Applying for a 2023 NCR-SARE Graduate Student Grant

NCR-SARE's Graduate Student Grant Program is a competitive grant program to fund graduate student projects that address sustainable agriculture issues. Online proposals must be submitted by April 20, 2023 4:00 pm CDT

NORTH CENTRAL SARE

Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

Advancing sustainable agriculture since 1988

www.northcentralsare.org

This is a presentation about applying for an NCR SARE graduate student grant. The presentation goes over material that is in the Call for Proposals, so it would be good for you to have that in front of you as we go through this. You can download it from the North Central sSare website, www.northcentralsare.org

This presentation:

- provides a quick overview of SARE and North Central SARE and emphasizes some of the SARE philosophy that will aid you in developing your proposals;
- goes through some of the sections of the proposal with further clarification about what reviewers are looking for;
- Ends with screen shots of the online system and instructions.

Contact information for NCR-SARE is on the last slide, so call or email if you have questions.

Graduate Student Grant

About the Graduate Student Grant Program

The North Central Region SARE (NCR-SARE) Graduate Student Grant Program supports projects by graduate students that address sustainable agriculture issues and are part of the student's degree program. NCR-SARE instituted the Graduate Student Grant Program in 2002 for officially registered graduate students (Masters and Ph.D.) enrolled at accredited colleges or universities. Projects must benefit agriculture in the North Central Region.

NCR-SARE's Graduate Student Grant Program is a competitive grant program to fund graduate student projects that address sustainable agriculture issues. A candidate may only receive one NCR-SARE Graduate Student award during her or his graduate student career. Generally:

- Graduate Student Grant awards can be up to $15,000.
- Projects may last up to 36 months.

Graduate Student Grant Call for Proposals

There is no open call at this time.

View Sample Call ▶

Click here to download Call for Proposals (currently showing previous year as sample)

www.northcentralsare.org

Download the 2023 Call for Proposals. It will be posted under the Apply for a Grant section on the home page of the North Central SARE website. (Not yet posted in this screen shot.)

Make sure it is the 2023 Call, because there are changes made each year to the application. If you have any problems downloading the Call for proposals, please contact the NCR SARE office and we can email you a copy, or send a hard copy.

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Photo courtesy of Marisol Berti.

The USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program, commonly referred to by our acronym, SARE, is a part of the USDA, funded through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture or NIFA program.

What is SARE?

Grants and outreach to advance sustainable innovations to the whole of American agriculture.

www.northcentralsare.org

We provide grants and outreach to advance sustainable innovations to the whole of American agriculture.

A Different Kind of Grant **Program**

SARE was started in 1988, conceived as a decentralized, *science-based*, **grassroots**, practical, problem solving – and *inclusive* – competitive grant making and outreach program.

www.northcentral.sare.org

Photo by Layne Thompson-Forbes.

This slide highlights some of the main characteristics of the SARE program–

SARE is decentralized, in that each of the four regions make their own funding decisions, including which grant programs to offer.
SARE is science-based, and a grassroots grant program.   Our proposal review teams and our administrative council include farmers and ranchers, extension educators, researchers and personnel from state and federal agencies. That's an important point to remember when you're writing your grant proposal—don't assume that everyone reviewing your proposal is an expert in your field—avoid using jargon.

SARE funds projects with strong farmer/rancher or end-user involvement, and most projects are applied research projects

SARE Outreach

a library of practical, how-to books (in print or download for free)
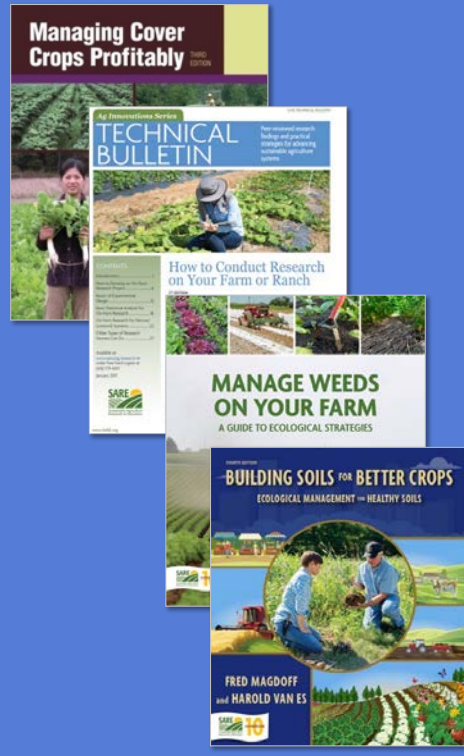
media outreach

a portfolio of in-depth reports on current topics

Topic rooms for multimedia information

countless online resources, including project reports

www.northcentralsare.org

We also have materials available for free as pdfs online, or for small fees, based largely on SARE grant results.
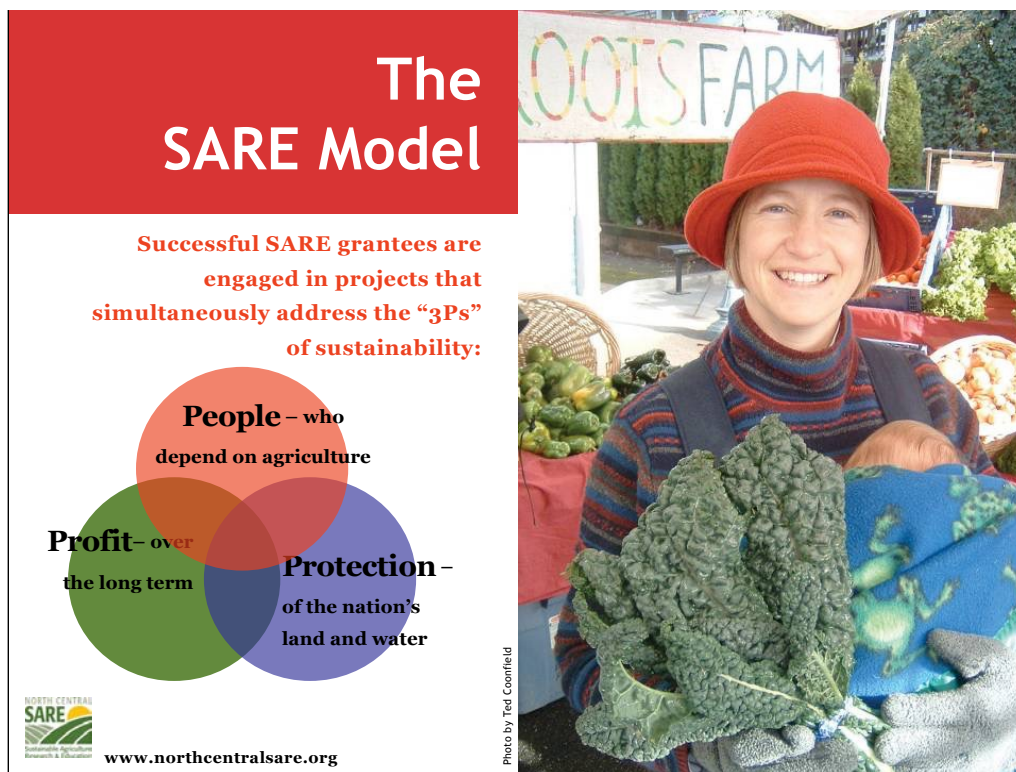
NCR-SARE Grant Types

