

Western SARE Competitive Grants

Research to Grass Roots

2022 Call for Proposals

Due at 12:00 p.m. MST, NOON, November 17, 2021
Results announced by April 1, 2022



For questions regarding the Western SARE PDP program or this CFP, please contact the Western SARE PDP office:

4516 Highway 26/85
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 575-2416
wsare-pdp@sare.org

Host Institution:
Montana State University

PDP Institution:
University of Wyoming

SARE is a USDA competitive grants program that supports agricultural systems that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially responsible.

Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Micronesia, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

The Administrative Council of the Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program announces the call for proposals for Research to Grass Roots Grants for 2022.

The Research to Grass Roots program is intended to incorporate previous SARE research into application for agricultural professionals, farmers, ranchers and others in the Western Region, and increase the overall understanding and proficiency in sustainable agriculture among these groups.

Proposals are evaluated by an outside Review Panel based on the criteria outlined in this call and in comparison, with other grant proposals. The final project funding selection is determined by the WSARE Administrative Council – a board of agricultural producers, scientists, educators and business leaders. The Administrative Council typically selects proposals diverse in subject matter and geography and that demonstrate outcomes relevant to sustainable agriculture and producers.

Important note: Congress mandates that the SARE grant program depart from “business as usual.” To that end, the Administrative Council requires that agricultural producers be involved from start to finish in the planning, design, implementation and educational outreach of any SARE-funded project.

The RGR proposals should:

- Bring previously funded SARE projects into field application and education.
- Increase sustainable agriculture knowledge, skills, and adoption.
- Have outreach plans that demonstrate how the project will effectively deliver knowledge and skill to promote adoption.
- Funding limit \$100,000 per project.

The United States Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Sustainable Agriculture:

Congress has defined sustainable agriculture as an integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that will over the long-term:

- Satisfy human food and fiber needs
- Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agriculture economy depends
- Make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls
- Sustain the economic viability of farm operations
- Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.

-- U.S. Code Title 7, Section 3103

Research to Grass Roots Grant Deadlines

- **November 17, 2021**
12:00 NOON MST -
Deadline for submitting grant proposals at <https://projects.sare.org>
- **January 2022** - Technical Review Panel recommends proposals for grant funding.
- **March 2022** - Western SARE Administrative Council makes final selections. Principal investigators of funded grants are informed by April 1, 2022
- **Summer/Fall 2022** - Funds for selected projects disbursed

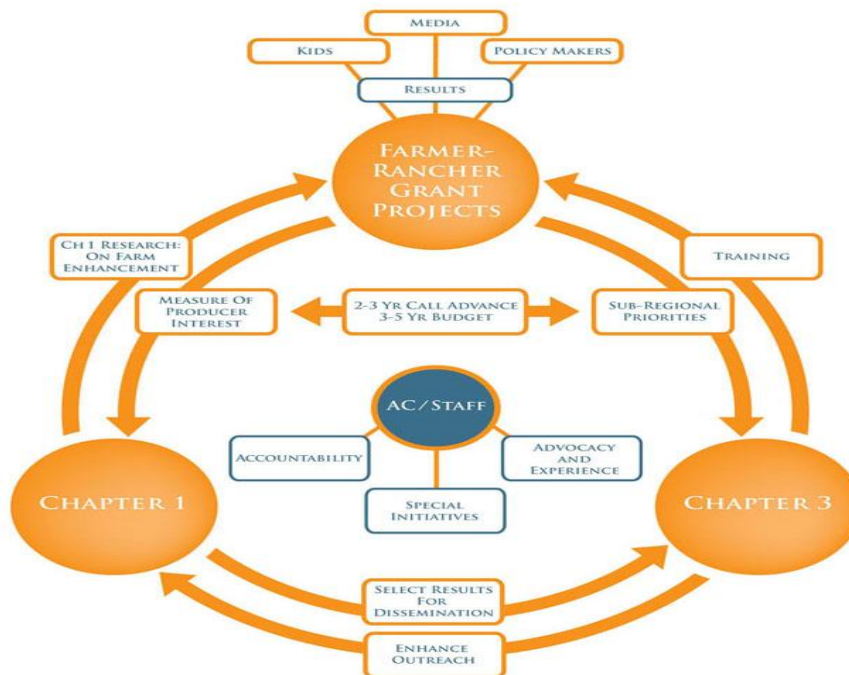
BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Research to Grassroots Grants (RGR) are built on the SARE concept that results of applied research are used to train agricultural professionals and farmers/ranchers in the latest practices of sustainable agriculture. Successful proposals must take the research results from previously funded SARE projects and bring those results out into the field through education to ag professionals and producers. Results from the previous SARE-funded research must be the basis of the RGR project, and the connection to the previous research must be documented in the proposal. Examples of possible educational projects under RGR grants would include, but not restricted to, local demonstrations, trainings, focus groups, and application of research results by farmers or ranchers on their own operations. Funds may be used to support salary and/or travel for qualified individuals to come to the location(s) of the RGR project and assist with education or demonstration efforts to apply the underlying SARE research project results.

