

Sponsor/Title: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Special Research Grants Program for Aquaculture Research

External Link: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/362397>

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NIFA-SRGP-011856

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1)

[Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing](#)

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2026-05-25

Sponsor Application Deadline: 2026-06-15

Purpose: The Special Research Grants Program for Aquaculture Research (Assistance Listing Number 10.200) is to support the development of a vibrant, robust, and profitable aquaculture industry in the United States by generating new, science-based information and technology to address industry constraints. Applied research is needed to develop practical solutions that will facilitate growth and remove limitations to expansion of the United States aquaculture industry. Results of projects supported by this program are intended to help improve the profitability of the United States aquaculture industry, reduce the multi-billion-dollar United States seafood trade deficit, increase domestic food security, expand markets for United States-produced products, and provide more jobs for rural and coastal America.

Applications Must:

- Directly address major constraints to the United States aquaculture industry.
- Focus on one or more of the following Program Area Priorities:
 - Genetics and genomics of commercial aquaculture species.
 - Critical pest and disease issues impacting commercial aquaculture species.
 - Maximizing farmer profit through novel technologies, improved production systems, and/or more effective management strategies for commercial aquaculture species.
 - Economic research for increasing commercial aquaculture profitability.

Other Key Information:

1. This program is limited to applied research only.
2. Applications must include United States aquaculture industry involvement. This can include, but is not limited to, a United States aquaculture producer as a co-project director or partner or assembling an industry advisory committee (e.g., a farmer's advisory committee for the project that can include producer-based organizations, feed manufacturers, animal health industry, etc.).
3. Applicants must provide a budgeted plan to release results to the public in a timely manner. This plan must clearly state how the research results or technology developed will be transferred to end-users outside of direct, scientific peers.
4. Applicants must clearly describe how their specific research project will increase United States aquaculture production or profitability in the short or medium-term (1-5 years after the grant ends).
5. For the critical disease Program Area Priority, proposals that focus on pathogens that pose a risk to humans or human food safety (vs. those that affect the health of an aquaculture species) are outside the scope of this program and will not be accepted or considered for review.
6. Applicants must include statistical power analyses, when appropriate, and describe the experimental design, experimental unit, replication, and sample size for each experimental group.

7. The inclusion of students actively engaged in research projects providing hands-on, experiential learning and training opportunities is strongly encouraged. Actively engaged students should be encouraged to contribute to presentations, articles, posters, and other expressions of scholarship.

Internal Application Requirements: Upload the following information to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/gM5BR6E8bCkR5WQu7> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- All ND Collaborators:
 - For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: Three (3) pages (maximum) addressing the following Evaluation Criteria as outlined on page 20 in the NOFO.
 - Proposal Relevance and Effectiveness
 - Technical/Scientific Merit
 - Data Management Plan

Questions: Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Internal applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.