To connect to 12-state North Central Region, go to www.northcentral.sare.org

Photo by Carol Flaherty

- **Farmer/Rancher**
- **Research & Education**
- **Partnership**
- **Professional Development**
- **Graduate Student**
- **Youth Educator**

We are decentralized. The North Central region includes 12 upper midwestern states, and we have our own 16 member Administrative Council, composed of farmers/ranchers, researchers, educators and federal and state agency personnel. They set priorities and make grant funding decisions. In our region, we offer the six grant programs listed above. Information on all grant programs can be found on our website.

The SARE Model

Successful SARE grantees are engaged in projects that simultaneously address the "3Ps" of sustainability:

People – who depend on agriculture

Profit – over the long term

Protection – of the nation's land and water

www.northcentralsare.org

Photo by Ted Coonfield

Successful SARE grantees have projects that simultaneously address the 3Ps of sustainability—people, profit over the long term and protection of our resources.

The North Central SARE uses slightly different wording, but also highlights the "3Ps" of sustainability, in the NCR-SARE broad based outcomes, listed at the top of p. 3 in the Call for Proposals.

In your proposal, you must address how your project addresses each of these outcomes, even if it emphasizes one over the others. The outcomes are:

Improving the economic viability of farmers and associated agricultural businesses.

Sustaining and improving the environmental quality and natural resource base on which agriculture depends.

Enhancing the quality of life for farmers/ranchers, communities, and society as a whole.

Social Sustainability

https://www.sare.org/resources/understanding-and-measuring-social-sustainability/

www.northcentralsare.org

Researchers often are experienced in evaluating economic and environmental outcomes, but are less sure about social outcomes.

This recently developed SARE resource can help you think about social sustainability in your proposed work.

Understanding and measuring social sustainability:

https://www.sare.org/resources/understanding-and-measuring-social-sustainability/

The SARE Portfolio

- Sustainable pest and weed mgmt.
- Marketing and local food systems
- Water quality and nutrient mgmt.
- Systems research
- High tunnels and season extension
- Crop diversification
- Cover crops and soil health
- Small ruminants/poultry/cattle
- Pastured livestock/grazing systems
- Pollinators and biodiversity
- Urban agriculture

...and much more

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Photo by Erin Gaugler.

Those are broad outcomes, so as you can see we fund a wide range of topics that we've funded here's a partial list of the SARE portfolio

Graduate Student Grant Program

$15,000 total, 10% Indirect Costs allowed

Max 36 months, typically 12-24 months

Research, OR education/demonstration projects

Does not have to be part of thesis, but should be part of graduate program.

Proposals due April 20, 4:00 p.m. CDT

Fund about 20 grants per year

Funds will be available September 1st.

www.northcentralsare.org

Photo courtesy Sarah Kurtz.

Now we'll focus on the Graduate Student Grant Program--these are the basics. Graduate student grants are for up to $15,000, and 10% of that can be taken by your institution as Indirect Costs.

Duration of these projects vary widely. We allow up to 36 months, but since the grant limit is $15,000, most projects are shorter, typically 12 to 24 months. Grants can be for research or education, or demonstration projects. Funding won't usually cover your whole thesis project, but more likely covers a specific aspect of your project. It does not have to be a part of your thesis, but should be part of your study program. For example, some students have done farmer surveys as an offshoot of their research.

Proposals are due April 20, 4:00 p.m. CDT. They are due at that time because we use an online grant submission system, and technical support is not available after 4:00 p.m.

Your institution has to sign off on your grant project, and in order to do that, you will have to complete your application—print off the draft and cover page and the institutional authorization page and run it through your grants office for signature. Upload a pdf of the signature page to your application as the final step. This all needs to be completed by the deadline—so allow time for your grants office to process. Some offices require as much as a week.

Last year we received 58 grant proposals and funded 22.

A grant review committee will meet in July and make funding recommendations to the Administrative Council who will approve funding in late July. You'll be notified in August and funding will be available Sept. 1st. Don't list your start date before September 1.

Who Can Apply?

Must be enrolled in a graduate student degree program or vet med residence program at accredited college or university when funds disbursed (after Sept. 1, 2023)

Proposal must be written by graduate student, with input from major advisor.

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Photo courtesy of Ajay Nair.

To apply, you must be enrolled in a qualifying graduate degree program at the time the funds are disbursed, and the proposal must be written by you, the graduate student, although we encourage input from your advisor.

A common question is whether you can apply for this grant program if you are not yet in a degree program. Technically, we say that you must be enrolled at the time the funds are disbursed, so you can apply prior to being enrolled in a degree program. But--because we ask that the graduate student write the proposal with input from their major advisor, we do expect that you are likely already accepted into a degree program, or on your way to being accepted into a specific degree program.

In addition, some institutions do not allow a graduate student to serve as the Principal Investigator, so your advisor will serve as the official P.I. for the funds, but NCR-SARE considers you the project coordinator. Part of our purpose in having this grant program is to develop future researchers in sustainable agriculture, so although it is not a large grant, we have the same requirements and treat it the same as our larger Research and Education grants.

In the North Central Region, we say that you can be outside the 12-state

region if your research or education project is being conducted primarily in the North Central Region. We've had a few questions from graduate students who are enrolled in one institution, but are doing an online graduate program in collaboration with another university, so their faculty advisor is located elsewhere. If you're in that situation, call Beth Nelson, because while you're eligible, the contract is actually between your institution and the University of Minnesota which hosts the NCR-SARE program, so we'd have to make special arrangements.