Each RGR proposal must include a team made up of producers, ag professionals, and possibly researchers. Representatives from land grant Universities, NGO's, agency employees (such as state departments of agriculture or NRCS), or producers may lead the project. The team must have a structured plan, indicating activities such as meetings, trainings, outreach, and/or demonstrations. The role of each team member should be well explained in the proposal.

Funding for Research to Grass Roots Grants is based upon the idea that these grants will “complete the circle” as outlined below in the Western SARE strategic plan chart (Figure 1). Please review the chart to ensure your project does indeed “connect” previously funded SARE projects to one of the other circles in the chart, and explain how your grant will strengthen the connection between SARE research and the farmers and ranchers, agricultural families, and rural communities SARE strives to serve. The proposal must indicate how the project provides feedback from producers to scientists.

FIGURE 1. Overall mission of the SARE program



CRITERIA for 2022 RGR GRANTS

The Research to Grassroots Grant program is designed to educate agricultural professionals and producers on critical issues in sustainable agriculture. Projects must be based upon previously completed SARE projects.

Projects must improve the ability of agricultural professionals, farmers, and ranchers to put in place systems or methods that will enhance the sustainability of agriculture. Projects must include previously funded SARE projects and target at least one of the following goals outlined below:

Program Goals for Projects Funded by Western SARE

1. Promote good stewardship of the nation's natural resources by providing site-specific, regional, and profitable sustainable farming and ranching methods that strengthen agricultural competitiveness; satisfy human food and fiber needs; maintain and enhance the quality and productivity of soil; conserve soil, water, energy, natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat, and maintain and improve the quality of surface and ground water.
2. Enhance the quality of life of farmers and ranchers and ensure the viability of rural communities, for example, by increasing income and employment, especially profitable self-employment and innovative marketing opportunities in agricultural and rural communities.
3. Protect the health and safety of those involved in food and farm systems by reducing, where feasible and practical, the use of toxic materials in agricultural production, and by optimizing on-farm resources and integrating, where appropriate, biological cycles and controls.
4. Promote crop, livestock, and enterprise diversification.
5. Examine the regional, economic, social, and environmental implications of adopting sustainable agriculture practices and systems.

Project approaches can include, but are not limited to the following:

- Workshops
- Conferences
- Development of materials or curricula
- Demonstrations
- Web-based courses, educational activities, and materials (podcasts, videos, self-taught lessons, etc.)
- Tours

Multi-faceted proposals are encouraged. Projects using multiple techniques or methods are preferred, as are efforts whose results can be applied to diverse audiences.

Subject matter can include any sustainable agriculture endeavor, including animal agriculture, agronomic or horticultural crop production, or the effects of sustainable practices on quality of life for producers or rural communities, as well as, the economic impacts of agricultural practices or changes in practices. Each RGR project must be based upon previously completed SARE project(s).

