

Land-grant University to You (LGU2U) Initiative

NIFA's relocation to Kansas City, MO created a significant need to strengthen long-term relationships, rebuild shared culture, impart knowledge, and renew essential partnerships between Land-grant Universities (LGUs) and NIFA. NIFA has rapidly restaffed and rebuilt with a workforce that reflects a wide range of prior experience and varying familiarity with LGU's mission, functions, and administrative procedures. The LGUs are key NIFA stakeholders and partners in the capacity grant, competitive grant, and other unique programs. Good working relationships between LGUs and NIFA are extremely valuable to both. Together, the LGUs and NIFA believe an investment to reinvigorate and reimagine this historic partnership will benefit both parties and all stakeholders by synergistically enhancing our missions and catalyzing our capacity to build a better future. Hence, the creation and implementation of the LGU2U Initiative with NIFA.

The LGU2U Initiative will reinforce and enhance the unique relationship between LGUs and NIFA through active learning and engagement resulting in a strengthened and vibrant partnership.

As NIFA rebuilds its staff, processes and systems, there is renewed opportunity for partnering with LGUs. The LGU2U Initiative offers virtual sessions led by North Central LGU staff and leaders strategically matching their expertise with NIFA program leadership. The goal of LGU2U is to accelerate the onboarding process and help enhance the agency's relationship with LGUs and other partner institutions.

The nation's LGUs and NIFA are committed to a long-term partnership. While LGUs in the North Central Region are providing leadership to the initial sessions, other institutions, people and stakeholders lending a national perspective will follow in later program aspects.

INFORMATION and LOGISTICS FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM:

- The North Central LGU Associations (NCCEA and NCRA) are working with NIFA leadership on the overall program and specific session agendas.
- Select North Central LGUs (1862, 1890 1994) and others will be called upon as presenters and participants
- NIFA will identify program leaders and staff who will be invited to the sessions.
- The North Central LGUs will support their administrators and others in participating in the sessions.
- Participants will be asked to complete a preprogram survey of expectations and interests.
- Virtual Programs will be delivered in three-to-four, 90 minute virtual sessions, followed by a national capstone experience designed by participants.

TIMEING & DATES:

Session 1:	August	Partnerships Across LGUs and NIFA
Session 2:	October	Funding and Programming
Session 3:	December	Priority Setting – How LGUs set priorities and how NIFA sets priorities
Session 4:	TBD	CAPSTONE: National perspectives (to be designed by participants)

CONTACTS:

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