NCR-SARE Graduate Student Grant Projects

In recent funding cycles we funded projects in Natural resources, Livestock systems, Pest management, Cropping systems, and Marketing

To view graduate student projects funded, look up project reports on the national SARE website.

Photo courtesy of Jack Zinnen.

www.northcentralsare.org
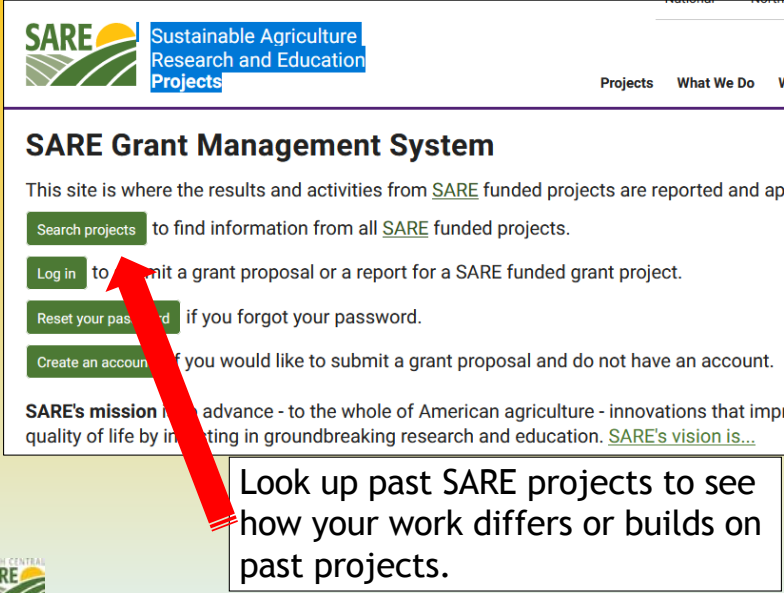
In recent funding cycles we have funded projects in Natural Resources, Livestock systems, Pest management, Cropping systems, and Marketing.

To see the full list of graduate student projects funded in recent years, look up project reports on the national SARE website.

The next slide demonstrates that.

Go to : projects.sare.org

SARE Grant Management System

This site is where the results and activities from SARE funded projects are reported and ap

Search projects to find information from all SARE funded projects.

Log in to mit a grant proposal or a report for a SARE funded grant project.

Reset your pas   rd if you forgot your password.

Create an accoun   you would like to submit a grant proposal and do not have an account.

SARE's mission   advance - to the whole of American agriculture - innovations that impr
quality of life by in ting in groundbreaking research and education. SARE's vision is...

Look up past SARE projects to see how your work differs or builds on past projects.

www.northcentralsare.org

To look up the projects funded in the past, go to projects.sare.org, and click on search projects.

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To search for relevant projects:

You can also search by project type (Research and Education, Graduate Student, etc.), region, or state. You can also search for key words in the Project Reports (cover crops, managed grazing, etc.). There is a link to search tips at the top of the page.

Successful Proposals

- **Demonstrate relevance** to sustainable agriculture in the North Central region
- **Address NCR-SARE's three** broad-based outcomes
- **Involve farmers/ranchers** in project

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Photo courtesy of Katherine Turo.

Successful projects clearly present the relevance of the proposed work to the north central region, and clearly define objectives and outcomes.

Address NCR-SARE's three broad-based outcomes.   How will your project affect the whole system, economically, environmentally and socially?

ALL successful graduate student proposals demonstrate farmer/rancher involvement in the proposal, beyond just identifying farmers/ranchers as the targeted recipients of the information. Sometimes farmers have expressed the need for the research, or served as advisors in planning the project, or will be involved in implementing the project or disseminating the findings, but it's important to convey how they are or will be involved.

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Successful Proposals (cont)

- **Have clear outcomes**

- **Have clear evaluation and outreach plan**

- **Have budget appropriate to the work**

Photo courtesy of Allison Butterfield.

www.northcentralsare.org

Successful proposals have clearly defined outcomes for their project. These are the impacts of your project—somewhat different from the results. The outcomes are what will happen as a result of the project being completed.

Evaluation will monitor your progress toward achieving those outcomes, which will be based on your outreach efforts, not your research results. Note that you are not monitoring your progress on your research objectives, but on the project outcomes. How will you know if your target audience increased their knowledge or skill level, or if they intend to make changes based on what they learned?

The budget should be appropriate to the work.

General Grant-writing tips and resources

Go to the "Apply for a Grant" for general resources and tips. Scroll to bottom.

Scroll down that page to grant writing resource, and you'll see NCR-SARE Sustainable Agriculture Coordinators. You should contact your state coordinator for NCR SARE. Click on the link indicated in this slide to obtain the name and contact information of your state coordinator. They can discuss your idea with you, offer suggestions, and may be able to link you to collaborators. They can be especially helpful in connecting you to farmers who might be interested in your work and willing to collaborate.

Project Proposal Summary

400 word limit

Summary will be used to publicize your project if funded.

Be concise—a lot of information requested.

Photo courtesy of Dean Stevens.

www.northcentralsare.org

I'm going through the main parts of the proposal, skipping over a few sections, so make sure you follow the call, which lists all questions.

Word limits are meant to be generous.

Be concise.

The Summary has a 400 word limit. The summary is used both in our review process to convey the basic information about your project to our Administrative Council, which makes the funding decisions, and to publicize your project.

Brief Project Description

75 word limit—this is your one- floor elevator speech about your proposed project!

It will be used to announce funded projects, and will be shown with your project title in the reporting system.

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Photo courtesy of K-State Agronomy.

You will also write a very short project description. This will be used in press releases if your project is funded. This is separate from the 160 character description you will write when you enter your title in the online system. That is used for search engines, so be sure to include key words in that description.

Outcomes

Education Project: Post-harvest handling workshops

Learning Outcome: Farmers will learn post harvest handling and packing techniques for sales to institutions.

Action: Farmers will use post harvest techniques and increase sales to institutions

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Photo by Nicholas Meurtz.

Define your Project Outcomes.

Outcomes are what will happen as a result of you doing this project with regard to your target audience. So if you're doing an education project, these apply to the whole project.

