

USDA Grants To Aid Socially-Disadvantaged Producers

WASHINGTON — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is now accepting applications to provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas.

"These grants will help socially-disadvantaged business owners develop the tools and skills they need to grow their enterprises and succeed at creating jobs and expanding economic opportunities in rural areas," Vilsack said. "American agriculture is becoming increasingly diverse in many ways, with more minorities and women seeking to enter the field, as well as greater diversity in the age of farmers, the size of operations, in production methods, and in the types of crops being grown.

All of these forms of diversity help strengthen U.S. agriculture for the future."

Funding will be made available through USDA's Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grant Program (formerly the Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant Program), which assists organizations that provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas. Examples of technical assistance are conducting feasibility studies, developing business and strategic plans, and providing leadership training.

USDA plans to make up to \$3 million in grants available. The maximum award under this notice is \$175,000. More information on how to apply can be found on page 28937 of the May 20 Federal Register.

Applications submitted by mail must be postmarked by July 20, 2015. Electronic applications must be submitted at www.grants.gov no later than midnight Eastern Time July 14, 2015.

Eligible applicants include groups of cooperatives, cooperative development centers and individual cooperatives that serve socially-disadvantaged groups. The cooperatives or centers can be located in any area, but the groups assisted must be located in an eligible rural area. Also, the majority of the governing body of the organization must be comprised of individuals who are members of socially-disadvantaged groups.

USDA Rural Development is encouraging applications for projects

in census tracts with poverty rates of 20 percent or higher. All grants are awarded through a national competition. The program is making a difference in many rural areas. For example, in 2013, the Southern California Focus on Cooperation (SCFC) received a \$200,000 Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant to provide technical assistance to help 95 refugee immigrant and minority farmers improve their productive capacity, increase revenue, and strengthen their ability to govern and manage their cooperative businesses.

Many of the farmers benefiting from the project had little or no access to formal schooling and had been persecuted and oppressed for years in their native land. The Inter-

national Rescue Committee (IRC), in concert with SCFC, developed marketing channels including various farmers markets and restaurants where the refugee farmers could sell their produce. Farmers have learned how to manage these marketing channels themselves, without assistance from IRC, and have gained new clients. They have also increased the level of cooperation among Hispanic, Korean and African farmer groups. These groups are working toward merging their efforts to form a single cooperative. The technical assistance provided by SCFC has enabled these farmers to build skills that have truly been life changing.

SCHOLASTICS

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

BROOKINGS — The following area students were candidates for graduation after the spring 2015 session at South Dakota State University. More than 1,500 students were eligible for graduation. Those students represented 33 states and 14 nations.

The names of honor graduates marked with WH designate graduation with honor; WHH, with highest honor; CL, cum laude; MCL, magna cum laude; and SCL, summa cum laude.

Several students received two-or-more degrees or certificates from a college.

Carlson, Cody Layne (CL), Alcester, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Ronning, Jessica Lynn, Alcester, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Holbeck, Michelle Ann (SCL), Armour, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences
Weber, Ashley Jean, Armour, Doctor of Pharmacy, Graduate School

Christensen, Dean Evan, Beresford, Associate of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Ellwanger, Kendra Denise, Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Hadrath, Jacqueline Blabaum, Beresford, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Hanson, Stephanie Karen, Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Pharmacy

Larson, Alyssa Ann, Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Martin, Taylor Ashley (MCL), Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Merrigan, Susanne Catherine, Beresford, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Mochel, Jonathan Taylor (MCL), Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Mohr, Christopher Michael (MCL), Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Pack, Cody Lee, Beresford, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Sullivan, Thomas Carson, Burbank, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Sikkink, Taylor James, Centerville, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Klock, Allyson Emma (SCL), Chancellor, Bachelor of Arts, Arts and Sciences

Olson, Mark Daniel (MCL), Chancellor, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Wipf, Emily Dawn (CL), Chancellor, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Jensen, Luke Allan, Dakota Dunes, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Dennison, Casson Alexander (CL), Elk Point, Bachelor of Arts, Arts and Sciences

Klinkhammer, Mackenzie Marie (SCL), Elk Point, Bachelor of Science, Pharmacy

McLaury, Bobbie Jean (CL), Elk Point, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Rygaard, Hannah Marie, Elk Point, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Gering, September Rose (MCL), Freeman, Bachelor of Arts, Arts and Sciences

Janssen, Calvin John, Freeman, Associate of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Rinehart, Brooke Ann (CL), Freeman, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Putnam, Nicole Marie, Gayville, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Kaskie, Andrew Paul (MCL), Hudson, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Kloster, Jacob Sterling (MCL), Hudson, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Chicoine, Wyatt Anthony (CL), Jefferson, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Arbach, Cheyenne Janice, Marion, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Bossmann, Stephanie Alaska, Marion, Bachelor of Music Education, Arts and Sciences

