**For Immediate Release** **Contact:**

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**Western SARE Releases Call for Proposals**

**Graduate Student Grants in Sustainable Agriculture**

The 2015 Call for Proposals for the Graduate Student Grants has been released and proposals will be accepted until 1 pm MDT May 13, 2015. The full CFP can be downloaded at [wsaregrants.usu.edu/grants/docs/CFP\_GSG.pdf](https://wsaregrants.usu.edu/grants/docs/CFP_GSG.pdf).

The Graduate Student Grants provide a maximum of $25,000 and may last for up to two years. Those eligible to apply are masters or Ph.D. students enrolled full time at accredited colleges or universities in the western region. After the deadline, the proposals are assessed by a technical review panel in July. The Western SARE Administrative Council selects proposals for funding in August and award notifications are made in September.

The Western SARE Administrative Council will select reviewed proposals that are innovative, diverse in content, subject matter, and geography; demonstrate tangible outcomes; and provide readily adaptable technologies and information suitable to the adoption of sustainable farming and ranching systems by producers in the western region.

Proposals must address issues in sustainable agriculture of current and potential importance to the western region. The primary focus of Graduate Student projects should be to:

•Conduct research and education, not research or education. Both elements are required.

•Demonstrate measurable impacts and outcomes that can increase the body of knowledge of sustainable agriculture.

•Produce scholarly works and educational materials to assist others in acquiring new knowledge.

•Communicate the project goals, activities, and findings to producers and other stakeholders.

•Consult with farmers and ranchers throughout the life of the project to help ensure these results.

Profiles of successfully completed Graduate Student Grant projects may be found at [westernsare.org/grad](http://www.westernsare.org/grad).

*SARE is a program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that functions through competitive grants conducted cooperatively by farmers, ranchers, researchers and agricultural professionals to advance farm and ranch systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for communities.*

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