We ask you to identify learning and action outcomes and you can also address condition or system outcomes. Learning outcomes, things that happen fairly quickly, are changes in awareness, skills, knowledge or attitude; action outcomes are changes in behavior, practice or decision-making, and those are the outcomes that you might achieve at the end of your project.

So as an example: for an education project on post-harvest handling with farmers as the target audience. Your learning outcomes might be that farmers will learn post harvest handling and packing techniques—so will increase both their awareness of specific requirements from institutional buyers, and increased knowledge about those techniques. The action outcome might be that farmers will use post harvest techniques and increase sales to institutions.

Outcomes

Research Project: Landscape diversity influence on vegetable crop pollinator population

Learning Outcome: Farmers will learn how diverse landscape influences number and type of pollinators.

Action Outcome: Farmers will use biodiverse plantings to increase pollinator population.

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Photo by Homqnel Byarlay.

You take a little different approach for a research project, because project outcomes generally refer largely to your outreach program.

It's still the "what will happen" as a result of you having done the research, but the outcomes are a little further down the road. A research project that is generally addressing a research question may be spending the majority of the first two years collecting data, and the data would then be considered an input to your outreach efforts.

For example: For a research project that looks at how landscape diversity affects the pollinator population, a learning outcome might be that farmers will learn how diverse landscapes affects the number of pollinators—that will be the information generated from the research.

An action outcome will be that farmers plant diverse landscape strips in the hopes of increasing pollinator populations, a change in farmer behavior.

Project Proposal
Statement of Problem, Background, Justification

Explain the issue being addressed. Justify the Need. What's been done and what is now needed? What is the potential impact—especially in terms of NCR's Broad Based Outcomes:

- Improving farmer/rancher economic viability
- Sustaining and improving the environmental quality
- Enhancing the quality of life

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Photo by Marie Flanagan.

One of most important parts of your proposal is to describe the problem you're addressing. This has a 1000 word limit.

Provide background about what's been done, and justify what you think needs to be done.

Explain how is the proposed work is relevant to sustainable agriculture in the North Central Region, and what the impact will be,

especially in terms of:

Improving the profitability of farmers and associated agricultural businesses.

Sustaining and improving the environmental quality and natural resource base on which agriculture depends.

Enhancing the quality of life for farmers/ranchers, rural and urban communities, and society as a whole.

Reviewers give more weight to proposals that at least consider impact on all three, even if the primary outcome might sustain and improve environmental quality.

It's also useful to give reviewers an idea of the extent of the problem, or the

potential impact your project may have by estimating the number of acres affected, or the size or value of the livestock or crop industry affected in the north central region.

Incorporate in this section a BRIEF review of pertinent literature and of relevant SARE projects. Search the SARE database of project reports for projects that are relevant to your proposal (see http://mysare.sare.org) and explain how your project is different from or complementary to other projects that SARE has funded. List literature cited at end.

Approach & Methods

Describe how you plan to carry out work.

Include special reference to farmer/rancher involvement and partnerships.

Photo courtesy of Denisha Parker.

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Describe you plan to carry out this work. Emphasize farmer involvement and partnerships, and describe key inputs and activities. Avoid jargon. Reviewers may not have specific expertise in your field. Inputs and activities can go in your Summary table (program logic model). You may list literature cited at the end of the section. This section also has a 1000 word limit.

Outputs

What will be the products of this project?

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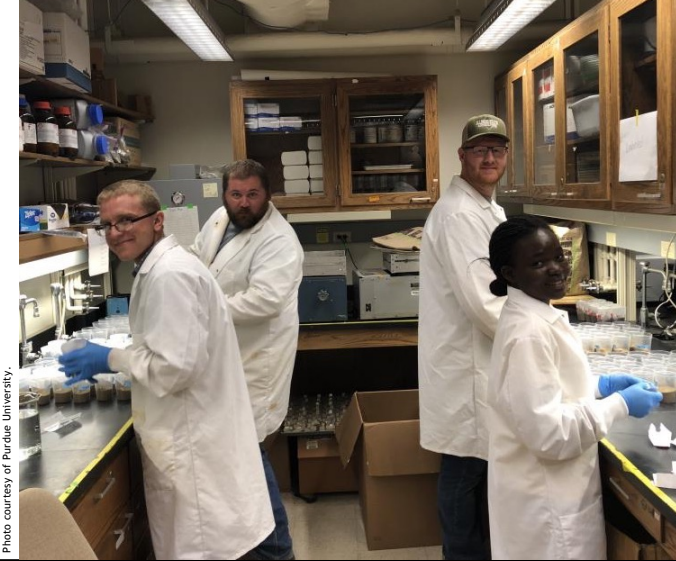
Photo courtesy of Purdue University.

Describe the products (e.g. expected research results, papers, or educational materials, completed workshops or field days with expected number of participants, etc.) of your project that will help achieve the expected outcomes.

Evaluation

How will you know you've succeeded or are making progress toward outcomes?

Photo courtesy of Purdue University.

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How will you know if you've succeeded in achieving your outcomes, or how will you monitor progress toward the outcomes? Will you do surveys to see if farmer attendees have increased their knowledge level or skill level? Or if they intend to change their practices or look into this more (a change in attitude or awareness).

Summary Table

Expected Outcomes	Outputs	Activities & Inputs	Evaluation
Action: Farmers will use post harvest techniques and increase sales to institutions	10 farmers adopt new packing protocols and sell to institutions	Videotape on farm post harvest process Five ½ day workshops on postharvest techniques with materials Student time to do follow up survey, interview farmers about increased sales	Follow up survey (six months) and interviews with farmers
Learning: Farmers will learn post harvest handling and packing techniques for sales to institutions.	Workshop curriculum 40 farmers increase awareness about techniques	Compensation to farmers for interview time Student time to develop curriculum $ to develop video clips $printing	Pre and post-workshop surveys

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This summarizes the logical sequence of events that will lead to the outcomes you have identified.

The Outcomes are what you want to happen as a result of the project. The inputs are the resources needed to do the activities. The outputs are the products that result, and under evaluation, describe what you'll measure to show that you achieved your Outcomes, or made progress toward your outcomes.

So here's an example of what might be part of a simple summary table for the Outcomes we identified for the Education project on postharvest handling and packaging techniques.

