



**2019-2020 Northeast Regional Center Small Grants Program:
Impacts of Successful Extension and Outreach Programs
Due: January 10, 2020**

The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (NERCRD) announces a new competitive grant opportunity that is intended to help Northeast (NE) Land Grant University (LGU) faculty and educators document the impacts of their work while also encouraging collaboration across state lines. Proposals in the topic areas of innovation or tourism are especially encouraged. Two types of projects will be considered:

- Option 1 (up to \$15,000): Teams with members from one or more states will explore the feasibility of implementing the impact reporting system described in the “[Impact Indicators Tips Booklet](#)” (NERCRD, 2016) for an existing successful and established Extension program.
- Option 2 (up to \$20,000): Multi-state team(s) will collaborate to share a program across state lines with a secondary emphasis on collecting program data around a set of impacts. This can be accomplished by piloting a program in which Extension specialists, with the endorsement of staff in other states, deliver a successful program to audiences in those states, either in person or via the web. This also can be accomplished by staff in one state providing training to staff in other NE states.

Funding

These grants will cover travel and meeting costs for the project teams. Salaries and indirect costs will not be covered. Only actual expenses will be reimbursed with unused funds returning to the NERCRD grant pool. The funding will be available for a maximum of one year from the date of award notification.

Who can apply?

Extension or research faculty and staff of LGUs in the Northeast region can apply for this opportunity. Non-LGU professionals can also participate but two-thirds of each project must be LGU staff.

Team criteria

Teams of any size will be considered, while recognizing that one goal of the grant program is to create knowledge-sharing networks within the region. Therefore, preference will be giving to programs that engage more rather than fewer people, with the majority being in the Northeast. Teams should include Extension staff, including specialists, associates, educators, etc., or applied researchers who work with a successful Extension or outreach program. Teams pursuing Option 1 can be composed of members from one NE state with multiple types of community, regional, and economic development (CRED) programs or of members from different NE states with all members working with the same program. Teams pursuing Option 2 should include members from at least two NE states working with the same program. Teams should be led by Extension or research faculty or staff of LGUs in the Northeast region. Preference will be given to teams that include members who report to an Extension Community Development Program Leader or Department Head in Economics, Applied Economics, or Sociology that focuses on rural community development.

Can faculty/staff from outside NE states join the project?

Yes, but the majority of the team members must be from the NE states.

Selection Criteria:

The proposal should be an Extension program or engaged scholarship that contributes to one of [the NERCRD’s goals](#).

The proposal also should:

- be consistent with the goals of competitive funding programs and/or show the potential for sustained funding through user fees or event sponsors;
- address an important need in one or more other states in the region; and,
- be realistic in terms of timetable and budget, with leveraged support from institutions.

In addition:

- Programs to be transferred must be successful programs which have clearly defined goals and activities, documented success, at least two replications, educational materials, a research-based curriculum, and letters of recommendation from participants.
- Team leaders should have demonstrated track record and team members’ expertise should align with proposed activities.
- Teams should have prior approval from direct supervisors, Extension Director and Experiment Station Director.

Expected Deliverables for Both Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The program(s) for which impacts are being collected should begin <i>after</i> the grant proposal is submitted.• Team members should collect data on at least two “action” and two “impact” indicators for the program. See pages 20-27 of the Impact Indicators Tips Booklet for an explanation.• A summary report of the impacts for each community in which the program was implemented.• Documentation on the process and procedures used to estimate the data in the summary report.	
Additional Deliverables for Option 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide two examples of how these impact data are used to demonstrate the value of your Extension program, including at least one with infographics and at least one with a “but for” story and quote.	Additional Deliverables for Option 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional collaboration: Team members should transfer or adapt a successful, established CRED program between NE states or from a state outside of the region.• Scholarship which describes your project and its results and shares lessons learned. For a discussion of scholarship options, see the FAQs: https://goo.gl/Xa5e53

Application Submission Details

The proposal should be submitted in a single PDF file, with one-inch margins and 12-point font. The file name should include the last name of the PI. The file should include the following components, compiled in the same order as listed here.

- **NERCRD Cover Page:** See template package available at <https://goo.gl/AsVWxN>
- **Project Narrative** (Four pages maximum with URL links for additional information):
 - Option 1 applicants should describe the program(s) on which data will be collected, impacts to be reported, and how the program will be structured to facilitate collection of “but for” statements (see pages 18-20 in the [Impact Indicators Tips Booklet](#)) and the expected approach for collecting these statements after the program’s end.
 - Option 2 applicants should describe the program to be transferred, including educational goals, research-base, major educational activities, target audience, outcomes and long-range impacts;
 - All applicants should include:
 - justification for the proposal relative to the NERCRD’s goals, recipient states’ needs, regional needs, and sustained external funding;
 - evidence of the program’s success and how this has been documented, including number of replications and participation, and evaluations of the program; and,
 - activities and roles of team members; and,
 - description of which impacts will be measured.
- **Budget and Budget Justification** ([see template package](#))
- **Timeline for completion of the planning activities.**
- **Institutional Approval Page** ([see template package](#))
- **Appendices**
 - Two samples of educational materials that you have developed in your Extension program.
 - Curriculum vitae of the PI and all Co-PIs (two pages maximum per PI)
 - Description of expertise and role of other members with their titles, departments, address and emails (1/2 page per member)

Review Process:

A technical review will be completed by an independent panel, composed of at least one member of the NERCRD Technical Advisory Committee, one member of the NE Learning Circle for Impact Indicators and one member of the National CRED Impact Indicators group. The Center’s Board of Directors may provide input into the final selection and the recommended funding level.

Submit the Proposal to:

Stephan Goetz (sgoetz@psu.edu) and Kristen Devlin (krd111@psu.edu)

Questions?

First, see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If you have technical questions, contact Kristen Devlin (krd111@psu.edu).

For content-related questions, contact Stephan Goetz (sgoetz@psu.edu)