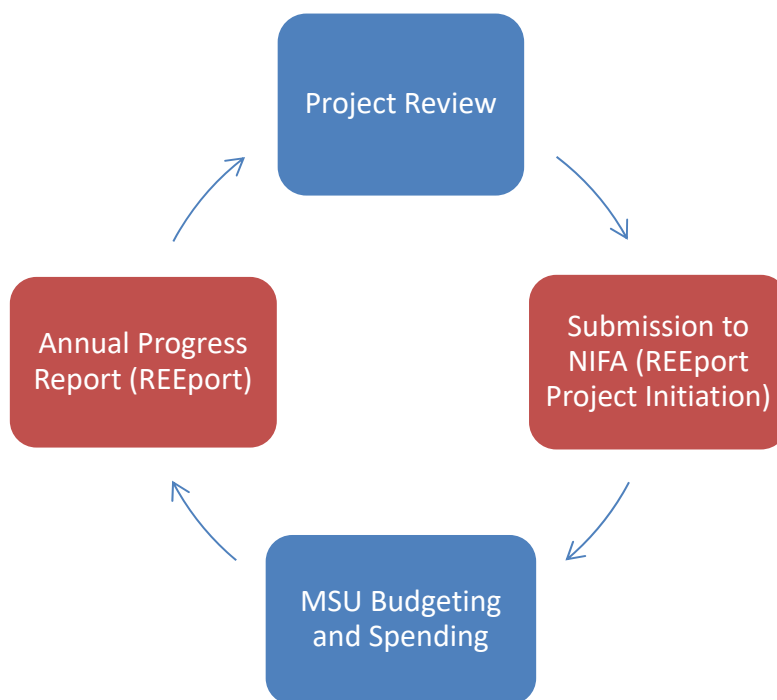


Hatch Projects are 3 to 5-year research plans with measurable goals and impacts designed to contribute to the broad research mission of the USDA-NIFA. These peer-reviewed projects allow the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station to support faculty salaries with federal funds, and some resources for operations activities, travel, personnel, and graduate research assistantship support related to the projects. Prior to developing a Hatch project, PIs should engage with their Department Head and colleagues in developing a broad research plan that mutually meet the missions of the PI, the Experiment Station, MSU, and USDA-NIFA. Typically, these projects should dovetail with research you are already conducting. We strongly recommend that faculty develop Hatch Projects with achievable goals within the research process.

MAES Project Lifecycle



Project Review (Federal Hatch Projects)

All MAES funded faculty should have an active Hatch project. New faculty will normally submit proposals during their 2nd or 3rd year. This is referred to as “Project Review”. Following are the steps for Project Review:

- 1) Proposal developed by Project Director (PD) and presented at seminar.
- 2) Proposal/seminar reviewed and approved by peer review committee and Department Head.
- 3) Proposal reviewed and approved by Dean and Director.

a) Proposal Submission to USDA/NIFA

Once a project proposal has been approved by the Director, the PD must submit their project information into the NIFA REEport system the following spring by completing the Project Initiation and uploading the project proposal. These forms will be reviewed by the Fiscal Manager and submitted to NIFA. When a PD logs onto REEport, they will be able to see the projects they have that require reports.

b) MSU Budgeting and Spending

Once a project is approved by NIFA, the PD will be notified by the Fiscal Manager with an opening memo. For new projects, index numbers will be assigned by the Fiscal Manager. Budgeting and spending should begin in an assigned index number on opening date of the project (923xxx). *Index numbers are tied to MAES projects just like grants. They can only be used when a project is active and cannot be used for other project expenses.*

c) Progress Report

PD's must enter annual progress reports into REEport by November 30th of each year. The Fiscal Manager will review and submit the completed reports to NIFA.

d) Project Renewal

Prior to the project termination date, the Project Review process will be repeated in order to renew the project for an extended period.

e) Termination of a project

If a PD is going to leave MSU or a project will not be extended, the PD must terminate their project(s) in REEport with a Final Report **prior** to leaving or at end of project period. The index associated with a terminating project will be inactivated.

Federal Multistate Projects

These funds are distributed to participants in regional, Multistate projects.

There are two types of Multistate Projects:

1. Coordinating Committee and Information Exchange Group – these do not require a Project Initiation in REEport. The Dean's office awards travel money for participation in regional meetings.
2. Multistate Research Project – these require a Project Initiation in REEport and are to be reported. The PD may receive salary, travel, and operations funds for participation.

To search for Multistate Projects, go to NIMSS. The NIMSS site has just been updated this month to a new site located here: <http://nimss.org/>

Instructions to help navigate the site are available upon request. If you need assistance navigating the site to search for projects please contact Darien Gibson in the College of Ag at the email address or phone number listed below.

Other Grant (non-formula funds) in REEport

A NIFA non-formula funded project is a competitive grant that has been awarded to a grantee through the grants.gov application and approval process. Once a non-formula grant has been awarded, the grantee is notified by NIFA that they must use REEport to complete the Project Initiation. Annual Progress Reports and Final Reports are due 90 days after the anniversary of the start date of the project.

Contact for Questions:

Jenna Smith, Program and Reporting Manager
College of Agriculture | Montana Agricultural Experiment Station
jenna.smith8@montana.edu
(406) 994-5071