High priority regional topics include, but are not limited to:

- Ag resiliency and climate change
- Cover crops and soil health
- Local food systems
- Grazing and range issues
- Integrated crop-livestock operations
- System and enterprise diversification

- Water for agriculture
- Invasive species and integrated pest management
- The human element of agriculture including families and communities
- Enhancing the profitability of agriculture

Strong teamwork is critical to the success of these grant applications and selected proposals. Teams should include broad-based and diverse representation as described in this call for proposals. ***Contact, documentation of involvement, and support with the Principal Investigator (PI) or lead researcher of the previous SARE project will significantly strengthen the proposal.***

PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposals are to be submitted online at <https://projects.sare.org>. Project information, project cooperators' information, summary, narrative, and budget and budget justification must be entered online. Additional supporting documents must be attached as PDF documents in the online system. The proposal must include the following components:

- A. Project Basic Information.** Provide project start and end dates, and primary state(s) involved.
- B. Project Cooperators:** Provide the names and affiliations of each major project cooperator.
- C. Summary:** A concise summary of the project proposal. (*Limit 300 words*)
- D. Narrative (*Limit 3,600 words*):**
 - 1) ***Introduction:*** Describe the context and needs that justify your project. (*Limit 300 words*)
 - An assessment with defined or documented need from the target audience is necessary to effectively justify the proposal.
 - Describe the factors that influence the implementation and success of the project, including climate, politics, regulations, socio-economic conditions, or market forces.
 - At least one in-text citation should appear in your narrative to indicate where each reference was used.
 - Please list any related previously funded SARE projects related to your proposal and explain how your project is based upon this previous work. Sources to search include:
 - ✓ National SARE database (<https://www.sare.org/grants/about-project-reports/>)
 - ✓ National Agricultural Library (<https://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic>)
 - ✓ USDA-NIFA-CRIS Research (<https://nifa.usda.gov/tool/cris>)
 - 2) ***Relevance to WSARE Goals/Sustainable Agriculture:*** Indicate how the proposal directly address at least one WSARE goals found on page three of this CFP. Proposals that address multiple goals are usually scored higher by reviewers. (*Limit 300 words*)
 - 3) ***Evidence of Previous SARE work:*** Indicate how the project is based upon previous SARE projects; document completed SARE work and justify how proposal incorporates previous work and is relevant to WSARE goals. Proposals that do not include previous SARE work or that do not include this justification will not be considered. Please indicate the previous SARE project number for reference. (*Limit 400 words*)
 - 4) ***Objectives:*** The objectives should be specific, measurable, achievable, and realistic. Please do NOT confuse objectives (e.g., to increase knowledge, skills or technical capacity of ag

professionals) with activities (e.g., to develop and conduct a workshop.) For more details see [Successful Objectives](#). (**Limit 300 words**)

- 5) ***Team Members and Roles***: List each team member; briefly describe project role and affiliations. Each team must have producers and ag professionals meaningfully involved to receive funding. (**Limit 200 words**)
- 6) ***Methods and Timeline*** (**Limit 1,000 words**)
 - List and explain the principles, assumptions, and beliefs you have about the project, the way you expect the project to operate, and what will be achieved. (Faulty assumptions may inhibit expected outcomes.)
 - Describe the resources, contributions, and investments (inputs) that will be used in the project. Resources can be financial (requested funds), human (volunteers, partnerships, contributions of farmers, ranchers, and other practitioners) and physical (technology, equipment, etc.).
 - Describe your methodology and activities and provide a timeline of these activities. If the audience you intend to reach through this project are from underserved communities, please describe how you intend to reach and engage them. (Underserved communities are those that have difficulties accessing opportunities due to language, cultural, location, or resource barriers.)
- 7) ***Educational Products***: Indicate what the project will produce; products may include educational materials, workshops, conferences, demonstrations, tours, curricula, and partnerships. (**Limit 300 words**)
- 8) ***Outcomes***: These are the results and benefits for individuals, groups, communities, and systems. Outcomes should include increased awareness, knowledge and capacity of participants to provide educational programs and evidence of changed intention or behavior of project participants. (**Limit 400 words**)
- 9) ***Evaluation***: Each proposal must assess the project impact. Evaluation can include knowledge gained by ag professionals who attended your project's outreach event(s) and what they intend to do with that new knowledge. Successful proposals will demonstrate how stated outcomes will be measured. Proposals should include outcome indicators to be measured, responsible party for conducting the evaluation, how the evaluation will be done, evaluation cost and evaluation time intervals. Evaluation for RGR should also provide reflection and insight regarding the success or failure of implementation of previous SARE work. (**Limit 400 words**)

Western SARE expects that an approved survey be completed by ***participants at each of the project's educational events***. A pre-approved survey from WSARE is the simplest way to gather this information (see [WSARE Survey](#).) Please keep in mind that if your evaluation needs to use a different survey in addition to the WSARE survey, you'll need to work with an accredited institution to obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. This is a requirement of the WSARE host institution Montana State University. For more information on IRB requirements, e-mail wsare@montana.edu.

