2018-19 Request for Applications
HICAHS Emerging Issues Projects
Deadline: Ongoing

ATTENTION, Agricultural Organizations:
See separate RFA for HICAHS Pilots and Community-Initiated Grants Programs

Overview
In accordance with its mission, the High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS) offers funding to support projects in agricultural health and safety research. As one of several Agricultural Safety and Health Centers funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), HICAHS has established a program to support Emerging Issues Projects. Emerging issues are defined as health risks that are new or have rapidly expanding impact in the immediate or near future. The Emerging Issues program is designed to provide a structure to identify issues of high priority for regional producers and the flexibility for HICAHS to respond rapidly. All funds for emerging issues will be used to address priorities identified by HICAHS constituents including producers, Extension Agents, the HICAHS External Advisory Board, and other Agricultural and Forestry partners in the High Plains Intermountain Region. Projects and use of funds may vary depending on the need and availability. Recent past examples of Emerging Issues include: rapid response to developing and communicating information on appropriate PPE and work practices for bird flu, Ebola virus in the High Plains Intermountain region and nationally, Assessing Worker Perceptions of Health and Safety Risk in Beetle-Killed Forests, and Development of Dairy Stockmanship Vignettes for Mobile Employee Training Tool, Total Worker Health approaches for agricultural businesses, and Developing approaches to evaluate economic aspects (cost-benefit) and impacts of our programs.

Projects in this cycle will be funded at a level of up to $25,000 for a varying project duration (including 8% indirect costs,) depending on when identified. The requirements and criteria for emerging issues projects are described below. This application may also be found at http://csu-cvmbs.colostate.edu/academics/erhs/agricultural-health-and-safety/Pages/emerging-issues.aspx

Approach
Emerging issues will be identified by HICAHS constituents including producers, Extension, HICAHS Advisory Board Members, and other Agricultural and Forestry partners in the High Plains Intermountain Region. We will use multiple active strategies to solicit input and communication from constituents on a quarterly basis. Constituents will be contacted regularly by the Administration, Planning, and Evaluation Core using email and the HICAHS newsletter. We will also discuss emerging issues at meetings with External Board members and at other opportune regional producer meetings and Outreach efforts.

A short written proposal will be required. In some cases we may require an NIH - like research proposal format, and review coordinated with the Pilot Research Program. Proposed emerging issues and projects will be prioritized and selected by the HICAHS Leadership Team, with final decision on funding by the HICAHS Director (Dr. Reynolds). Our budget is $50,000 per year and will be managed and evaluated through the Administration, Planning, and Evaluation Core, in coordination with the Outreach and Research Cores.
Application Instructions

Applicants should submit a short (no more than 2 pages) proposal describing the Problem and the associated Burden (risk, population affected), Project Objectives and Approach, likely Outcome or Result, and potential Impact, as well as a brief Budget:

No funds will be disbursed without proof of Human Subjects (or Animal Care) Institutional Review Board approval (if applicable).

Letters of Support may be helpful and are welcome.

Submit your application electronically in a single PDF file to: hicahs@colostate.edu.

Review Committee

Proposed emerging issues and projects will be prioritized and selected by the HICAHS Leadership Team, with final decision on funding by the HICAHS Director (Dr. Reynolds).

All awards are contingent upon receipt of funding to the High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

1) The budget period is less than one year.
2) The typical award can be up to $25,000 for one year including indirect costs (limited to 8%).
3) Applicants cannot receive more than a cumulative total of 2 emerging issue awards as a Project Investigator.
4) Carryover is not allowed.
5) Allowable expenses include all relevant project expenses including:
   • Salary for key personnel, graduate students, and other support staff is allowed. Salary payment to faculty mentors is limited to 5% of a 12 month equivalent salary plus fringe benefits.
   • In-state tuition for graduate and undergraduate personnel.
   • Supplies and small specialized equipment.
   • Domestic travel necessary to conduct the research.
   • Indirect costs up to 8%.
   • Equipment purchased for the project becomes the property of the university sponsoring the principal investigator.
7) Disallowed expenses
   • Indirect cost >8%, faculty mentor salary >5% of a 12-month equivalent salary plus fringe benefits.
   • Technical conference travel.
   • Routine clerical assistance.

Final Written Report

1) A final written report must be submitted within 6 months after the end of the budget period, with results preferably presented in manuscript form or in the form of a brief white paper with executive summary. This report should also document all presentations, publications, students/trainees supported, and extramural funds that have resulted, in part, directly or indirectly from this award.

2) Although a formal interim report will not be required, HICAHS staff may contact awardees to obtain updates on research progress, including products and narratives resulting from the award.

The investigator must acknowledge support from the High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety in all publications and presentations resulting from the award. Using the following statement:

“Supported by the High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety CDC/NIOSH Grant No. U54OH008085”

Use of the HICAHS logo is encouraged:

www.hicahs.colostate.edu/logos.html