

Grants Notice
**“Inviting Applications for the Technical Assistance
for Specialty Crops Program”**

Closing date for applications: July 3, 2006

Award ceiling: \$250,000

Award floor: \$0

Cost sharing or matching requirement: Although a minimum level of cost share contribution is not required, it is very strongly encouraged in this highly competitive program. If provided, such support may be in the form of cash, goods, or in-kind services which are dedicated to the project by the organization that submitted the proposal, private industry entities, host governments, or foreign third parties.

Agency: United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Unified Export Strategy

Category: Agriculture. CFDA number: 10.604—Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops Program

Eligible Applicants: Federal, state, and local agencies; non-profit trade associations, universities, agricultural cooperatives, state regional trade groups, and private companies

Description

The TASC Program is designed to assist U.S. organizations by providing funding for private and public sector projects and technical assistance that address sanitary, phytosanitary, and technical barriers that prohibit or threaten the export of U.S. specialty crops. U.S. specialty crops, for the purpose of the TASC Program, are defined to include all cultivated plants, or the products thereof, produced in the U.S., except wheat, feed grains, oilseeds, cotton, rice, peanuts, sugar, and tobacco.

1. Address to Request Application Package: Organizations can submit applications to the FAS through the Unified Export Strategy (UES) application Internet Web site. Applicants also have the option of submitting electronic versions in the UES format (along with two paper copies) of their applications to the FAS on diskette.

Applicants planning to use the UES Internet-based system must contact the FAS Marketing Operations Staff on (202) 720-4327 to obtain site access information including a user ID and password. The UES Internet-based application, including a Help file containing step-by-step instructions for its use, may be found at the following URL address:

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/cooperators.html>.

Applicants are not required to use the UES, but are strongly encouraged to do so because it reduces paperwork and expedites the FAS processing and review cycle.

Applicants who choose to submit applications on diskette can obtain an application format by contacting the Marketing Operations Staff, phone (202) 720-4327, fax: (202) 720-9361, e-mail: mosadmin@fas.usda.gov.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission: All **TASC** proposals must contain complete information about the proposed projects as described in Sec. 1487.5(b) of the **TASC** Program regulations. In addition, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's issuance of a final policy (68 FR 38402) regarding the use of a universal identifier for all Federal grants and cooperative agreements, all applicants must submit a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. An applicant may request a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line on 1-866-705-5711. Incomplete applications and applications which do not otherwise conform to this announcement will not be accepted for review.

Link to Full Announcement

[More Detailed Information on TASC Funding Opportunity](#)

Funding opportunity number: TASC-2006-JULY