



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

Federal Demonstration Partnership

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Agency Update

September 2017



USDA NIFA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Agenda

- New Policy and Oversight Division Director
- Subaward Forms
- Grants.gov Forms
- Streamlining Matching
- Capacity Program Update
- USDA ezFedGrants



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Director Policy and Oversight Division

Maribel Miller

Subaward Forms



- Downloading new Grants.gov forms and trying to use with an old forms pkg
- Submission will not be successful
- Reuse workspace forms from older pkg if form shares the exact name and version of the one in the new funding opportunity.
- Check expiration dates on forms



Grants.gov Forms

- New version available
- Using PDF version
 - Pkg available until 12/31/2017
 - Submissions until 3/31/2018
- Transitioning latter part of Oct/Nov



Streamlining Matching

Elimination of Third Party pledge agreements:

- signature of donor organization's AOR and the applicant organization;
- donor's name, address and telephone number;
- title of the project;
- dollar amount of the donation;
- stmt that the donation will be made during the grant period; and
- whether the donation has been designated to a particular budget item by the contributor.



Status of Capacity Programs

- Finalizing last FY 2017 payments for all Capacity programs.
- FY 2018 Capacity RFAs published on Grants.gov in early August, due Sept.
- FY 2017 Capacity annual SF425 will be submitted through ezFedGrants.
 - Report available October 1
 - Due by December 28



What is **NOT** changing for NIFA applicants

- Applicants apply through [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov)
- Grantees utilize Treasury's ASAP system to draw funds
- Capacity reporting will remain the same in REEport and in POW
- NIFA's competitive awards will not be managed in ezFedGrants until a later date



**ezFedGrants -
Update from USDA Office of the
Chief Financial Officer**



What is ezFedGrants?

A comprehensive grants and agreements management solution that gives **agencies** and **recipients** the ability to manage their awards throughout the entire lifecycle of the award

- Pre-award: Solicitation, Application, and Evaluation
- Award: Execution (with electronic signature)
- Post Award:
 - Claims
 - Progress Reports (Financial and Performance)
 - Amendments
- Closeout
- Financial Audit (Agency A-123 Requirements)





ezFedGrants Updates

- Current USDA agencies deployed in ezFedGrants:
 - AMS, APHIS, FAS, FNS, NIFA, NRCS, OAO

- Current agencies utilizing the external recipient portal: APHIS, FAS, NIFA, and OAO
 - Coming soon: AMS and NRCS

- Forest Service expected to fully deploy in mid-2018



ezFedGrants - Upcoming

- Organization and Roles Enhancement
 - Currently working on enhancement to offer more flexibilities for role and organization assignments
 - Users can be assigned to more than one DUNS
 - Organizations can combine various DUNS/CAGE combination to define their organization structure
 - Additional roles and more role flexibility
 - Expected deployment is mid-2018
- Ongoing bug fixes and additional minor enhancements



Questions

- Please send any questions to our ezFedGrants help desk:

ezFedGrants@cfo.usda.gov