Press Release on MPP Awards

The four regional Extension Risk Management Education (ERME) centers are pleased to announce 13 new Risk Management Education for Meat and Poultry Processing grant recipients. The recipients were granted up to $150,000 for 24-month projects to be implemented between June 1, 2023 and May 31, 2025. Three programs received funding in each of the Northeast, Southern and Western regions and four programs received funding in the North Central region with a total of $1,740,980 awarded across the four regions.

This funding opportunity was part of a USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) effort to help workers and producers in the meat and poultry processing sector across the farm, processing and distribution levels to manage risk and enhance their performance and viability. Projects propose education and training for meat and poultry producers, processors, and distributors, which in turn will enable small-to-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to make sound risk management decisions.

According to USDA NIFA, these investments will enhance capacity across the food supply chain by supporting meat and poultry research, education and training at the local level. It is also part of a broader USDA emphasis on expanding capacity, equity and resiliency in the meat and poultry sector.

ERME is a regionally based, federally funded program that provides competitive grants to fund education projects focused on helping farmers and ranchers successfully manage the unique risks associated with production agriculture. ERME funds education projects addressing production risk, marketing risk, financial risk, legal risk and human risk.

ERME seeks to educate America’s farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world’s table. The program has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible outcomes for producers in every state and territory across the country since 2001.

For more information on the funded projects and a list of the 13 funded projects, please visit: https://z.umn.edu/MeatandPoultry.

To find out more about our grants programs, please visit your specific regional centers for more information:
North Central Extension Risk Management Education Center
Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center
Southeast Extension Risk Management Education Center
Western Extension Risk Management Education Center