

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FY 15-16

Nebraska Corn Board

Funding Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

**Proposal Receipt Deadline:** Thursday, January 22, 2015, by 5:00 pm (Central time).

### **Proposal Submission Process:**

- Investigators should work with their grants business support to submit the proposal to IANR Finance and Personnel (IANR F&P) via NUgrant.
- The **final** proposal document should be uploaded into NUgrant **as a single PDF**.
- Investigators should confirm that they have an active Interest and Outside Activity Reporting Form (IOARF) in NUgrant.
- Proposals must be approved in NUgrant by all investigators and Unit Administrators before 5:00 pm, Central time, Thursday, January 22, 2015. This deadline allows for time to review the proposals, print copies, and organize into booklets prior to the Corn Board deadline of January 30, 2015.
- An email **must** be sent to: [financeandpersonnel@unl.edu](mailto:financeandpersonnel@unl.edu) before Proposal Receipt Deadline, to notify IANR F&P that a proposal has been submitted in NUgrant. The following information must be included in the email:
  - Commodity Board Name
  - PI Name
  - Title of proposal
  - NUgrant form ID#
- Proposal documents will be printed from NUgrant. All proposals will be compiled into a booklet, providing 15 copies to the Nebraska Corn Board.

### **Proposal Content:**

- The Nebraska Corn Board requests that a thorough literature review be completed and a statement must be included in the executive summary declaring this proposal is novel and how the project differs from similar research that has been conducted previously. If the proposed research is not novel (has been conducted by other public or private entities and is published), the researcher must address why it is belief that the replication of the research needs to be conducted and **why it is important** to Nebraska corn growers.

- For programmatic and/or research questions, contact the ARD office. For specific Nebraska Corn Board questions, feel free to contact Boone McAfee by phone at 402-471-2676 or by email at [boone.mcafee@nebraska.gov](mailto:boone.mcafee@nebraska.gov).
- Proposal should be no more than three pages, and must have a 1" left margin.
- For each continuation project, investigators shall submit a report of progress with the new proposal. **Continuation of multi-year projects must be approved each year.** Please note that all projects shall be terminated on the date in the original proposal/contract. Requests for continuation beyond the original termination date shall be submitted as new proposals. This process will allow the commodity boards to more accurately track proposals. When entering budget in NUgrant for single or multi-year projects, only current year request should be entered.
- Proposals involving a team or a multiple disciplinary approach are encouraged.
- In general, the commodity Boards do not fund requests for equipment. If equipment is essential to the research proposal, submit a separate request for funding with additional justification for the board's consideration.

**Proposal Format:**

1. Name of the check-off board to which the proposal is to be submitted:  
**Nebraska Corn Board**
2. Project Title
3. Project Year/Time Period. Indicate whether new or continuation of existing project. (If continuation project, include sequence; i.e., year 2 of 3-year project.)
4. Principal Investigator(s) or Project Leader(s); Department or District Center; Phone Number and E-mail Address. Note: Only the first listed project leader will receive communication pertaining to this proposal from the ARD office.
5. Executive Summary – Should not include proprietary information as it may be displayed on the Nebraska Corn Board Website.
6. Statement that project is novel or reasoning for duplication of previously completed research.
7. Statement of work to be performed.
8. Project Description.

- a. *Justification* - A brief statement describing the potential benefits of the project to Nebraska's corn industry, including a brief discussion on potential economics, and an estimate of potential corn grind.
- b. Brief summary of background information for the study, including details on previous and current research on the proposed study.
- c. Description of methodology.
- d. Specific objectives; and procedures

9. *Timeline and milestones for research.*

10. *Project location(s).*

11. *Technology Transfer, or how the results of the project will be made available to the producers in Nebraska (i.e., Electronic format(s), Neb Guides, video, etc.)*

12. *Project Budget, by category of expense. Use the Commodity Board budget form included with these guidelines. **If an old form is used, the proposal will be declined during NUgrant routing. Revised proposal will be accepted via NUgrant if approved before Proposal Receipt Deadline.***

*Fringe benefits are budgeted as follows:*

*30% - Full-time positions*

*41% plus health insurance - for Graduate Students*

*0% - for Undergraduates*

*F&A costs are not allowed by Commodity Boards. Institutional Investment is not to be quantified on the budget form.*

13. *Faculty who are awarded funding will be expected to make a brief verbal update project report to the Board during and after the fiscal year for which funding is granted. Awarded faculty must submit a written Research Project Annual Report summary to the Board, due August 15 of each year.*

For Administrative Use	PROPOSAL BUDGET	
Effective Dates		
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S):		
PROJECT TITLE:		
PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY See Narrative Below	FUNDS REQUESTED FOR	
	FY	FY
	Year 1	Year 2
SALARIES AND WAGES Commodity Board usually does not pay the cost for Project Investigators		
Senior Associates		
Research Associates – Post doctorate		
3. Other Professionals		
4. Pre-baccalaureate Students		
5. Secretarial – Clerical		
6. Technical, Shop, Other		
7. Graduate Students		
B. FRINGE BENEFITS		
Faculty & Staff @ 30%		
Grad Student @ 41% plus Health Ins.		
NON-EXPENDABLE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (\$5,000 or more; more than 2 years use)		
TRAVEL	Domestic	
	Foreign	
ALL OTHER DIRECT COSTS - Materials & Supplies, Subcontracts, Publication Costs, etc. (Budget Narrative should list these individual items and dollar amounts separately)		
F. TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST		
INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT: The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is committed to providing Institutional resources necessary to successfully implement and complete this project.		