For the research project, you might have a similar activities posted under learning outcomes, but an input would be the data from the research project, do data showing which landscapes increased numbers of beneficial pollinators—you might have a workshop to share your findings in the third year, but in the course of the three years, you might not be able to include action outcomes, like following up to see whether farmers were actually implementing practices you talked about in the workshop.

You'll be uploading this as a Table to your online application.

Proposal

Outreach Experience and Roles

Photo by Jaime Coon.

www.northcentralsare.org
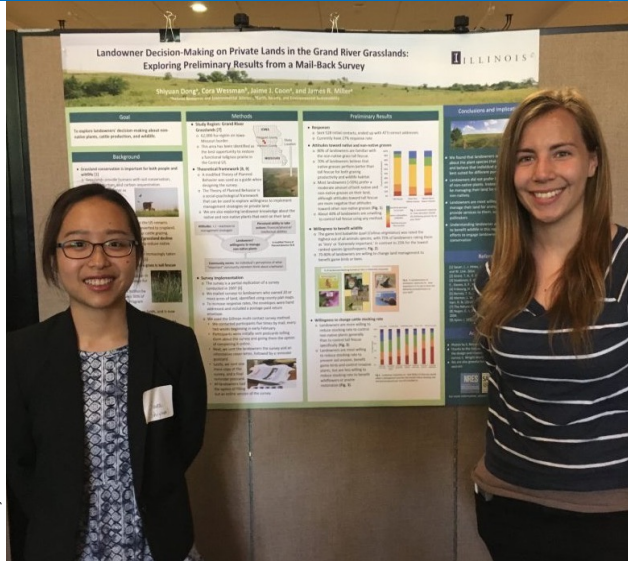
How will you inform other about your project—workshops? Extension publications? Articles?

Experience and roles. Briefly describe the roles and expertise of the various participants in your project.

Budget and Justification

Expenditures should closely align with goals and outcomes of your project. Justify expenses. Grants have $15,000 limit. 10% Indirect costs allowed. Salary allowed, but not tuition. Budget for farmer compensation if appropriate.

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Photo courtesy Zsofia Szendrei.

The expenditures need to match the goals and outcomes of the project.

Up to 10% of direct costs can be taken by your institution for indirect costs. You can include graduate student salary on the budget, but tuition is not allowed.

In general, SARE proposal reviewers don't like to see an entire budget devoted to salary. But we recognize that because these are small grants, often what is needed to do the project is student time, just be sure to justify it in your narrative. We've emphasized farmer involvement in your project, and you should plan to compensate farmers for their time in the budget, if they are serving on a planning committee, or hosting a field experiment, or a field day. There is a sample budget in the Call for Proposals.
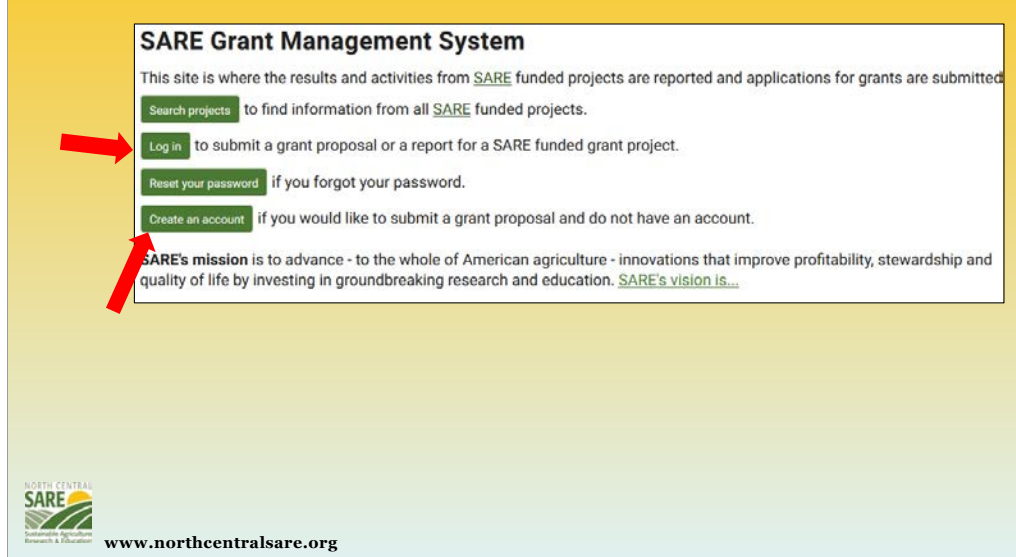
So those are the basics for preparing your proposal. Now I'm going to switch gears and walk you through the new online application system.

If you've never had a SARE grant before, you'll first need to create an account and complete your user profile. Go to projects.sare.org and click on "create an account"

If you've had a SARE grant previously and filed reports in this system, your profile will already be in the system and you can log in with the information you used for reporting.

SARE Grant Management System

Proposal Applicant Links

- Manage my grant proposals
- Start a new grant proposal

Proposal Reviewer Links

- Manage my proposal reviews
- Assign final review scores

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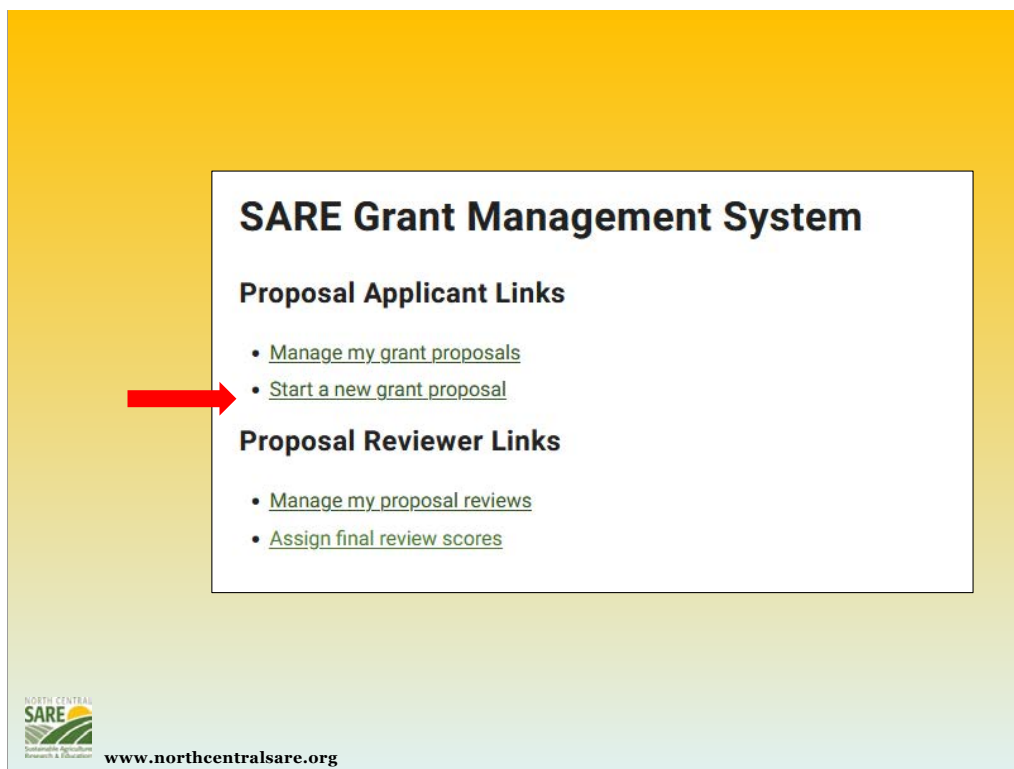
Once you log in, you'll see this screen. Under projects, you'll see a list of all projects you've been associated with. Under proposals, you'll see a link to manage applications. This is for you to edit proposals you've started but not submitted.

