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## Funding Opportunities Weekly Digest— February 15, 2024

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**To notify the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) of your intent to apply for any of these or other grant opportunities, please submit a [Proposal Intake Questionnaire](#) to provide OSP with preliminary information.**

**Check out the [Office of Sponsored Programs website](#) to view more [funding opportunities](#) to consider.**

### **Second Annual Virtual Grants Support Technical Assistance Workshop**

Following the success of the first such workshop in 2023, NIFA is hosting another **Grants Support Technical Assistance Workshop** to support prospective applicants and other stakeholders interested in grants development and/or grants management.

The 2024 workshop — which will be held daily from March 4-8, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Central — will focus on advancing knowledge shared at the 2023 event by responding to attendee questions and discussing funded projects to explain the breadth and scope of NIFA programs. A detailed agenda will be shared before the meeting.

The focus of each day is as follows:

- **March 4:** Accessing NIFA Web Resources on Grants Development and Grants Management
- **March 5:** Overview of Major NIFA Programs
- **March 6:** Opportunities for Selective NIFA Applicants (Groups)
- **March 7:** Learning Moments from Grants Management

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## Upcoming Workshops and Events

- February 27: [How to Get NSF Funding: Program Director Advice](#)
- February 28: [Pursuing Convergent Research Funding at NSF](#)
- February 29: [NSF CAREER Award Overview](#)

Find additional events on [ORIED's Workshop Portal](#) or on the [UT Calendar](#).

## UT Knoxville Awards



### AI Tennessee Initiative Seed Fund

The Office of Research, Innovation & Economic Development is launching FY2025 seed funds for artificial intelligence (AI) research, team building and an AI Tennessee Distinguished Seminar Series. The solicitation requests proposals that advance knowledge and team building in multidisciplinary AI – both fundamental and applied – that helps UT grow its capabilities, reputation and impact in AI-related research across disciplines as part of the AI Tennessee Initiative.

Application Deadline: 3/18/2024 | [View Opportunity](#)

### UT Grand Challenges Grants

Launching into a transformative journey to address critical challenges within Tennessee, the University of Tennessee System is proud to introduce the Grand Challenge grants program. Our vision is to foster innovative solutions for some of Tennessee's most pressing issues across the three Grand Challenge areas: Strengthening Rural Communities, Overcoming Addiction, and Advancing K-12 Education. Through this ambitious program, we seek to make a lasting impact in Tennessee communities and beyond. Exceptional projects will be chosen through a rigorous and competitive review process. These projects are expected to build new knowledge and bring about tangible

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## Federal



### Human Nutrition

The National Pork Board is soliciting research proposals that can help advance understanding of the role of pork and pork-related nutrients.

Application Deadline: 2/29/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

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### Veterinary Services Grant Program

The Veterinary Services Grant Program is designed to support education and extension activities and practice enhancement initiatives that will enable veterinarians, veterinary students, veterinary technicians, and veterinary technician students to gain specialized skills and provide practices with additional resources needed to more effectively mitigate veterinary service shortages in the US. Ultimately, this program will bolster the capacity of private practitioners to provide food animal veterinary services in designated rural veterinarian shortage situations.

Application Deadline: 3/21/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### Rural Innovation Stronger Economy

The Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grant Program offers grant assistance to create and augment high-wage jobs, accelerate the formation of new businesses, support industry clusters and maximize the use of local productive assets in eligible low-income rural areas.

Application Deadline: 4/1/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program

The purpose of this competitive undergraduate scholarship grant program is to

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Americans by providing competitive grants to colleges and universities.

Application Deadline: 4/1/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### **Research Facilities Act Program**

The purpose of the Research Facilities Act Program is to assist qualifying institutions with the costs related to constructing, purchasing, updating, renovating, or modifying agricultural research buildings to conduct research in the areas of agriculture and food sciences. The proposed agricultural research facility must expand the institution's capacity for long-term impactful research and must be the result of thorough strategic planning. Awards may be used to fund the construction of buildings or sites for agricultural research facilities or other facilities that store agricultural research experimental samples or specimens, as well as the purchase of real estate or durable equipment.

Application Deadline: 4/4/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### **Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage System Program**

Alfalfa Seed and Alfalfa Forage System Program will support the development of improved alfalfa forage and seed production systems.

Application Deadline: 4/4/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### **Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program**

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program and provides mandatory funds for which supports education, mentoring, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers and ranchers.

