Mission
The University of Minnesota Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute (HFHL) aims to increase and sustain the University’s impact in the interdisciplinary arena of food, agriculture and health.

Planning Grant Program
HFHL’s grant programs utilize UMN funds to advance scientific and public knowledge and to influence public policy. Interdisciplinary faculty research teams may seek support for the development of a proposal for HFHL’s Faculty Research Grant Program during the next funding cycle (Spring 2020) OR to other equivalent University, major government, or private sources.

Eligibility
Teams must include:

- At least two PI’s who are UMN Faculty members (representing two distinct disciplines from any campus or department)
  - Faculty members may only apply for one grant per cycle as a PI or co-PI
  - Faculty members may participate in any number of grant proposals per cycle in another role
- At least one PI representing a third distinct discipline (must be based in Minnesota, but can be internal or external to UMN)
  - External PI’s may include any college, research institution, or community partner (such as a 501(c)3 organization, local or tribal government, health care organization, or faith-based institution)

Grant Categories
All proposals must be relevant to at least one grant category.

- Food protection (safety)
- Prevention of obesity and diet-related disease
- Food security

Priority Areas
All proposals must address at least one priority area.

- Integration of agriculture & health sciences
  - Strong project teams will represent expertise in both agricultural sciences and health sciences. Contributions from experts in the social and behavioral sciences are favorable.

- High potential to directly inform systemic change
  - Applicants may demonstrate potential for significant change through institutional or governmental partners, letters of support, faculty track records in impacting or creating policy change, etc.
Funding for Faculty Planning Grants

- Applicants may seek grant funds ranging from $5,000 to $10,000 for up to one year.
  - The funds must be spent within the allotted time period, although no-cost extensions will be allowed with appropriate justification.
  - Funding at a higher level may be considered with very strong justification.
- 75% of the award will be distributed at the onset of the planning. 25% of the award will be distributed following successful preparation and submission of the grant proposal.

- Successful planning grants will achieve these expected outcomes:
  - Establish partnerships that include members from at least three distinct disciplines
  - Develop a refined research question
  - Develop a common language across disciplines
  - Identify potential additional partners
- Up to two planning grants will be awarded each cycle.

Appropriate uses of funding include:
- Support for meeting time, space and travel
- Small stipends for participants to dedicate their time to partnership development
- A quarter-time Research Assistant
- Other direct project expenses

Funds may not be used to support:
- Ongoing research or existing programs
- Faculty salaries
- Indirect costs
Planning Grant Proposal Requirements

Project teams must submit their proposal to hfhl@umn.edu by **Wednesday, November 20th, 2019** to be considered for funding during the Fall 2019 funding cycle.

- **Minimum font size eleven**

- **Responses to the following prompts (not to exceed 3 pages):**
  - What health issue, grant category and priority area is this project proposing to address?
  - List of all team members with their affiliations (department, college, external organizations, etc.), expertise, and contact information (email, address, phone)
  - Description of funding sources and mechanisms the team intends to pursue

- **Budget and justification for each budget item**

- **Description of all existing and pending funding support**
  - External (federal, foundation, industry, etc.) and internal (Intramural Research Support) sources
  - A clear demonstration of financial need will be considered as part of the review process

- **Letters of support from all potential partners and investigators**

Expectations for Successful Interdisciplinary Teams

Interdisciplinary teams are expected to work towards understanding and reconciling potentially different:

- Research styles and approaches
- Perspectives on the importance of various research questions and issues
- Research rules, priorities and requirements of participating departments and units
- Publication requirements
- Project roles and expectations
Timeline

- **Request for proposals released:** Wednesday, August 21st, 2019
- **Planning Grant Proposal due:** Wednesday, November 20th, 2019
- **Awards announced:** Friday, December 20th, 2019
- **Funding commences (subject to change***): Monday, January 6th, 2020
- **Project end date (subject to change****:): Friday, June 12th, 2020
- **Final report due (subject to change****:): Wednesday, July 15th, 2020

* Based on grantee award acceptance date
** Based on actual project start date

Grant Review Process

The HFHL Director will select reviewers with advice from the HFHL Advisory Board. The review panel will include faculty members from multiple colleges and disciplines, and may also include external reviewers. Select groups may be invited to participate in a 30 minute interview with members of the panel. After the interviews, reviewers will submit recommendations to the HFHL Director for final decision and approval.

HFHL Community Participation Requirements

- **Surveys**
  - After the funding period, HFHL sends periodic requests for grantees to complete surveys that help keep up-to-date records about outcomes and accomplishments related to grantee research—grantees are expected to complete the surveys.

- **Publications**
  - HFHL requests that all grantee publications, including research publications, press releases and other publications or documents about research that is funded by HFHL must include a specific acknowledgment of HFHL grant support, including a grant award number, if provided.

- **Symposia and Conferences**
  - Teams are encouraged, but not required, to attend HFHL’s annual symposium and Native American Nutrition conference (hosted in partnership with the Mdewakanton Sioux Community).

Please submit proposals, or send requests for assistance throughout the application process, to hfhl@umn.edu.