Glanzer, Nathan Tyler, North Sioux City, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Gusso, Courtney Lynn, Parker, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Joffer, Jennifer Elizabeth Lee, Parker, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Steiner, Brooke Elise, Parker, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Behrend, Brooke Josephina, Parkston, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Heisinger, Cassie Lynn, Parkston, Doctor of Pharmacy, Graduate School

Horstman, Jacob Jon, Parkston, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Schieffer, Joseph William, Parkston, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Sloan, Tonya Lou, Parkston, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Frank, Zachary Lawrence (SCL), Springfield, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Jelsma, Robbie Dean, Springfield, Bachelor of Science, Engineering, Undergraduate Certificate, Arts and Sciences

Ramsdell, Taylor Helen, Springfield, Doctor of Pharmacy, Graduate School

Ruppelt, Jason Lee, Springfield, Master of Education, Graduate School

Menning, Sara Ann, Tabor, Bachelor of Science, Pharmacy

Stoebner, Hannah Lea (MCL), Tripp, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Kopp, Troy Gerald, Tyndall, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Wieseler, Jacklyn Rose, Tyndall, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Williams, Ashley Marie, Tyndall, Master of Science, Graduate School

Tacke, Dylan Thomas,

Utica, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Wagner, Alex Andrew (SCL), Utica, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Bottolfson, Megan Ann, Vermillion, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Callahan, Kevin Patrick, Vermillion, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Olson, Cody James, Vermillion, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Schaffer, William Augustus, Vermillion, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Sorensen, Carla Lee, Vermillion, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Flint, Jamie Lynn, Viborg, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Eggers, Brandon Thomas (CL), Wagner, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Greger, Trevor Paul, Wagner, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences

Krcil, Tyler James, Wagner, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Weber, Brooke Anna, Wagner, Bachelor of Science, Arts and Sciences, Bachelor of Science, Agriculture & Biological Sciences

Andrus, Ciara Lynn (CL), Yankton, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing

Braaten, Haylie Marie (MCL), Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Eilers, Traci Marie, Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Pharmacy

Huber, Jerrica Lynn (CL), Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Kaltsulas, Neil T., Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Engineering

Kruse, Jonathan Gregory, Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

Specht, Taylor Elise (CL), Yankton, Bachelor of Science, Education & Human Sciences

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NORFOLK, Neb. — Officials at Northeast Community College in Norfolk have released the President's Honor List and Deans' Honor List for both full and part-time students for the Spring 2015 Semester.

To be named to the President's Honor List, students must earn a perfect grade point average of 4.0 and be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours. Some 173 students made the President's Full-time Honor List this spring semester. Students named to the Deans' Honor List must have earned a grade point average of 3.75 or above and be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours. Two hundred-two students were named to the Deans' Honor List.

Another 173 students named to the President's Part-Time list attained a 4.0 grade point average while taking at least six credit hours, and 46

students named to the Deans' Part-Time list earned a grade point average of 3.75 or above while taking at least six credit hours.

Northeast serves residents in 20 counties in Northeast Nebraska.

PRESIDENT'S HONOR LIST — Full-Time, Spring 2015

Following is a list of area students, and their respective hometowns, named to the President's Honor List for full-time students for the Spring 2015 Semester at Northeast Community College. These students earned a 4.0 grade point for at least 12 hours.

Bloomfield — Kenna Fiedler, Bethany Luedke; Creighton — Shayna Kruse; Crofton — Breanna Hansen;

Laurel — Jade Cunningham, Nathaniel Schmitt; Newcastle — Nicole Schram;

Niobrara — Brianna Dekay; Randolph — Anthony Backer, Kirsten Fink;

Wausa — Matthew Blunck, Dillon Maxwell; Elk Point — Taylor Prince, Kaitlyne Rosenbaum;

Lake Andes — Sierra Svatos.

DEANS' HONOR LIST-Full-time, Spring 2015

The following is a list of area students, and their respective hometowns, named to the Deans' Honor List for full-time students for the Spring 2015 Semester at Northeast Community College. These students attained a grade point average of 3.75 for the semester while being enrolled for at least 12 credit hours.