Click on "start a new grant" to start a new proposal.

You will see a list of all open grant applications, for all regions.

Make sure you choose the correct grant program and the North Central Region. You will be completing the 2023 North Central Graduate student application (Screen shot is from last year.)

Enter the title and brief project description (less than 160 characters). This is the description that search engines will access, so use key words for your project. The click on "cover"

Answer each question by clicking on "edit answer" and **saving your answer**. Once you've completed the cover page information, or at any time, you can click on "back to proposal" to go back to the main page. SAVE as you go. If you're interrupted, only what has been "saved" will be kept.

When you complete information for your Advisor, check the box

Additional Faculty Advisors Information

A faculty member (often the student's major professor) should be availa
project budget issues. Also, since many universities only allow faculty m
the signature and contact information for the student's adviser on the pr

Be sure to check "Additional Advisor/Major Professor" for their role.

Cancel Save

Remove

Email *
ncrsare@umn.edu

First Name *
Jane

Last Name *
Smith

Roles
*
☑ Additional Advisor/Major Professor

Name Prefix - Select -

Name Suffix
e.g. DVM or Jr.

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Complete the information for your faculty advisor, and check the box indicating this person is your advisor.

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Test A – 971673 Edit title

Missing Project Description *

Edit description

Graduate Student   **Faculty Advisor ***

Beth Nelson   (none)

Change   Change

You must complete your user profile before you can submit your proposal

View Draft

Closes:
April 20th, 2023 at 4:00pm CDT

✓ Cover

* Impact on sustainable agriculture in the North Central Region

* Body of Proposal

* Budget and Budget Justification

North Central Region SARE
2023 Call for Graduate Student Proposals[1]
NCR-SARE and the 2023 Call for Proposals

SARE is the Sustainable Agriculture Research a[nd] a competitive USDA NIFA grants program funde[d] North Central region (NCR) includes: Indiana, Ill[inois] Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Nebraska, [North/South] Dakota, and Wisconsin.

NCR-SARE strengthens communities, increases [...] economic viability, and improves the environme[nt] research and education. Learn more about SAR[E]

The Graduate Student Grant Program is one of [several] programs. The Graduate Student Grant Progra[m] students enrolled in graduate programs or in ve[...]

If all required questions in a section are complete, the section will be marked with a green check.

Click on each section to complete.

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Once all required questions in a section are complete, the section will be marked with a green check.

Click on "Body" to enter information in the next section.

Body of Proposal

Word limits are meant to be generous, knowing that different proposals will require more detail in differer

* Summary

The Summary should concisely convey information about your project. The Summary should include the p abbreviated version of the project outcomes, and very brief summaries of the context, approach/methods plan. State how the outcomes are expected to have relevance to farmers/ranchers.

Edit Answer

* Outcomes

Provide a brief narrative that lists learning and action outcomes expected from your project activities. Lea include changes in the knowledge, awareness, skills, and attitudes of the audience that you are trying to re outcomes include changes in the behavior or practices of this audience. Discussion of expected outcome audience that is likely to experience change as a result of the project. Outcomes should be specific, clear, Include your expected outcomes in the Summary Table of Outcomes, Inputs and Activities, Outputs and E

For more information about defining outcomes for your proposal, see the presentation on preparing a gra on the North Central SARE website.

Words: 1/250

Add media

Some sections allow you to add images or tables. Click on "add media".
Limit images/table to the equivalent of one two-sided page.

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You will enter the body of your proposal here. Note that most sections have word limits. You can add images or tables in sections that have an "add media" button, but please limit your images as indicated in the Call. To go back to your main page, click on "Proposal Overview."

To view or share your draft proposal, click on "View draft"

You will enter each item in the budget.

✓ **Budget**

Answer:

Maximum indirect costs allowed: $300 (10.00%)

Category	Description	Amount
Personnel - Salaries/Wages Edit Delete	student help for sampling	$3,000
Total:		**$3,000**

Description	Details / Justification
student help for sampling	1 student sampling and preparing samples for test; 20 hours per week for 10 weeks, $15/hour.

Add a Budget Item

Complete information for first item, then click
"Add another budget item"
Save when complete.

Select the major budget category from the drop down list, provide a brief item description, provide a more detailed budget justification for how you arrived at that number, as described in the instructions), and the total amount. Save, then return to the budget and add another item. You don't have to save after each entry, but your work won't be saved until you do, so better to save as you go so you don't lose information.

Once you've entered your direct costs, you can use the total direct cost to calculate indirect costs. $3500 x .10 = $350.

✓ Budget

Answer:

Maximum indirect costs allowed: $350 (10.00%)

Category	Description	Amount
Personnel - Salaries/Wages Edit Delete	student help for sampling	$3,000
Materials and supplies Edit Delete	Seed	$500
Fee for services Edit Delete	farmer compensation	$0
Total:		**$3,500**

Description	Details / Justification
student help for sampling	1 student sampling and preparing samples for test; 20 hours per week for 10 weeks, $15/hour.
Seed	$100/50 pound of seed for each of five farmers
farmer compensation	10 hours for each of five farmers to plant seed, at $25/hour

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You'll see a table with the simple item description and the amount, and a separate table below that provides the more detailed justification.

