

North Central Regional Center for Rural Development Fellows Program

2026-2027 RFP

- **Proposal Deadline: Accepted on a rolling basis**
- **Funding limit: \$20,000**
- **Time limit: One-year appointment**

The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD) Fellows Program supports approximately two Fellows each year. Only faculty or staff from [land-grant institutions in the North Central Region](#) are eligible for the Fellows Program. The NCRCRD Fellows collaborate with the NCRCRD to pursue research and/or outreach that benefits the North Central Region. The normal period of appointment is one year. An NCRCRD Fellow is awarded \$20,000 which can include salary, fringes, and travel. Fellows may collaborate virtually with NCRCRD staff. Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis.

Persons wishing feedback on a project idea prior to applying are welcome to submit an initial concept to [Dr. Michael Wilcox](#), Associate Director of the NCRCRD.

Faculty or staff interested in applying to the NCRCRD Fellows Program should submit a proposal to [Dr. Maria Marshall](#), Director of the NCRCRD.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

I. Cover Page

The cover page should include the applicant's name and title and a project summary (250 words max).

II. Project narrative

Format: 3-pages (max), 1.5 spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins

The project narrative should include, but is not limited to, discussion of the following points:

- What you propose to do?
- How you propose to do it? Be sure to discuss how you are uniquely qualified to conduct the project.
- Why is the project important to the North Central Region?
- What benefits will the project produce for you, your home institution, and NCRCRD?
 - *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.)

III. Works Cited

IV. Letter of support from Department Head or Supervisor

V. Budget Justification

Please note: The NCRCRD does not allow indirect costs. Funding is for up to \$20,000 for one year.

VI. Biographical Sketch (3-page max). Use the [NSF approved Biographical Sketch format](#).

VII. Confirmation that a final report must be submitted within 30 days of the project's completion.