

**Aflatoxin Mitigation Center of Excellence**  
**Request for Research Pre-Proposals**  
**2014 Research Program**

For the third year, the Aflatoxin Mitigation Center of Excellence (AMCOE) Research Program is being offered. Participating Southern states corn checkoff boards developed a unified approach to funding research projects impacting growers across the region. The program is being managed by the National Corn Growers Association located in Chesterfield, MO. The goal is to leverage more dollars for solving the aflatoxin issues through development of strong regional teams highly competitive for federal, public and private grants.

Funding in 2014 will focus on seven priority areas for corn:

1. Biological control, especially atoxigenic strain development and deployment technology and increased utilization,
2. Transgenic modification for improved aflatoxin resistance,
3. Breeding for aflatoxin resistance,
4. Amelioration technology for aflatoxin contaminated grain,
5. Best management strategies for reducing aflatoxin,
6. Improved testing procedures and;
7. Improved information transfer (cell phone apps, extension, etc.).

**Criteria for the Evaluation of Pre-Proposals and Subsequent Request for Proposals:** AMCOE will accept pre-proposals from teams of researchers (multi-state preferred). Requested funding should not exceed \$100,000 per year. *Multi-year proposals will be considered for funding but funding is explicitly for one year only.*

Each pre-proposal should have one clearly identified principal investigator (PI). Principal investigators of funded projects will be expected to submit progress reports as specified in contract once awarded. Preference will be given to pre-proposals based upon the following criteria:

- Demonstrate potential to develop, evaluate and transfer new technologies to corn producers.
- Potential of the team or individual investigator to acquire new funds (leverage existing funds).
- Qualifications of PI and/or interdisciplinary team.
- Focus on a priority area listed above.

**Who is Eligible to Submit a Pre-Proposal:** *Principal Investigators:* Scientists from any Land Grant University or affiliate. *Co-PI's and Collaborators:* Scientists with appropriate expertise to help with the priority areas identified. Involvement of collaborators from other agencies and/or universities that enhance the competitiveness of a proposal is encouraged and can be conducted with a subcontract with the PI/Institution.

**Deadline of Submission:** Pre-proposals are due no later than August 23, 2013. Please submit an electronic copy of each pre-proposal to the National Corn Growers Association in care of Max Starbuck at [starbuck@ncga.com](mailto:starbuck@ncga.com) and copy Melanie Gibson at [gibson@ncga.com](mailto:gibson@ncga.com).

**Review Process:** Pre-proposals will be reviewed by the AMCOE steering committee and designated reviewers.

**Request for Proposals:** Full proposals will be due approximately October 15, 2013. Instructions will be provided with the request for full proposals. It is anticipated that a high percentage of full proposals will be funded.

**Funding:** Funding is contingent upon budget availability and will be distributed as specified in a completed contract.

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**(1 page maximum, excluding attachments)**

**Title:**

**AMCOE Category:**

**Principal Investigator:**

**Co-Principal Investigators(s):**

**Collaborator(s):**

**FY 2014 Amount Requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Prior AMCOE Funded Project?    YES      NO      If yes, please list amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Abbreviated Pitch for pre-proposal (e.g. priority area this project is attempting to solve, macro value proposition, and research approach):**

**Potential for Leveraging Resources (acquiring additional funding):**

**Attachments: Qualifications of Team (including up to 2 pages CV for PI's and Co-PI's)**