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DEIA Director



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**FY2024 Regional Integrated Pest Management Centers
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Fellowship Program
Request for Applications**

Release Date: October 4, 2023

Applications Due: Ongoing, accepted until funds are depleted

Period of Performance: End date no later than 9/17/24

Final Report Due: 30 days post end date

Funding Available: Up to 8 awards of \$6,000 each. We anticipate awarding 2 fellowships per [region](#).

DEIA Fellowship Description

The Regional IPM Centers champion the development and adoption of integrated pest management, the science of managing pests while protecting people, the environment and economy. Each Center engages broadly with stakeholders to identify and address regional pest priorities in agriculture, communities, and natural areas.

The goal of the Regional IPM Centers DEIA fellowship program is to build better support and collaboration between minority-serving institutions and IPM professionals, while offering financial support. DEIA fellowships will last one year, and recipients will attend monthly meetings with the North Central IPM Center DEIA Director to identify DEIA opportunities within IPM and help establish a bridge back with the existing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) community.

The DEIA Fellowship program is dedicated to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility initiatives across the United States and its territories. It offers support for endeavors led by individuals from marginalized communities, including Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+, immigrants, neurodiverse individuals, Veterans, and those with disabilities, as well as faculty, staff, and students who champion these causes. Additionally, we are open to considering proposals from organizations focused on DEIA training and education, as well as other partners, programs, and opportunities aimed at advancing equity and inclusion.

Eligibility

Individuals eligible to apply should belong to the faculty, staff, or student body of an 1890, 1994, HBCU or HSI institution and should be actively involved in integrated pest management or plant health activities. They should also express a desire to establish connections with fellow practitioners in these fields.

Funding

\$6,000 per fellowship. No cost-share/match or indirect costs are allowed.

Application Preparation

Please submit the following as one compiled PDF. If you need assistance with any step of the process, feel free to reach out.

Cover page including:

- Name
- Email
- Institution
- Title or role

Narrative (Max. 2 pages, single spaced, 1-inch margins):

Describe your activities in integrated pest management or plant health and why you are interested in collaborating with others associated with minority serving institutions or marginalized communities.

Please answer the following in your narrative where applicable:

- Why is the project important to IPM?
- What benefits will the project produce for you, your home institution, and USDA-NIFA's IPM programs?
- Outreach: What impact do you expect from your project? How do you expect to use the experience?
- Research: How will results be disseminated (publications, conferences, presentations, joint collaborations, etc.)

Letter of support from advisor or supervisor

Submission

Please submit your PDF document to: [DEIA Fellowship Submission](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/a72515a1fb624209b42df62b0ada7b21)
(<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/a72515a1fb624209b42df62b0ada7b21>)

Selection Criteria

All complete applications received will be acknowledged. Applications will be reviewed by the Regional IPM Centers DEIA Steering Committee for selection.

Selection will be based upon:

Application Preparation	10 points	Application is complete and follows the format specified in this RFA.
Problem and Justification	20 points	Project addresses relevant IPM research and/or outreach goals. Expected impact on IPM, communities, and society.
Likelihood of Success	20 points	Clear link between the proposed activities and stated goals. Timeline and scale of project are appropriate. Applicant is interested in engaging with the other Fellows at monthly meetings to build strong connections with the IPM community
Letter(s) of Support	10 points	Collaborators and/or supervisors have agreed to participate through a letter of support.

We will host a Zoom meeting on November 7, 2023, at 11 AM ET/10 AM CT to answer questions and provide more information. Sign up here: [DEIA RFA Q&A Registration](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/2544ea03110e4d1cb80074350929b654)
(<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/2544ea03110e4d1cb80074350929b654>).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your ideas for your fellowship prior to applying, please contact DEIA Director, Dr. Katie Hartmann: kh4@iastate.edu.