

Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Atlantic Soybean Council (Council) combines soybean check-off funds from its six (6) member states to sponsor basic and applied research to increase soybean profitability and enhance yield, while maintaining or improving soybean composition, through genetic improvement and biotic and abiotic stress mitigation.

The Council is accepting proposals to develop and coordinate a multi-state on-farm research program with the purpose of creating a multi-state on-farm network of replicated field experiments. The program will result in a data base that captures results over differing environments and will address common interest for the farmers in the member states. Areas of interest identified by the Council include:

- Increase Yield
- Wildlife damage management.
- Nematode survey.
- Dectes Stem Borer research.
- Weed resistance.
- Water quality issues (especially as related to the Chesapeake Bay).
- Overall disease stress and resistance.

<u>Who is Eligible to Apply:</u> Researchers from all land grant universities (1860, 1890, 1994), private institutions, retired university or industry professionals, as well as seed/industry professionals.

Closing Date: July 15, 2020

Funding Period: October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021. Maximum funding provided by the Council is \$25,000 per year. It will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator to apply for additional grant funding, if needed.

The Project Coordinator will be responsible for the following:

- Selection of research projects including one or more, but not limited to the above interests.
- Establish communication with university and company researchers for relevant advice/input into projects.
- Work with local extension agents, industry, and others to coordinate with existing checkoff funded on farm projects.



- Establish standardized research protocols.
- Work with farmer cooperators who utilize precision ag techniques.
- Implement remote sensing technologies and tools for data collection as needed.
- Analyze research using standard statistical methods.
- Gather, summarize and disseminate results.
- Submit annual reports to the Council.

Research proposals are expected to be concise (not more than 3-5 pages using 12 pt. type) and contain the following (see attached proposal template):

- **Cover Sheet** (provided): proposal overview and funding request
- **Contact Information**: Name, address, phone number, email address and affiliation of principal investigator and collaborators as well as Sponsored Programs & Contracts office for PI's university.
- Project Title
- Brief Description of Proposed Research: Work/experiments to be done, purpose, expected outcome, contribution to project goal and clear statement of communication and outreach strategies.
- Other Funding: Listing of other possible funding sources
- Clear and concise set of **Project Metrics and Performance Measures**, **Milestones and Deliverables**, including:
 - Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or performance metrics and how those will be measured
 - Timelines and milestones and how the proposed research will benefit soybean farmers.
- Clear description of a **Cost-Efficient Budget**, sub-budgeted to projects within programs.

Researchers interested in submitting a proposal should provide **an electronic copy in Microsoft Word or PDF format** of the completed proposal to Danielle Bauer at <u>danielle.rrconsulting@gmail.com</u> by July 15, 2020. Questions can be addressed to Ms. Bauer at 443-812-4526.

Funds granted through this program are checkoff funds contributed to Qualified State Soybean Boards pursuant to the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act, 7 U.S.C. 6304 (1) (4). Work performed under this Agreement will be performed in accordance with the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act and the Soybean Promotion and Research Order, 7 CFR Part 1220.