When you've added in all your direct costs, you can "save", and use the total to calculate indirect costs. Multiply the direct cost total by .10 to get indirect costs. In this example, that will be $350.

$350 added as a budget item as "Indirect Costs".

Add $350 as a budget item, identified as Indirect Costs from the drop down menu.

For an example of how to upload files, go to the section for "letters verifying participation". Click on "edit answer"
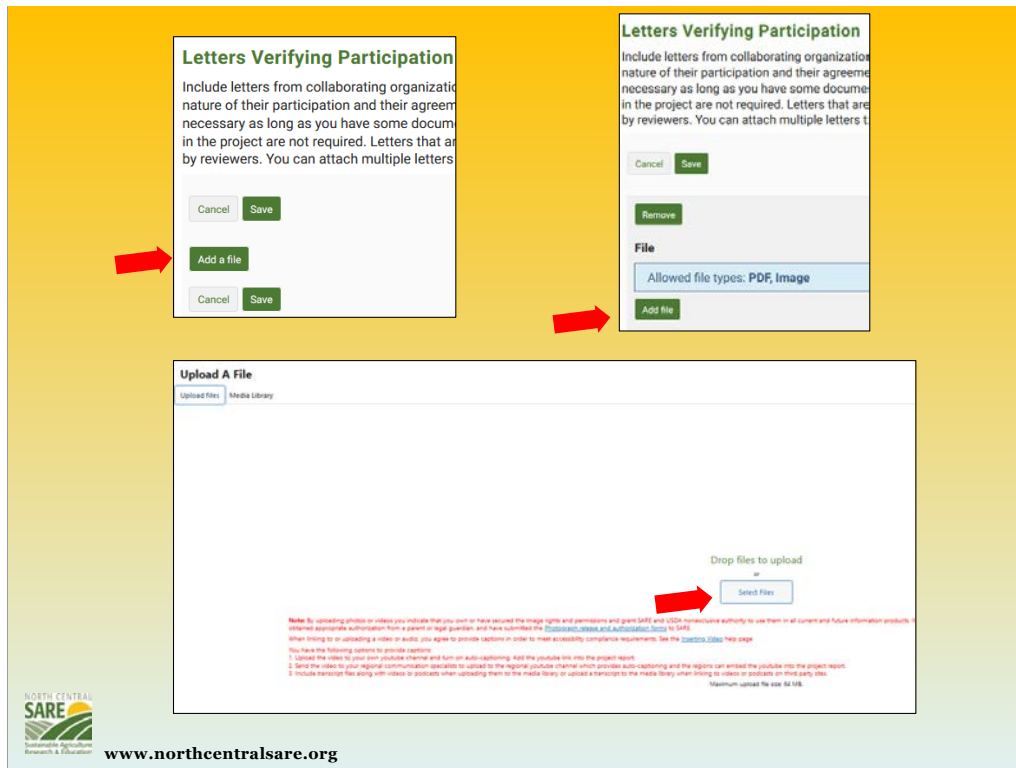
Click on "add a file" on the next two screens, then click on "select file" to upload from your computer.
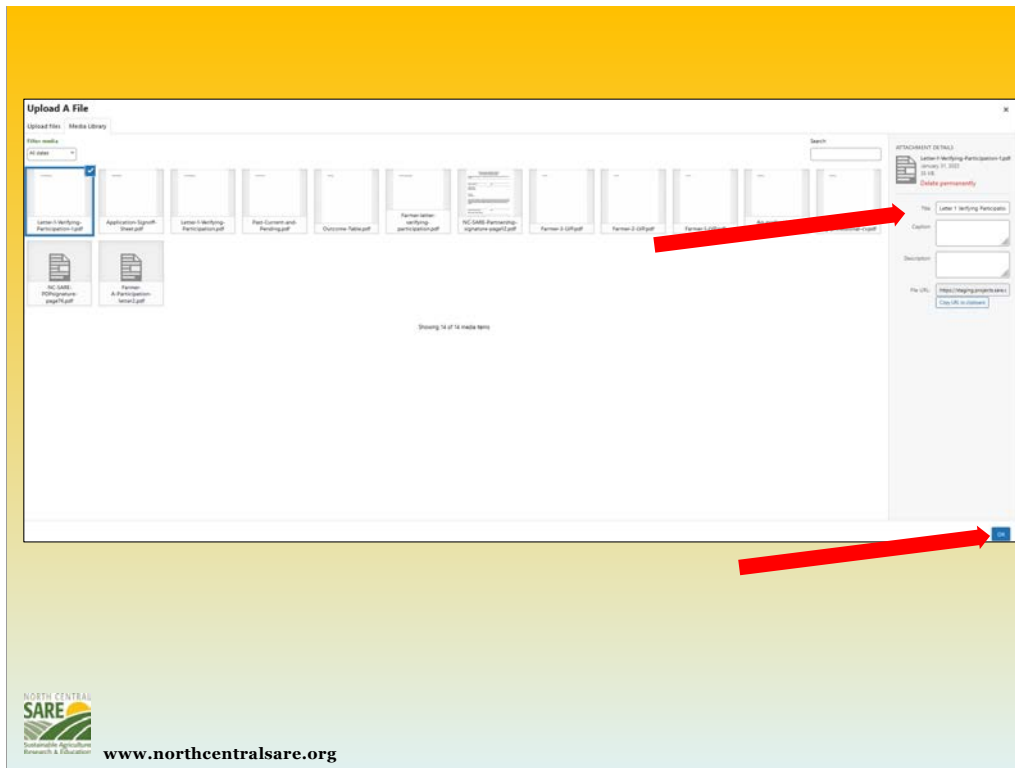
On the far right you should see the title of the uploaded file. You can provide a caption if you'd like, otherwise it will use the file name. You must click the box "ok" in the lower right hand corner to upload your file into the media file

It will have added your file as Current file. Note that you can change the file or remove it. You can click on "add another file" to add a second letter.

Click on "Application Signoff Sheet to download the pdf, and print

* **Application Signoff Shee**

Once you have completed all require information and uploaded all necessary attachments, pr and print the Application Signoff Sheet. You and your faculty advisor must sign the Application your grants office for an authorized organization representative's signature. You will need to o Application signoff sheet to upload with your proposal as the final step prior to submitting you

Once your submission is complete, you will be directed to a web page that states your propos and specifies the date and time of submission. You may "unsubmit" your proposal to make ch to the deadline!

