrictions on Lobbying, 7 CFR part 3018.

Introduction to Program Description

Standard grants will be awarded to support basic studies in selected areas of aquaculture research. Consideration will be given to proposals that address innovative as well as fundamental approaches to the research areas outlined below and that are consistent with the mission of USDA. Program subareas and guidelines are provided below as bases from which proposals may be developed:

Program Area**1.0 Aquaculture Research**

CSRS Contact: Dr. Meryl Broussard; Telephone: (202) 401-4061.

Funds will be awarded to support research seeking solutions to health problems of major finfish species. A total of approximately \$299,320 will be available for this program area for fiscal year 1992. Up to \$80,000 will be awarded for the support of any one project under this program area.

The objective of this program is to fund research to enhance the knowledge and technology base necessary for the continued growth of the domestic aquaculture industry as a form of sustainable agriculture. Emphasis is placed on research leading to improved production efficiency and increased competitiveness of private sector aquaculture in the United States. Because of limited funds for this program, only proposals focused on commercially important finfish species in the specific subareas of Disease and Parasite Control (1.1) and Integrated Aquatic Animal Health Management (1.2) will be considered.

The specific objective of this research is to improve aquatic animal health management practices in aquaculture.

Research should be directed toward:

1.1 Disease and Parasite Control

Studies to clarify high-priority infectious and noninfectious diseases and parasites and their interactive effects on aquatic animal health; development of improved methods of detecting disease agents or antibodies in aquatic animals; clarification of disease pathogenesis; determination of methods of disease transmission; development of improved methods of immunization against disease agents that will provide solid and persistent protection without compromising diagnosis; development of alternative disease eradication methods so as to limit the use and dependence on

biotoxic substances; development of other disease prevention, control and eradication technology; and epidemiology and the evaluation of the economics of disease and disease prevention or control.

1.2 Integrated Aquatic Animal Health Management

Interdisciplinary studies aimed at reducing acute and chronic losses related to aquatic animal health in aquacultural production systems through an integrated holistic approach including studies in the following areas: physiological stress related to the quality of the aquatic production system; genetic, environmental and nutritional components of aquatic health management.

Utilizing the recommendations of the peer panels, the Administrator of CSRS will make the final determination on specific grants to be awarded.

How To Obtain Application Materials

Copies of this solicitation, the Grant Application Kit, and the Administrative Provisions governing this program, 7 CFR part 3400, as amended (56 FR 48146, November 15, 1991), may be obtained by writing to the address or calling the telephone number below: Proposal Services Branch, Awards Management Division, Office of Grants and Program Systems, Cooperative State Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 303, Aerospace Center, Washington, DC 20250-2200. Telephone: (202) 401-5048.

What To Submit

An original and nine copies of each proposal submitted are requested. This number of copies is necessary to permit thorough, objective peer evaluation of all proposals received before funding decisions are made.

Each copy of each proposal must include a Form CSRS-661, "Grant Application." Proposers should note that one copy of this form, preferably the original, must contain pen-and-ink signatures of the principal investigator(s) and the authorized organizational representative. (Form CSRS-661 and the other required forms and certifications are contained in the Grant Application Kit.) It should be noted that the November 1990 version of the Grant Application Kit must be used, as previous versions are obsolete.

Members of review committees and the staff expect each project description to be complete in itself. Grant proposals must be limited to 15 pages (single-spaced) exclusive of required forms, the summary of progress for any prior

Aquaculture Special Research grants, bibliography, and vitae of the principal investigator(s), senior associate(s) and other professional personnel. Reduction by photocopying or other means for the purpose of meeting the 15-page limit is not permitted. Attachment of appendices is discouraged and should be included only if pertinent to understanding the proposal. Reviewers are not required to read beyond the 15-page maximum to evaluate the proposal.

All copies of a proposal must be mailed in one package and each copy must be stapled securely in the upper left-hand corner. **DO NOT BIND.** Information should be typed on one side of the page only. Every effort should be made to ensure that the proposal contains all pertinent information when initially submitted. Prior to mailing, compare your proposal with the guidelines contained in the Administrative Provisions that govern the Special Research Grants Program, 7 CFR part 3400, as amended.

Where and When To Submit Grant Applications

Each research grant application must be submitted by the date set forth below to: Proposal Services Branch, Awards

Management Division, Office of Grants and Program Systems, Cooperative State Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 303, Aerospace Center, Washington, DC 20250-2200. Telephone: (202) 401-5048.

Please Note: Hand delivered proposals or those delivered by overnight express service should be brought to: Room 303, Aerospace Center, 901 D Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

To be considered for funding under the Special Research Grants Program, Aquaculture Research, during fiscal year 1992, proposals must be postmarked by March 2, 1992.

One copy of each proposal not selected for funding will be retained for a period of one year. The remaining copies will be destroyed.

Special Requirements

On Form CSRS-661 provided in the Grant Application Kit, the Special Research Grants Program should be indicated in Block 7, and "Aquaculture Research 1.0" should be indicated in Block 8.

Investigators and co-investigators who have received Special Research Grant awards in the Aquaculture area

during the past five years must include a brief summary of progress and a list of publications resulting from such grants.

Supplementary Information

The Special Research Grants Program is listed in Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.200. For reasons set forth in the final Rule-related Notice to 7 CFR part 3014, subpart V (48 FR 29115, June 24, 1983), this program is excluded from the scope of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.

Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3504(h)), the collection of information requirements contained in this Notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0022.

Done at Washington, D.C., this 9th day of January 1992.

John Patrick Jordan,

Administrator, Cooperative State Research Service.

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