

**New Mexico State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
McIntire-Stennis FY26
Request for Proposals**

Overview

[McIntire-Stennis capacity funds](#) support forestry research, in accordance with the McIntire-Stennis Act. AES distributes these funds to support forestry-related research with a direct impact on the communities of New Mexico.

Eligibility Requirements

McIntire-Stennis funding is open to faculty members in the College of ACES whose research aligns with the forestry research priority areas as specified by the McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962. Priority will be given to faculty who do not currently receive significant funding from a College-administered funding program, e.g., AES Seed Grants, Chile Association grants, and federal capacity funds. Faculty from other colleges and universities may serve as collaborators on a project; however, funding may not be used to directly support non-NMSU/College of ACES collaborators. The McIntire-Stennis forestry research priority areas include:

- Reforestation and management of land for the production of crops of timber and other related products of the forest.
- Management of forest and related watershed lands to improve conditions of water flow and to protect resources against floods and erosion.
- Management of forest and related rangeland for the production of forage for domestic livestock and game, and improvement of food and habitat for wildlife.
- Management of forest lands for outdoor recreation.
- Protection of forest land and resources against fire, insects, diseases, or other destructive agents.
- Utilization of wood and other forest products.
- Development of sound policies for the management of forest lands and marketing of forest products.
- Such other studies as may be necessary to obtain the fullest and most effective use of forest resources.

In addition, projects should address these specific McIntire-Stennis justification areas: the importance of the problem to agriculture, forestry, and rural life of the State or region, the reasons for doing the work (such as the needs the project will fill) and doing it at this time, and the ways in which public welfare or scientific knowledge will be advanced.

Funding Limitations

- The total funding available for the FY26 McIntire-Stennis award cycle is \$75,000. AES intends to award more than one proposal. Relative to the FY26 funding cycle:
 - Proposals may be submitted for any amount up to \$75,000/yr for 2 years
 - Funds will be available after awardees are selected, and first-year funds must be expended by September 30, 2026.
 - Second-year funding will be contingent upon progress during the first year.
- No project will be considered without a proposal, even if you have been funded with McIntire-Stennis Capacity funds in the past.

- Project duration should not exceed two years.
- Approved projects must be completed within the project duration time frame.
- Funds cannot be used for course buy-outs or summer salary for PIs.

Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment with the forestry research priority areas specified by the McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962
- Overall quality of proposed research
- Emphasis on impact in New Mexico
- Realistic budget
- Plans for seeking extramural funding. It is expected that PIs will leverage capacity funds to obtain additional research funding.

Proposal Format

Proposal pieces (including the project title, proposed duration, non-technical summary, and methodology should not exceed two pages (12-point font, 1-inch margins).

Format

- 1. Project Director and Department**
- 2. Collaborating Project Directors and Departments**
- 3. Project Title**
- 4. Proposed Start and End Date**
 - a. McIntire-Stennis Projects can be written for up to two years in duration. Projects begin and end with the Federal Fiscal Year from Oct 1 to Sept 30. If your project will begin mid-year, please make sure the end date is Sept 30.
- 5. Non-Technical Summary (Justification)** **This is an entry in the NIFA Reporting System (NRS); you will be asked to expand this section if your proposal is selected.*
 - a. In nontechnical language, briefly describe the following: (1) the issue and why it is important, (2) your goal and objectives, (3) the target audience and how they will benefit, and (4) how your activities lead to the outcomes described in the goal statement or objectives.
- 6. Methodology**
 - a. Describe the ways in which the project will be conducted with emphasis on the general scientific methods and any unique aspects or significant departures from usual methods.
 - b. If IRB approval or IACUC approval is needed, that approval information will be needed if the proposal is accepted for submission to NIFA.
- 7. Project Budget** *(not included in total proposal length; use the provided budget template)*
 - a. Provide a detailed breakdown of annual expenses. IDC is not an allowable charge. Please be aware that if your proposal is approved for funding, this approval does not necessarily approve the budget as requested. Funding approvals are contingent on funding availability and allowability on capacity grants. Costs should be properly justified.
- 8. CV of Project Directors** *(not included in total proposal length): An up-to-date, abbreviated 2-page CV for the Project Director*

Submit proposals to: aces_proposals@nmsu.edu. Please submit a single PDF of your complete proposal packet using the title and subject: AES_McIntire_Stennis_2025-2026 Proposal_[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: September 30, 2025 (late applications will not be accepted).