Upload/select file

Next you'll print off the application signoff sheet, by clicking on the link.

You and your advisor will sign the sheet, then submit to your institution's grant office to complete and sign.
You will then upload the a pdf of the signed sheet.

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APPLICATION SIGNOFF SHEET
NCR SARE Graduate Student Grant

Signatures are required below from you, the applicant, and your faculty advisor. Your institutional grants office should complete and sign the bottom part of this page

APPLICANT'S ASSURANCE: I affirm that I am, or will be, a graduate student at
_____,
that I have written this proposal and discussed this proposal with my faculty advisor, listed below. Should I be awarded a grant, I will report results through each December while the project is in progress and write a final report when the project is complete. I will keep North Central SARE informed of any contact and e-mail changes for at least two years after the final report is written.

_____   _____
Applicant's signature   Date

FACULTY ADVISOR: I affirm that I have read this proposal and understand that, for the purposes of this proposal, I will be named the principal investigator. I will supervise grant activities and support student compliance with SARE requirements as needed.

_____   _____
Faculty Advisor signature   Date

INSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL: The grants or sponsored programs office hereby certifies that we have read this proposal and have the capacity to manage grant funds on behalf of the faculty member named above should the proposal be funded. We further understand that SARE funds cannot be used except as outlined in the proposal.

_____   _____
Signature of authorized official   Date

Name and title of authorized official:
_____

Contact Information for Authorized Official:
Address: _____
City, State Zip: _____
Email: _____
Telephone: _____

DUNS Number: _____

You and your advisor will sign, then submit to your institution's grant office with the draft of your proposal, to have them complete the institution information and sign.. Ask them to provide you with a pdf of the signed page, and you will then upload that to your proposal prior to submission. This signed form must be submitted by the closing date, so allow extra time for your organization to review your proposal and sign off. Some grant offices require a week or more to complete this.

Link to share draft with collaborators

Test A
2023 North Central Graduate Student Grant

ID: 971673
Edit Proposal
Link to share: https://projects.sare.org/proposals/show/971673/7352
Download PDF
Grant Type: Graduate Student
Region: North Central
Application Year: 2023
Status: Not submitted
Graduate Student:
  Beth Nelson
  Director
  Univ of MN
  nelschreib@comcast.net

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You can share the draft with collaborators by sending them the link. Collaborators cannot directly access the proposal, except by using your login information.

Once you've uploaded the signature page, and all required sections are complete, you can proceed to submit your proposal. Note that the "Submit proposal" button will NOT show up until you have completed all sections, including the title and the brief description on that main proposal page.

Proposal Submitted

2023 North Central Graduate Student Grant

Test A

Your proposal has been submitted.

Proposal Overview

View proposal

Once you click "submit proposal" you'll see this screen. This is the only confirmation you'll received.

Note that in this system, you do have the ability to "unsubmit" and make corrections BEFORE the close date!

View Proposal

Closes:
April 20th, 2023 at 4:00pm CDT

Submitted ✓

✓ Cover

✓ Impact on sustainable agriculture in the North Central Region

✓ Body of Proposal

✓ Budget and Budget Justification

Unsubmit Proposal

North Central Region SARE

2023 Call for Graduate Student Proposals[1]

NCR-SARE and the 2023 Call for Proposals

SARE is the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education a competitive USDA NIFA grants program funded by Congr North Central region (NCR) includes: Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Nebraska, North Dako Dakota, and Wisconsin.

NCR-SARE strengthens communities, increases farmer/ran economic viability, and improves the environment by suppo research and education. Learn more about SARE at www.s

The Graduate Student Grant Program is one of six NCR-SA programs. The Graduate Student Grant Program provides f students enrolled in graduate programs or in veterinary me residence programs at accredited colleges or universities v exploring some aspect of sustainable agriculture as part o educational program. **Proposals must be written by the stu** will coordinate and conduct the project, with input from the adviser. The project must primarily benefit the North Centra

In 2023, $300,000 will be available to fund about 20 grant p

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You'll see the top screen as confirmation once you've submitted.

You do have the ability to unsubmit and make changes prior to the closing date for the grant program. Just log back into the system, go to "manage my proposals" and click on your 2023 Grad Student proposal.

You MUST resubmit prior to the deadline.

Manage Grant Applications

Unsubmitted Proposals

TestA Preproposal – 454890
2022 North Central Research and Education Grant - Full Proposal

Pending Approval

Test A – 454998
2022 North Central Graduate Student Grant

Test C – 452985
2022 North Central Partnership Grant

If you got back to your proposal page, you'll see that the recently submitted grant is listed under "pending approval".

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On your manage proposals page, you'll see your submitted grant under "pending approval". Active proposals are ones you've started, but not yet submitted.

Timeline
2023 Graduate Student Grant Cycle

Feb. 16, 2023	Graduate Student Call for Proposals released
April 20, 2023	Grant applications due at 4:00 pm CDT
Late July, 2023	Administrative Council recommends grants and project coordinators notified
August, 2023	Budgets reviewed and grant contracts finalized
September 1, 2023	Funds available,
March 1, 2025	First annual report due (unless project ends prior to December 31, 2024)
Project end date	Final report due 60 days after project end date

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Photo courtesy Mark Beker.

The proposals are due online (with signed signature page) Thursday, April 20, at 4:00 p.m. CDT. They'll be reviewed in July and a decision will be made by the NCR-SARE Administrative Council in late July. We'll notify applicants in early August, and if you're funded, our contracts person will contact you to verify the budget, and begin writing the contract. Funds will be available Sept. 1. We do require annual reporting and a final report.

Things to Remember

Involve farmers or end-users!

Budget appropriate for work—

follow guidelines.

Submit proposal by the 4:00 p.m. CDT April 20 deadline!

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Photo courtesy Charles Martin.

Things to remember!

Questions?
Contact Information

Beth Nelson, Regional Director,
Research and Education Programs
E-mail: bethnelson@umn.edu
Phone: 612.626.4436

NORTH CENTRAL
SARE
Sustainable Agriculture
Research & Education

Advancing sustainable
agriculture since 1988

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Here is contact information. Please feel free to contact me with questions..

We look forward to receiving your proposal.