E. Budget and Justification

Provide a detailed budget and budget justification that are appropriate to the proposed project using the [Western SARE Budget Worksheet](#) found on the online application in the budget section. Applicants ***must*** use this document for budget submission; no other document will be accepted. Enter the total funds requested; this amount must match the total funds resulting from the calculation in the *Western SARE Budget Worksheet* document.

If your institution will be issuing lower-tier subawards to other institutions/organizations as a part of your proposed project, you are required to provide a detailed budget and justification for each institution. Lower-tier subaward budgets **must** be submitted on the [Western SARE Budget Worksheet for Lower-tier Subawards](#). You may ask the subaward recipient(s) to fill out the *Western SARE Budget Worksheet for Lower-tier Subawards*, or you may fill it out on their behalf using details they have provided to you. Be sure to include brief details and budget amounts for each lower-tier subaward, by year, on your *Western SARE Budget Worksheet*. As the primary institution applicant, you must upload both your *Western SARE Budget Worksheet* and those of any lower-tier subawards to be issued. ***Failure to include the Western SARE Budget Worksheet and, if applicable, for all lower-tier subawards will disqualify the proposal before review.***

Any entity receiving Federal Funds is required by the Federal Government to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from the System for Award Management (SAM). A UEI can be obtained at no-cost by visiting <https://www.sam.gov>. Should your proposal be awarded, a UEI will be required to establish your award.

Professional Development Program Grant funds must be budgeted in the following categories (please also see the *Budget Categories and Guidance* tab found on the *Western SARE Budget Worksheet*):

- **Salaries and Benefits:** compensating yourself and/or employees (including students) of your institution for performing work directly related to the project. Provide base salary, FTEs, fringe benefit rates, and salary/benefits amounts requested.
- **Lower-tier Subawards:** your institution may issue lower-tier subaward(s) in order to pay project collaborators who are not at your institution and/or to support costs associated with the lower-tier subrecipient's portion of the proposed project. For each lower-tier subaward proposed, a *Western SARE Budget Worksheet for Lower-tier Subawards* must be submitted in addition to the applicant's *Western SARE Budget Worksheet*.
- **Contracted Services:** includes paying for professional services such as testing and analysis services, survey development and administration, computational services, website development or maintenance, professional production services (videographer to produce educational electronic media), consultants, honoraria, speaker fees, farm labor, etc.
- **Supplies:** includes basic supplies and materials needed to carry out the project; such as agricultural supplies (fencing, seeds, plants, fertilizer), field and lab supplies, minor equipment and tools (individual items that cost less than \$5,000), paper/envelopes, in-house photocopying of materials for workshops/meetings, software, books, shipping materials, etc. Any shipping costs associated with the purchase of supplies/materials should be included as supply costs. The purchase of food/refreshments for meetings/field days (**must** be necessary to maintain meeting continuity) is also considered a supply cost.
- **Communication:** includes postage and mailing expenses (including shipping samples for analysis), printed materials (flyers, brochures, posters). This category also includes expenses for publishing articles in scientific journals or other types of field/program publications, or for commercial photocopying (Note: in-house photocopying falls under supplies)
- **Travel:** includes estimated mileage reimbursement, airfare, lodging, meal per diem; car rentals, taxi, bus, shuttle expenses and parking; conference fees and registrations, etc. Please note, travel *per diem*, mileage reimbursement, and meals must follow your organization's approved rates. If no rate is available, please use the Federal Government rate listed on the [U.S. General Services Administration website](#). Additionally, lodging reimbursements for all travel must be limited to the Federal Government rate listed on the [U.S. General Services Administration website](#). Note: foreign travel is typically NOT allowed under the SARE

program, except in cases where sufficient justification has been provided, and requires Western SARE approval. All foreign travel must be directly related to the project, must be essential for project completion, and well justified (*i.e.*, explain why this activity cannot be done in the USA, relevance to Western agriculture sustainability, provide foreign institution and colleagues qualifications, etc.). The Freely Associated States -Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau- are foreign countries. USDA-NIFA requires that foreign travels should be done in an U.S. flag air carrier.

