

**New Mexico State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
Seed Grants FY27**

The College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences' mission is to serve as "an engine for economic and community development in New Mexico, improving the lives of New Mexicans through research, teaching, and extension." The Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) supports this mission through research that enhances agricultural productivity, stimulates economic development, improves the quality and safety of food and fiber products, promotes environmentally and ecologically sustainable management that protects natural resources, and improves the lives of New Mexicans.

AES seed grants, provided through AES state operation funds, are designed to expand research that addresses the state's agricultural and natural resource priorities. These funds are intended to provide initial support for projects that may be otherwise difficult to fund, to generate results that lead to future competitive grant applications. Proposed research should directly impact the State of New Mexico.

Eligibility

Faculty with an AES appointment or significant research allocation of effort are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to faculty who do not currently receive significant funding from federal capacity funds or other College-administered funding programs, e.g., Chile Association grants. Proposals that include multidisciplinary collaboration with other NMSU colleges or NMSU-affiliated institutions are encouraged, provided that the other colleges or institutions can contribute additional funding. Proposals that involve both junior and senior faculty are strongly encouraged. Note: Proposers with funded FY26 seed grants that have received an extension into 2027 may apply during this new round of funding, given that the project is a new effort.

Funding Available

- Proposals may be submitted for any amount up to \$25,000.
- Funds will be available after awardees are selected and must be expended by June 30, 2027. No carry-over funds will be approved.
- Funds cannot be used for course buy-outs or summer salary for PIs.
- All awards are contingent upon the availability of funding.

Proposal Criteria

Proposals must clearly:

- Show how they will benefit New Mexico residents,
- Indicate that the proposed work is new in nature and not a continuation of previous work, and
- Address how the proposed work will support the development of proposals for external funding.

This funding cycle added consideration will be given to projects that include at least one of the following AES priorities: support one or more objectives of an Umbrella Project and include two or more members of the team, include a new interdisciplinary collaboration, and support a clearly demonstrated stakeholder need for New Mexico agriculture.

Deliverables

A project report, no more than three pages in length, including research accomplishments, outputs (publications, presentations, related funding applications, etc.), and budget expenditures, and an AES long-form impact statement (format to be provided) is due by July 31, 2027. Data collected or produced must be made available upon request to other researchers in the College of ACES within one year of collection or production.

Evaluation Criteria will be based on the following:

- Addresses the needs of the citizens of New Mexico.
- Scientific rigor and merit.
- Project does not duplicate efforts already completed or in progress.
- Clear objectives and project plan.
- Feasibility that the work can be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget.
- Appropriate personnel to accomplish the objectives.

Proposal Requirements

1. Project Introduction (1-page maximum)
 - a. Project Title
 - b. PI Names, Title(s), Department(s), and Email Address(s)
 - c. Abstract (Written in non-technical language for a general audience)
 - d. 12-point font, single spaced, one-inch margins
2. Research Project Description (1100 words max, ~2 pages) – *In non-technical language.*
 - a. Include project details, a timeline with milestones, and data products
 - b. 12-point font, single spaced, one-inch margins
 - c. One figure and one table allowed on a single, separate page
3. Budget – use template provided, adjust # of lines as needed. Costs should be properly justified
4. SciENcv Current and Pending Support – choose USDA format

Submit proposals to: aces_proposals@nmsu.edu. Please submit a single PDF of your complete proposal packet using the title and subject: FY27_AES_SeedGrant_[PI Last Name]. **Proposals that do not follow the required title format and proposals submitted to a different email address WILL NOT be accepted.**

Application Deadline: June 30, 2026 (late applications will not be accepted).