

USDA - Agricultural Research Service
1890 Faculty Research Sabbatical Program (FRSP)

FY 2022 Program Information



Application Deadline: **April 4, 2022**

ARS Point of Contact: **1890FRSP@usda.gov**



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education, and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

Program Summary

The [U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Agricultural Research Service \(ARS\)](#) is committed to enhancing the agricultural research capacity of the 1890 Land-Grant Universities (LGUs) by partnering with them in the 1890 Faculty Research Sabbatical Program (FRSP). The 1890 FRSP offers research and training opportunities to tenure-track and research-track faculty at 1890 LGUs, providing mutual benefit to the 1890 LGUs and ARS: 1890 LGU faculty have the opportunity to work alongside ARS scientists in established research programs, develop new research skills and techniques, and co-author research papers resulting from the collaborations. ARS scientists benefit from having new and talented partners associated with their research programs and creating new research partnerships with 1890 LGUs.

ARS plans to invest up to \$500,000 each year in the 1890 FRSP, pending annual appropriations. Awards will be made to the 1890 LGU in the form of a Non-Assistance Cooperative Agreement (also known as a NACA) as authorized under 7 U.S.C. 3318(b). The ARS-1890 LGU research partners may identify opportunities to develop additional long-term funding ideas to sustain their research relationships beyond the term of the sabbatical, including the [1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants \(CBG\) Program](#) offered by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

FY 22 Program Description

For Federal fiscal year (FY) 2022, 1890 FRSP program applicants may propose to conduct their cooperative research under one of the following types of residencies within a 12- to 24-month award period:

- **Continuous residency**: A residency of 6 to 12 consecutive months onsite at an ARS laboratory.
- **Two-part residency**: A residency of 6 to 12 total months, divided in two parts and completed within a two-year period.

The 1890 FRSP awards may be funded at up to \$125,000 to support residency expenses (e.g., salary, housing, personal living expenses, travel, and research costs), and maximum funding levels will be pro-rated according to the length of the residency:

Total length of residency	Maximum funding rate (total award)
12 months	\$125,000
11 months	\$117,000
10 months	\$108,000
9 months	\$100,000
8 months	\$92,000
7 months	\$83,000
6 months	\$75,000

Although this program is primarily intended to support 1890 LGU faculty members, faculty may elect to allocate a portion of their funds to support travel expenses of 1890 LGU students participating in the collaborative research project.

The 1890 LGU faculty member and the ARS host mentor / Principal Investigator (ARS PI) may decide to budget a subset of the total proposed amount for the ARS PI. Funds may be set-aside for ARS purchase of supplies for direct use by the faculty member, travel of the ARS PI to the 1890 LGU, travel to conferences related to the 1890 FRSP collaborative research project, or for publication costs related to the collaborative research project. Funds budgeted for the ARS PI are capped at \$25,000 and prorated according to the length of the residency as follows:

Total length of residency	Maximum subset of total award that may be retained by ARS PI
12 months	\$25,000
11 months	\$23,300
10 months	\$21,700
9 months	\$20,000
8 months	\$18,300
7 months	\$16,700
6 months	\$15,000

Budget Exclusions:

- ARS has provided a unique exception for the 1890 FRSP and has waived the required Cooperator Resource Contributions specifically for 1890 FRSP awards made to the 1890 LGU.
- Indirect costs and tuition remission are prohibited from reimbursement under the 1890 FRSP, in accordance with 7 USC 3319.

Timeline

- April 4, 2022: Submission deadline to 1890FRSP@usda.gov.
 - Note: The ARS host mentor must submit a completed proposal through his/her supervisory chain prior to this date.
- June 6, 2022: Latest date at which ARS will notify awardees.
- Awards will be executed between June 15, 2022, and August 31, 2022.
 - September 1, 2022:
 - Earliest start date for an onsite sabbatical.
 - Research collaboration must begin no later than this date. Research collaborations may begin virtually and involve training, planning, and other prep work for the onsite sabbatical.
 - September 30, 2022: 1890 FSRP awardees must begin drawing funds from their FY22 award via the DHHS-Payment Management System no later than this date.
 - June 1, 2023: Latest start date for an onsite sabbatical. (Onsite residency may be delayed to summer 2023 but must begin no later than this date.)
- At the conclusion of the award, the 1890 LGU faculty member and ARS host mentor / ARS PI will be required to complete an accomplishment report.

Eligibility

ARS will accept proposals from faculty at any of the 1890 LGUs for the 1890 FRSP. The proposal must be co-authored by:

- A tenure-track or research-track 1890 LGU faculty member who:
 - Has been employed for a minimum of 3 years in his/her current position at the time of proposal submission; and
 - Is approved for sabbatical leave by his/her home institution; and
- Any full time ARS scientist* (ARS host mentor) who:
 - Will be the ARS PI on the NACA and host / mentor the 1890 LGU faculty member;
 - Has successfully completed the prescribed probationary period, is in good standing relative to performance, and has supervisory approval;
 - Has adequate facilities and other resources necessary to host an 1890 LGU faculty member; and
 - Has worked with the 1890 LGU faculty member to identify a research project that is complementary and relevant to his/her in-house research program.