- **Rent:** includes fees associated with renting equipment, land, facilities (e.g., meeting rooms, lab space) and user fees.
- **Participant / Trainee Support:** Participant Support costs are associated with conference, workshop, or symposium costs for attendees who are NOT employees of the applicant's or a lower-tier subaward recipient's institution. Trainee Support costs are associated with educational projects that support trainees. Participants/Trainees receive a set amount for participation in the above-stated functions. If participant/trainee travel expenses will be directly paid/reimbursed (*i.e.*, not a lump sum payment), include costs in the Travel budget category.
- **Capital Equipment:** Defined as a single, autonomous piece of equipment that costs \$5,000 or more and has a useful life of more than one year. Capital Equipment purchases are generally not allowed under the SARE program and should be *essential* for the completion of the proposed activities. Equipment expenses beyond \$5,000 may be leveraged by non-Western SARE funds. ***Purchasing multiple components of single equipment that cost under \$5,000 in an attempt to circumvent the \$5,000 cap is not allowed.*** Purchases of minor equipment under \$5,000 is allowed. ***Please include minor equipment and/or leveraged capital equipment purchases in the Supplies budget category.***
- **Indirect Costs (IDCs) Recovery:** IDC recovery may be requested by both the primary applicant and any proposed lower-tier subaward recipient(s) according to the following criteria:
 - Under the SARE program and for projects funded in Calendar Year 2022 and later, NIFA stipulates indirect cost recovery is capped at 10% of the Total Direct Costs (TDC) requested.
 - The 10% TDC cap should be consistently applied to both the primary applicant and any proposed lower-tier subrecipients.
 - **Important note:** if your institution has a Federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), the IDC base should be Total Direct Costs, including the TOTAL COSTS of any/all proposed lower-tier subrecipient(s). Excluding all or a portion of any proposed lower-tier subaward(s) in the IDC base will result in a re-budget request should your proposal be funded.
 - Some institutions may NOT be eligible for IDC recovery or may be limited to the de minimis rate of 10% of the *Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)* requested.
 - Applicants should limit their request for recovery of indirect costs to the lesser of their institution's official negotiated indirect cost rate or the equivalent of 10% of Total Direct Costs.

Applicants must indicate the IDC rate used on the *Western SARE Budget Worksheet*. Detailed information about IDC rates and calculations can be found on the Western SARE [website](#).

Professional Development Program Grant funds may NOT be used for the following purposes

- Capital Equipment purchases above \$5,000– see above for more information.
- Starting or expanding a farm or farm operation.
- Major renovations/permanent improvements to a farm or ranch, such as constructing or remodeling a building.

- Providing meals during events that are not necessary to maintain the continuity of a scheduled meeting/activity; breakfasts and dinners typically do not qualify.
- Testing of commercial products.

Additionally, matching funds are not required or requested of Western SARE grant recipients. Please do NOT include matching funds in your budget or justification.

F. Supporting Documents

The following supporting documents should be uploaded into the online grant application.

All supporting documents can be downloaded from the online application site or find them at the end of this Call for Proposal document in "Additional Attachments."

Signature Page: Signatures from the PI and the Authorized Organizational Representative (such as the Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs) are required. The signature page should be printed and signed by all relevant parties, scanned, and saved as PDF or photograph and uploaded into the Supporting Documents section of the online application.

Vitae: A brief vita is required for the PI and Co-PIs. The limit is three pages for each and attach each vita as separate PDF documents.

Letters of Support: Please include letters of support from project partners. They should be attached as PDF files into the Supporting Documents.

Animal Welfare Assurance Statement: If the project includes warm-blooded, vertebrate animals, the *Animal Welfare Assurance Statement* must be signed by the PI and an IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee) representative or attending veterinarian. You should print the *Animal Welfare Assurance Statement* document provided here, at the end of this CFP, or from the online application site. The signed document should be attached in the Supporting Documents section of the online application. Please note that if this project does not involve animals, mark the "Not Applicable" option, sign and date the form where indicated.

