

Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program

Purpose

The Federally-Recognized Tribes Extension Program supports extension agents on American Indian Reservations and Tribal jurisdictions to address the unique needs and problems of American Indian Tribal Nations. Emphasis is placed on assisting American Indians in the development of profitable farming and ranching techniques, providing 4-H and youth development experiences for Tribal youth, and providing education and outreach on tribally-identified priorities using a culturally sensitive approach, such as family resource management and nutrition.

Awards

Awards are made on a multi-year basis, subject to Congressional appropriations and annual evaluations that show satisfactory progress of the project. Awards will be made to fund projects that support one or more of the five Strategic Goals outlined in the CSREES Strategic Plan for FY 2004 - 2009: enhance economic opportunities for agricultural producers; support increased economic opportunities and improved quality of life in rural America; enhance protection and safety of the Nation's agriculture and food supply; improve the Nation's nutrition and health; and protect and enhance the Nation's natural resource base and environment.

Who May Apply

Institutions designated as 1862 or 1890 Land-Grant Institutions are eligible to receive funding.

Contact Information

Joan F. Gill
National Program Leader, FRTEP
Phone: 202-720-6487, Fax: 202-720-4924
jgill@csrees.usda.gov
http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/education/in_focus/multicultural_if_indian.html



Impacts

The FRTEP is improving the lives and economic conditions of American Indian elders, adults, and youth. Examples include:

- enhanced economy of Tribal agricultural producers;
- development of youth leaders;
- enhanced stewardship of natural resources, including rangeland, fisheries and wildlife;
- responding to national security and food safety issues involving animal identification and disease prevention;
- development of culturally relevant agricultural Extension curricula;
- improved health through nutrition and traditional foods programs;
- enhanced community development;
- adoption of management practices relating to drought and other severe weather conditions;
- agriculture and agri-business experiences for Tribal youth.

How the Partnership Works

FRTEP funds are provided by CSREES to the 1862 or 1890 land-grant institution in the state in which the Reservation or Tribal jurisdiction is located, providing access to the university's knowledge base and structure to deliver needed information and programs. The Tribe provides functional office space, utilities, and an advisory committee. The FRTEP agent provides the link between new agriculture technologies and the application of these technologies by farmers and ranchers, serves as a liaison with other USDA programs, provides training in farm and ranch business management, supervises 4-H and youth development activities, and coordinates special training programs.

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USDA - Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Mail Stop 2251
Washington, DC 20250-2201
Phone: 202-720-7441

