Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH) Pilot Projects Program

2025-26 REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS

Pre-Proposals Due: November 10, 2025

The Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH) is requesting applications for pilot grants ranging from $5,000 to a maximum total cost of $30,000 to address health and safety issues affecting agricultural workers and their families. We anticipate funding three or more research projects.

UMASH is especially interested in research projects that:

- Align with the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) for Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (AgFF).
- Take a One Health approach by addressing the connections between human, animal, and environmental health.
- Focus on agricultural safety and health issues relevant to the Upper Midwest region.

This announcement is open to investigators in academic, government, community, industry or health care settings who have the knowledge, skills, and ability to carry out the proposed work.

The UMASH pilot project program will prioritize proposals that:

- Develop innovative research in agricultural safety and health with strong potential to secure future extramural funding.
- Explore and characterize emerging issues that impact the health and safety of agricultural workers and their families.
- Leverage multidisciplinary collaboration to generate novel insights or approaches in agricultural health and safety.

A final report summarizing research activities and results must be received within one month of the end of the grant funding period. A template for the final report will be available for awardees. Investigators will be expected to complete a poster and/or provide a short presentation of their project results at a UMASH meeting or symposium. Costs to attend the meeting can be included in the budget. In addition, investigators will be expected to provide UMASH with a brief post-project update annually for up to 3 years. These updates will enable UMASH to track the outcomes of funded projects. It is anticipated that these projects will be completed in 12-18 month timelines.

APPLICATION PROCESS: PRE-PROPOSALS

This is a two-step application process. The initial request is for pre-proposals. Full proposals are accepted by invitation only. To submit a pre-proposal, interested investigators should **send a one-page summary of their proposed idea to umash@umn.edu no later than November 10, 2025** addressing the following points:

- Summary of the problem, including who is affected and how it relates to agriculture in the Upper Midwest and what institutions, organizations, individuals are involved.
- Specific hypothesis/objective to be tested or achieved
- Population to be studied/engaged
- Expected outcome
- Potential for future funding to extend this work and potential funding sources
- Approximate cost (this is non-binding)

Pre-proposals will be reviewed, and selected applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Pre-proposals deadline: November 10, 2025
Invitation for full proposal: November 19, 2025
Full Application Deadline: January 5, 2026