If a grant is awarded and the applicant does not have access to an Institutional Animal Care and Use Board, the PI will need to submit compliance documents to the Western SARE host institution, Montana State University (MSU), for review and approval prior to subaward agreement execution. MSU will work with the grant recipients to coordinate the process and will provide the necessary reviews.

PROPOSAL REVIEW

Project proposals are evaluated by a review panel of educators, scientists, producers, and others with expertise in sustainable agriculture. The Western SARE Administrative Council, a board of representatives with strong knowledge and interest in sustainable agriculture, makes the final selection regarding which proposals receive funding based on the review panels recommendations. Proposal evaluation criteria are provided below:

- 1) **Sustainable Agriculture Relevance and Successful Inclusion of Previous SARE Projects (20%):** All SARE proposals should focus on issues that relate directly to Western SARE goals listed on page three of this CFP. Research to Grass Roots proposals must target critical issues that have a high likelihood of increasing the sustainability of agriculture in the Western region. Topics should be carefully selected to ensure they address a current or future need. Proposals must indicate how the project incorporates previously funded SARE projects and how the project will include feedback from producers to scientists.

- 2) **Collaborative Involvement (10%):** Proposals should illustrate the meaningful involvement of agricultural producers, personnel from land grant universities, nonprofit organizations, and/or other entities in the project's development, implementation, and outcomes.
- 3) **Project Objectives (20%):** The objectives should be specific, measurable, achievable and realistic. Please do NOT confuse objectives (e.g., to increase knowledge, skills or technical capacity of ag professionals and producers.) with activities (e.g., to develop and conduct a workshop.)
- 4) **Methods and Timeline (20%):** The activities and methods described must be appropriate for meeting project objectives and outcomes. This includes having the proper expertise and organizations involved. The timeline for achieving the objectives should be clear and reasonable. For more details on a timeline, see a [Gantt Chart](#).
- 5) **Feasibility and Evaluation of Project Outcomes (20%):** Proposals must address the desired outcomes in each of the following areas, describing how they will be assessed, measured, and documented:
 - A. Improving the knowledge base of project participants and/or others in a sustainable agriculture topic or area.
 - B. Increasing the likelihood that project participants will use what they learn (intention to adopt).
 - C. For multi-year projects, demonstrating the extent to which participants used new knowledge and skills in subsequent educational activities in sustainable agriculture or in farm or ranch operations.
- 6) **Budget: (10%)** An appropriate budget and justification is required. Please ensure the narrative explains specific line items so they may be fully understood.

KEY POINTS FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

- 1) **Project Includes Previously Funded SARE Project or Research:** The objective of the RGR grant proposals is put previous SARE work into application, thus, building the project on the basis of previous work is paramount for a successful proposal.
- 2) **One project per year limit per PI:** Western SARE's long-standing policy and practice is that a PI cannot receive more than one Western SARE grant award in the same year. For example, Dr. Jane Doe cannot receive a 2022 WSARE Research and Education grant award AND a 2022 WSARE Research to Grassroots grant award. In such instances that two applications are submitted by the same PI and both are of sufficient technical merit to be funded, the WSARE Administrative Council will only fund one application.
- 3) **Collaborative participation:** A goal of the program is to foster the development of a broad-based team to address one or more key issues in sustaining agriculture. Multidisciplinary and multi-state efforts that include private or public entities are encouraged. A leader/PI of a previous SARE project, agricultural producers, NGO reps, state or federal agency people and community leaders as well land grant University personnel should preferably all be included as part of the planning/trainer/educator team.
- 4) **Integrated training and education:** SARE encourages applications that integrate multiple aspects of sustainable agricultural production, marketing/economics, families, rural communities, and quality of life.
- 5) **Training and educational methodology:** Proposals must demonstrate enhanced knowledge and skills of participants, and trainer/educator teams are encouraged to develop new and innovative ways for learning to take place. Projects that create electronic or written educational products (e.g. manuals, web-based information or databases, podcasts, videos, etc.) should have an accompanying training component for use of that product, such as training sessions or tutorials. It is expected that the outreach material produced by USDA-NIFA Western SARE supported projects will be ADA compliant.
- 6) **Impacts and outcomes assessment:** It is important to provide evidence that educational objectives have been fulfilled, with desired outcomes clearly defined, evaluated, and documented. Grantees should build in a reasonable timeline and approach to properly complete evaluation of project impacts. **Please use the WSARE PDP logic model as a reference point as you develop your proposal.** The PDP logic model can be found under "[Documents for Applying](#)" on the WSARE website.
- 7) **Location:** Subcontract funds may flow to any entity that is eligible to receive federal funds.
- 8) **Letters of support:** Please submit letters of support from project cooperators. They should be attached as PDF files into Supporting Documents.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about this call for proposals or Western SARE, contact the Western SARE PDP office at (307) 575-2416 or wsare-pdp@sare.org.