Bloomfield — Kash Poppe; Creighton — Jenna Hemenway, Brytann Henery, Brittany Jelinek, Karissa Rudloff;

Fordyce — Lucas Kleinschmit; Laurel — Adam Haahr, Brett Haisch;

Newcastle — Jeremy Attema; Niobrara — Daniel Red Owl;

Randolph — Curtis Erickson, Kathryn Kuchta;

Verdigre — Hayden Liska, Karly Liska;

Wausa — Adam Kleinschmit; Tabor — Ashley Vogt; Yankton — Rachel Frederick, Brae Stone.

PRESIDENT'S HONOR LIST-Part-time, Spring 2015

The following is a list of area students, and their respective hometowns, named to the President's Honor List for part-time students for the Spring 2015 Semester at Northeast Community College. These students attained a perfect grade point average of 4.0 for the semester while being enrolled for at least six credit hours.

Bloomfield — Katelyn Miller, Grace Pokorny;

Center — Connor Baldwin;

Coleridge — Kathryn Meier; Creighton — Rebecca Eggerling, Claire Fanta, Jessica Gragert, Tessa Vogt;

Fordyce — Travis Arens; Hartington — Samuel Anderson, Jenna Heine;

Laurel — Chayce Hirschman, Katie Urwiler, Britany Wolfram;

Niobrara — Jenny Motacek, Katie Ryan; St. Helena — Kristi Bruening;

Verdigre — Kathi Liska; North Sioux City — Kristina Hansen; Springfield — Jessica Simons;

Vermillion — Stephanie Tepy.

DEAN'S HONOR LIST Part-Time, Spring 2015

The following area students, with their respective hometowns, were named to the Deans' Honor List for part-time students for the Spring 2015 Semester. These students attained a grade point average of 3.75 for the semester while being enrolled for at least 6 credit hours.

Bloomfield — Ashley Laible;

Creighton — Khristina Stevens; Hartington — Robyn Hamilton, Mark Kathol;

Laurel — Cassandra Camenzind; Niobrara — Hannah Stark.

EMILY GAMM

AMES, Iowa — At Iowa State University's spring commencement ceremonies, 4,345 students received degrees. Iowa State awarded 3,646 undergraduate degrees, 448 master's degrees, 147 veterinary medicine degrees and 104 doctor of philosophy degrees.

Of the students receiving bachelor's degrees, 1,093 graduated "With Distinction" (cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude). A total of 94 students graduated as members of the Honors Program.

Area graduates includes: • Emily Gamm, D.V.M. — Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Medicine

MORNINGSIDE COLLEGE

SIoux CITY, Iowa — Morningside College presented degrees to more than 320 undergraduate and graduate students during its 117th spring commencement held on May 9.

Morningside College is a private, coeducational, four-year liberal arts college with a total enrollment of more than 2,800 students. Morningside offers five bachelor's degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Morningside also offers a Master of Arts in Teaching degree.

Area graduates included: • Dakota Dunes — Daniel R. Terry, Bachelor of Science, biology, chemistry

• McCook Lake — Calina L. Conner, Bachelor of Science, biopsychology; Zachery R. Sexton, Bachelor of Science, business administration

• Yankton — Jillene I. Wollman, Bachelor of Arts, business administration, mathematics

ABIGAIL SLATTERY

ORANGE CITY, Iowa — Abigail Slattery, a student at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, has earned a spot on the Academic Dean's List for the spring 2015 semester.

The Dean's List is comprised of students who have achieved a semester grade point average of 3.50 or above while carrying a minimum of 12 graded hours. This semester, 367 students qualified for the Dean's List. Students who earned a GPA of 3.75 or higher are considered Collegiate Scholars. Of the 214 Collegiate Scholars, 63 of them maintained a perfect 4.0 average and are recognized with a pound sign.

Slattery is a sophomore and writing/rhetoric and literature major at Northwestern College. She is the daughter of Richard and Barbara Ann Slattery of Yankton.

ALISON JONES

Alison (Stoebner) Jones is a May 2, 2015, graduate of Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell with an RN-Associate of Science Nursing Degree.

She received the 2014-2015 Alumni Nursing Faculty Medal which recognizes outstanding individuals in the nursing program as well as demonstrating excellent clinical and academic performance.

Alison is the daughter of Allen and Arlene Stoebner.

HALEY JORGENSEN

WINONA, Minn. — Haley Jorgensen, daughter of Stewart and Linda Jorgensen of Yankton, was named to the second semester, 2014-15 Dean's List at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. The list includes 322 undergraduate students who earned a grade point average of 3.60 or better on a 4.0 scale.

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota has about 5,800 students enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs in Winona, the Twin Cities, greater Minnesota, Wisconsin, Jamaica, and Nairobi, Kenya. At Saint Mary's residential campus in Winona, the undergraduate curriculum combines traditional liberal arts and sciences with career preparation in a student-centered environment.

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