

**Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (replaces the National Research Initiative),
CSREES, USDA**

PURPOSE: to make competitive grants for fundamental and applied research, extension and education to address food and agricultural sciences in six priority areas.

The application guidelines will be released soon. See pages 129 and 130 of the program announcement for deadline dates. The announcement includes descriptions of programs so that investigators can begin project development. A number of programs require letters of intent. The program announcement is available at:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri_rfa.html

Selected program deadline dates for the letter of intent (LOI) or application (APP):

Animal health and well being 1/16/2009 for LOI

Animal health & well being, tools and resources 6/1/2009 for LOI

Bioactive food components for optimal health 1/22/2009 for LOI

Biobased products and bioenergy production research 2/11/2009 for LOI

Biology of weedy and invasive species in agroecosystems 4/20/2009 for LOI

Biological approaches for food safety 3/4/2009 for LOI

Epidemiological approaches for food safety 3/4/2009 for LOI

Practical approaches for food protection 3/4/2009 for LOI

Improving food quality and value 1/21/2009 for LOI

Integrated solutions for animal agriculture 3/16/2009 for LOI

Human nutrition and obesity 6/15/2009 for APP

Managed ecosystems 3/3/2009 for LOI

Plant biology, environmental stress 1/30/2009 for LOI

Plant breeding and education 3/16/2009 for LOI

Plant biosecurity 4/13/2009 for LOI

Rapid response food and agricultural science for emergency issues immediately for LOI

Soil processes 1/16/2009 for LOI

Sustainable agroecosystems science and long-term agroecosystem 3/2/2009 for APP

Water and watersheds 4/15/2009 for APP