Application Deadline: 4/4/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### **Equipment Grant Program**

The Equipment Grant Program serves to increase access to shared-use special purpose equipment/instruments for fundamental and applied research for use in the food and agricultural sciences programs at institutions of higher education, including State Cooperative Extension Systems. The program seeks to strengthen the quality and expand the scope of fundamental and applied research at eligible institutions, by providing them with opportunities to acquire one major piece of equipment/instruments that support their research, training, and extension goals and may be too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other grant programs.

Application Deadline: 5/3/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

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Phenome Initiative focuses on collaborative science engagement that intends to develop a community of researchers across both crops and animals that will lay the foundation for expanding knowledge concerning genomes and phenomes of importance to the agriculture sector of the United States. Success of the initiative will inform approaches to understanding how variable weather, environments, and production systems interact with genetic diversity present in crops and animals to impact growth and productivity.

Application Deadline: 5/30/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### Application Deadlines:

- **February 15:** [Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative](#)
- **February 15:** [Children, Youth, and Families at Risk Sustainable Community Projects](#)
- **February 15:** [Crop Protection and Pest Management](#)
- **February 28:** [GusNIP Produce Prescription Program](#)
- **February 28:** [Resident Instruction Grants Program for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas](#)
- **February 29:** [Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants Program](#)
- **March 5:** [Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Education Competitive Grants Program](#)
- **March 7:** [Smith-Lever Special Needs Competitive Grants Program](#)
- **March 7:** [Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – Organic Transitions](#)
- **March 8:** [Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program](#)
- **March 13:** [Renewable Resources Extension Act - National Focus Fund Projects](#)
- **March 14:** [Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program](#)
- **March 20:** [Distance Education Grants for Institutions of Higher Education in Insular Areas](#)
- **March 21:** [Veterinary Services Grant Program](#)
- **March 26:** [Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs Phase II](#)
- **April 1:** [Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program](#)
- **April 4:** [Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program](#)

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National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

### Engineering Research to Achieve Net-Zero Climate Goals by 2025

With this "Dear Colleague letter," the US National Science Foundation Directorate for Engineering encourages the submission of research and education proposals related to net-zero climate goals, including innovations to create a circular economy. Bold and decisive actions taking multiple approaches are needed to reach net-zero climate goals by 2050 including advances in clean energy technologies, climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, circular economy pathways, and innovations to reduce, capture and reuse greenhouse gas emissions.

Application Deadline: 4/30/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

[View NSF Funding Opportunities](#)

## Foundations and Nonprofits



### Open-Access Publishing Fund

This funding opportunity supports research that advances animal welfare and the dissemination of results of innovative and impactful animal welfare research.

Application Deadline: Accepted Anytime | [View Opportunity](#)



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Agriculture Research have partnered to fund a \$1M research program to enhance US prevention, preparedness, and response capabilities for Japanese encephalitis virus, a transboundary disease risk for US introduction.

Application Deadline: 4/15/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

### Harvest for Health Breakthrough Crop Challenge

The Harvest for Health challenge is accelerating the development of underutilized crops to increase the diversity of foods in the marketplace. The initiative focuses on crops that are nutritious and have properties of interest to food and ingredient companies.

Application Deadline: 8/7/24 | [View Opportunity](#)

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## Additional Opportunities:

UT Knoxville Office of Research, Innovation, and Economic Development

[Pivot Funding Opportunities](#) (Create your account)

[Office of Sponsored Programs](#) (Funding Opportunities to Consider)

[Hanover Higher Education Research Grant Alerts](#) (Funding Opportunities)



As a reminder, UT AgResearch and UT College of Veterinary Medicine faculty can work directly with Hanover grant consultants for assistance on grant proposal preparation. If you're interested in consultation services for a specific proposal, please visit our [website](#) and fill out a [project request submission form](#).

If you have any questions or you would like to learn more about our work with these programs, please [contact senior grants advisor Clinton Doggett](#) for a brief conversation.

[Grants Calendar: Early Career Research](#)

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*Please send suggestions and additional funding opportunities to [aggrant@tennessee.edu](mailto:aggrant@tennessee.edu).*

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## Contact Us

UT Institute of Agriculture

Office of Sponsored Programs

[aggrant@tennessee.edu](mailto:aggrant@tennessee.edu)

[utiasponsoredprograms.tennessee.edu](https://utiasponsoredprograms.tennessee.edu)

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