**BUDGET NARRATIVE:**

- A. Salaries & Wages
- B. Fringe Benefits
- C. Non-expendable Capital Equipment
- D. Travel
- E. All Other Direct Costs



November 14, 2014

To whom it may concern:

The Nebraska Corn Board is now accepting research proposals for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. A research application packet is enclosed for your assistance. This includes the Board's 2015-2016 research priorities, a timetable, guidelines for submitting proposals and the format for providing annual summaries.

The deadline for submitting proposals to the Nebraska Corn Board is January 30, 2015. We request that you present all of the proposals in booklet form, providing 15 copies of the booklets in addition to providing an electronic copy of each proposal.

As a reminder, we request that a thorough literature review be completed and a statement must be included in the cover letter or executive summary declaring this proposal is novel or how your project differs from similar research that has been conducted. If the research is not novel (has been conducted by other public or private entities and is published), make a special note of why you feel the replication of the project needs to be accomplished and why it is important to Nebraska corn farmers.

A couple of additional notes of importance: first, even though the committee outlined priorities, researchers are encouraged to submit proposals with objectives outside of the priorities and secondly, all individuals that review the proposals will be required to sign confidentiality statements.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 402.471.2676 or via e-mail at [boone.mcafee@nebraska.gov](mailto:boone.mcafee@nebraska.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Boone McAfee".

Boone McAfee  
Director of Market Development & Research

Enclosures

**Nebraska Corn Board  
Research Application Packet**

**2015 - 2016 Research Priorities**

- Increase the demand and usage of corn and/or corn products
- Research into the various aspects of life cycle analysis that affect corn and or corn ethanol, keeping in mind a systems approach
  - Examples (but not limited to) such as nitrous oxide emissions, irrigation efficiency and fuel use, model elasticity variables
- Research that optimizes the environmental stewardship practices of present and future corn production systems
  - Livestock production systems vs. crop production systems
- Research of Federal policy that effect corn, livestock, trade and/or ethanol

**Nebraska Corn Board  
Research Application Packet**

**2015 – 2016 Request for Proposals Research Timeline**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>
November 14, 2014	Send out request for proposals letter and application
January 30, 2015	Research proposals due back to NCB
February, 2015*	Research committee meets to review proposals and decide on verbal presentations
March, 2015*	Requested verbal funding presentations from the researchers to the full board
June, 2015*	Board votes on funding of proposals
July 1, 2015	Beginning of FY 2015-2016 projects
June 30, 2016	Conclusion of FY 2015-2016 projects

\* Tentative

# Nebraska Corn Board Research Application Packet

## Procedures and Guidelines for Developing Grant Proposals

The Corn Board will consider funding multi-year projects. However, funds will be dispersed for only one fiscal year, with projects reviewed for subsequent funding on an annual basis. Requests for extensions will not be regarded favorably by the Board.

The proposals should contain the following information:

1. Executive summary – *should not include proprietary information as it may be displayed on the Nebraska Corn Board Website.*
2. Statement that project is novel or reasoning for duplication of previously completed research
3. Statement of work to be performed
4. Description of research project
5. Benefit of the work to the corn industry, including a brief discussion on potential economics, and an estimate of potential corn grind
6. Timeline and milestones for research
7. Statement of funding requested

The proposals will be scored on the following criteria:

- Whether or not the proposal addresses the Nebraska Corn Board's research priority(s).
- The thrust of the research (new product, new use of co-products, improve or repositioning of product).
- Cost of research vs. benefits to corn farmers or industry
- Profitability impact to corn farmers or industry

**NOTE:** Failure to answer all questions will impact project ranking.

## Nebraska Corn Board

**Founded:** 1978

**Office located at:** 301 Centennial Mall South, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Nebraska State Office Building,  
Lincoln, NE 68509, (402) 471-2676

**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 95107, Lincoln, NE 68509-5107

**Mission Statement:**

*The mission of the Nebraska Corn Board is to develop, carry out and participate in programs of research, education, market development and promotion to enhance profitability (viability) and expand the demand and value of Nebraska corn and value added corn products.*

**Vision:**

*Nebraska Corn - the first choice for a consistent supply of quality corn that is fed, processed and consumed by an expanding base of Nebraska, domestic and global customers.*

The Nebraska Corn Board consists of nine farmer-directors who serve three-year, staggered terms. Eight members represent districts divided within the state and are appointed by the Governor; an At-Large Director is elected by the other Board members.

The Board administers the funds generated by the Nebraska checkoff on corn. Nebraska corn checkoff funds are invested in programs of market development, promotion, research, and education.

**Committees:**

- Executive
- Market Development & Research
- Biofuels
- Communications