Any 1890 LGU faculty member who has participated in the 1890 FRSP in the past may reapply for the program, provided at least 3 years have passed since the end date of their previous 1890 FRSP award.

*The ARS host mentor must have an active delegation of authority as an ARS Principal Investigator, prior to any award to the 1890 LGU. Category I or IV scientists or the National Agricultural Library are eligible to host 1890 LGU faculty through this program.

Resources

- The [ARS website](#) is a valuable resource which 1890 LGU scientists can use to identify current ARS research projects and locations of interest.
- ARS scientists who are actively soliciting new 1890 LGU collaborators are listed on the [1890 Partnerships Hub](#).
- [Partnership Resources for Cooperators](#)

Proposal Submission and Preparation Instructions

This is not a Federal assistance award and does not involve Grants.gov. The application submission must proceed according to the following steps:

1. ARS host mentor submits the completed application package to their Research Leader for approval **prior to April 4, 2022**.
2. Research Leader forwards the application package to their Area Director's Office for approval **prior to April 4, 2022**.
3. The Area Director's Office emails approved application to 1890FRSP@usda.gov **no later than April 4, 2022**.

Application checklist:

- ✓ Curriculum vitae of the 1890 LGU faculty member;
- ✓ Curriculum vitae of the ARS host scientist (including any prior mentoring experience);
- ✓ Letter from the Authorized Official of the 1890 LGU that:
 - Documents institutional approval for submission of the application and of the proposed research;
 - Describes the specific arrangements at the 1890 LGU with respect to salary and date and duration of the sabbatical leave; and
 - Recognizes the full-time nature of the sabbatical leave, including agreement that the 1890 LGU faculty member will be conducting the research at the ARS location and thus will be minimally engaged in their normal faculty duties;
- ✓ [Budget for Non-Assistance Cooperative Agreements Research and Related Budget \(Total Fed + Non-Fed\)](#) with a budget justification; and
- ✓ Project proposal: Applicants are encouraged to use the [Project Information Template](#) to complete their proposal. Project proposals must be jointly developed between the 1890 LGU faculty member and his/her prospective host mentor and contain the following information:
 - Names, affiliations, and contact information of the 1890 LGU faculty member and ARS host mentor;
 - An indication of whether the 1890 LGU faculty member has participated in the program in the past and a description of how the previous sabbatical built capacity;

- Project number for the parent ARS intramural project (to be provided by the ARS host mentor);
- Project title and anticipated start and end dates;
- An introduction that provides background context and describes the significance of the proposed research;
- Objectives of the work to be conducted by the 1890 LGU faculty member during his/her sabbatical leave;
- Materials and methods required to accomplish the proposed research;
- Expected outputs and impacts of the proposed research;
- Resources currently available at the ARS location to support the proposed research;
- Benefits of the proposed cooperative research to U.S. agriculture, the 1890 LGU, ARS, and the parent ARS intramural project;
- Description of how the sabbatical will enhance the capabilities of the 1890 LGU faculty member and how capacity building will occur. This description should be prepared collaboratively by the 1890 LGU applicant and prospective ARS host mentor;
- An explanation of how the proposed project differs from the 1890 LGU faculty member's previous 1890 FRSP sabbatical, if applicable; and
- Requested budget (reference [budget tables](#) at the beginning of this document):
 - 1890 LGU faculty members shall prepare their budget on the [Budget for Non-Assistance Cooperative Agreements Research and Related Budget \(Total Fed + Non-Fed\)](#) and provide a separate budget justification. The funds requested in this form would be the funds included in the NACA to the 1890 LGU, if the project is funded.
 - The ARS host mentor shall prepare their budget on page 10 of the [Project Information Template](#).

Application Review and Selection

All application packages for the 1890 FRSP will be screened to ensure they satisfy the requirements as described above.

Proposals will be reviewed by an internal ARS panel and evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Relevance and utility to the base-funded research of the ARS host scientist;
- Scientific merit (i.e., does the proposed research contribute valuable, valid, and meaningful information that is justifiable, logical, and consequential to food and agricultural research)?
- Mutual benefit to the ARS and 1890 LGU collaborators (i.e., does the application articulate the complementary strengths and benefits that both the ARS and 1890 LGU partners will bring to and receive from the proposed collaboration)?
- Ability to lead to longer-term benefits and impacts for the state where the 1890 LGU is located and beyond?

- Ability to provide a foundation for future long-term collaborations between ARS and the 1890 LGU?

Although ARS will attempt to maximize the number of institutions receiving awards, multiple awards may be made to the same university based on the quality of the proposals.

The ARS Administrator will make the final selection of proposals for funding based on the panel's evaluations.