



USAID
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**U.S. Agency for International Development
2010 George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Awards
September 8, 2010 Deadline**

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is pleased to request nominations for the George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Award. This year, three (3) separate awards are anticipated for individuals, units, or teams employed by Tribal Colleges and Universities, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Nominees should have demonstrated outstanding efforts in agricultural-related fields to help solve food, health, nutrition, rural economic growth, and environmental problems to improve the quality of life for people in developing countries.

The USAID award, initiated in 2002, was named after Dr. George Washington Carver, whose innovative, pioneering work in agriculture while a scientist and educator at Tuskegee University resulted in agricultural products and processes that have enhanced the quality of life for people all over the world. Science, technology, and innovation is a key priority for USAID and essential to solving agricultural-related challenges in sustainable development.

The USAID George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Award includes a \$5,000 honorarium and an honorary plaque for the institution of each individual or group award selected.

Nominee Eligibility

Individuals from Minority Serving Institutions who have or are making a significant contribution to improving the lives of people in developing countries in agriculture are eligible as recipients of the USAID George Washington Carver (GWC) Agricultural Excellence Award. Agricultural-related activities for this award include the use of science, technology, and innovation to solve food, health, nutrition, rural economic growth, and environmental problems.

Individual nominees must be currently employed by a U.S. Minority Serving Institution, which include: Tribal Colleges and Universities, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities, defined as such by the U. S. Department of Education. Units and teams at Minority Serving Institutions can also be nominated to receive the GWC Agricultural Excellence Award.

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Nominations

Overseas: Nominations are particularly encouraged from U.S. Agency for International Development staff in missions that have experience with Minority Serving Institutions that have been or are currently involved in USAID-funded agricultural-related activities.

Domestic: Nominations are encouraged from Minority Serving Institutions, Affinity Groups, and U.S. Agency for International Development staff in U.S. offices.

Self-nominations will be accepted.

Selection Criteria

Nominations will be evaluated using a 100 point scoring system that addresses the following specific criteria:

- a) Nature and scientific significance of the innovation that justifies nomination for the award. **(20 points)**
- b) Transferability of the agricultural-related cutting edge scientific or technological innovation to other countries. **(20 points)**
- c) Estimated number of people benefiting from the innovation. **(10 points)**
- d) Role of the innovation in improving the lives or well-being of the poor or socially disadvantaged. **(20 points)**
- e) Contribution of the innovation to economic growth, health, stability or environmental sustainability. **(10 points)**
- f) Contribution or sense of service to community as expressed through works or deeds by the nominee(s). **(10 points)**
- g) Print and electronic publications directly related to the agricultural-related science, technology, or innovation. Articles published by host country, non-governmental organizations, or other stakeholders are eligible. **(10 points)**

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Nomination Package

The 2010 USAID George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Award nominations package must include the following items:

1. Cover Letter summarizing on one (1) page the most significant achievements that qualify the nominee(s) for the award. This letter should be addressed to the GWC Agricultural Excellence Award Committee and sent to the USAID Minority Serving Institutions Program.
2. Nominee(s) Name and Contact Information (Address, Phone, Fax, E-mail) for each award.
3. Nominator Name and Contact Information (Address, Phone, Fax, E-mail).
4. Brief curriculum vitae of individual nominee(s) that covers the professional qualifications of the nominee, degrees earned (field, institutions, and dates), and professional positions (institution, department, and dates).
5. Narrative description that addresses the selection criteria of the outstanding efforts the nominee has demonstrated in agricultural-related fields to help solve food, health, nutrition, rural economic growth, and environmental problems to improve the quality of life for people in developing countries. All nominations must describe agricultural-related accomplishments that:
 - a) clearly demonstrate active international involvement;
 - b) are innovative, forward-looking and/or cutting edge;
 - c) have a significant and positive impact in a developing country's research, extension, or education institution, or the private sector; and
 - d) demonstrate that the work of the individual or group was critical to the positive outcome or contribution.

Nominations packages should not exceed eight (8) typewritten pages in size 12 font, including the cover letter.

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Submission

Electronic submissions of nomination packages are strongly encouraged and should be sent to: cdupre@usaid.gov.

Nominations will also be accepted by mail (DHL or FEDEX). Nomination packages should be addressed and forwarded to the:

GWC Agricultural Excellence Award Committee
c/o Minority Serving Institutions Program
U.S. Agency for International Development
OSDBU, Room 5.08-121 RRB
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20523

Program Contact: Calvin A. Dupre, Minority Serving Institutions Program Coordinator
Phone: (202) 712-0064, email: cdupre@usaid.gov

Deadline for Receipt:

All award submissions, whether electronic or in hard copy, must be received no later than Wednesday, September 8, 2010.

Nominations Processing

Nominations will be reviewed and recommendations made by an Awards Committee comprised of staff of USAID and external organizations that have not submitted nominations and are not associated with an institution that has a nominee being considered for the awards.

Awards

Three (3) winners of the 2010 George Washington Carver Award will receive \$5,000 honoraria. Unit or team group awards will share the \$5,000 honorarium. An honorary plaque will be presented to the institution for its support of the individual or group award selected.

Announcements of the selections are anticipated within 30 days of the September 8, 2010 nomination deadline.