Submission: Go to <https://projects.sare.org> to apply. *The proposal form is character sensitive. Be careful if you are cutting and pasting - visually review your proposal before submitting.*

Funding is capped at \$100,000 for each Research to Grassroots project.

Proposals must be received by 12:00 pm, NOON MST, November 17, 2021

All Western SARE calls for proposals (Research & Education, Farmer/Rancher, Ag Professional + Producer and Professional Development Program, Research to Grassroots, Sabbatical Research and Education) are listed on the [website](#), as are previously funded proposals.

The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program (SARE) is funded through the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) under Chapter 1 of Title XVI of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 and extended by the 1995 Farm Bill reauthorization. The purpose of the subtitle is to encourage research with education and on-farm demonstration projects designed to increase the producer knowledge base and assist in the adoption of sustainable practices on the land. Ideally, projects will integrate research, education and on-farm demonstrations within whole-farm sustainable agricultural systems involving plants and animals, demonstrating tangible outcomes and addressing Western SARE goals.

RESOURCES

Information on sustainable agriculture can be found at the National SARE website, www.sare.org (the database of nationwide SARE projects can be searched under “Project Reports”).

Another source of information on sustainable agriculture is the Alternative Farming Systems Information Center (AFSIC), funded in part by SARE. AFSIC specializes in locating, collecting and providing information about alternative systems, crops and production systems. Information specialists can answer questions, provide access to materials, provide references to individuals or organizations; identify researchers and research projects within USDA and furnish free bibliographies and reference briefs. Contact AFSIC at (301)504-6559 or afsic@nal.usda.edu.

“[Documents for Applying](#)” on the Western SARE website contains many helpful resources such as: Budgetary Details, Indirect Cost Guide, Gantt Chart, Successful Objectives, and Logic Models

An economic evaluation of the project is strongly encouraged. Links for assistance with economic analysis are provided below:

http://ipmimpact.ucanr.edu/Module_3_Economic_Analyses/
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/technical/econ/tools/#General_Economic_Planning



4516 Highway 26/85 • Torrington, WY • 82240 • 307-575-2416
wsare-pdp@sare.org • westernsare.org

SIGNATURE PAGE

Please print this document, obtain **BOTH** required signatures and upload into the Supporting Documents section of your online grant application.

Project Title: _____

Total Funds Requested: _____

Requested Project Period:

Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____ End date (MM/DD/YYYY): _____

Principal Investigator (PI)

USDA defines a PI as one who has the authority to write and submit a proposal and carry out its contractual provisions. As the project PI, I affirm I am responsible for all expenditures and achieving the stated research and education objectives of the proposal.

Signature: Principal Investigator *Date*

Printed Name: _____

Authorized Organizational Representative

USDA defines the Authorized Organizational Representative as one who has authority to enter into contractual agreements with the Western SARE Host Institution, Montana State University.

As the AOR for the institution/organization project of the Principal Investigator submitting this proposal, I affirm that [enter institution/organization name here] has authority to enter into a contractual agreement with Montana State University.

Signature: Authorized Organizational Representative *Date*

Printed Name and Title: _____



ANIMAL WELFARE ASSURANCE STATEMENT

The applicant acknowledges that work may require Institutional Animal Care and Use Oversight and that Montana State University (MSU), and thus Western SARE, is subject to the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching. This includes, but is not limited to: beef, swine, poultry, etc. If awarded the applicant acknowledges that it is his/her responsibility to ensure that a USDA-acknowledged IACUC reviews, approves, and oversees the animal welfare issues of the project.

_____ Date: _____
Signature: Applicant

NOTE: If animal welfare is NOT applicable, check and sign below:

Not Applicable [] _____ Date: _____
Signature: Applicant