<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLICATION/LOI DEADLINE (SPONSOR)</th>
<th>Highlighted Funding Opportunities Week of 10/24/2023</th>
<th>SPONSORING AGENCY &amp; AWARD SYNOPSIS</th>
<th>HYPERLINK TO SPONSOR SITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1st Step**  
*Project Summary* | ARC – Appalachian Regional Commission – ARISE  
– Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies – Planning and Implementation Grants | **Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies (ARISE)** is a new ARC initiative that aims to drive large-scale, regional economic transformation through multi-state collaborative projects across Appalachia. With the additional funding provided by the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021** (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or BIL), ARC launched ARISE to strengthen Appalachian business and industry, and to grow and support the development of new opportunities across multiple states.  
ARISE encourages the region’s 13 states to think beyond local and state lines and to spearhead initiatives that encourage states to work together as one, united Appalachia to advance ARC’s **strategic investment priorities**.  

*Max Planning Grant Award* - $500k  
*Max Implementation Grant Award* - $10m  
*Duration not available* | Link to NOFO Link |
| **2nd Step**  
Concept Paper | PA Gear Up – Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs | *Proposals Due*  
December 1, 2023  

**This grant will provide academic supports and college access and success services to all cohort students (between 2,027 and 2,845 students) starting in 7th grade and will continue to provide services through the students’ first year of post-secondary education. The PA State GEAR UP cohort is comprised of students enrolled in the 8th and 9th* | Link |
grades during the 2023-2024 school year at the following partner schools:

- Allentown School District: Louis E. Dieruff, William Allen, and Building 21 High Schools
- Norristown Area School District: Norristown Area High School
- Pottstown School District: Pottstown Middle School which feeds into Pottstown High School (Pottstown is the only school with a current 8th and 9th grade cohorts)

PA State GEAR UP’s goal is: To increase student achievement through data-driven decisions, develop a sustainable college-going culture, and establish a shared community vision for equitable college access and success.

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**NARBA – North American Bramble Growers Research Foundation, Inc – Caneberry Research**

**Narba Research Priorities 2024**

**Pest Management Strategies**

- Evaluation of new pesticides (insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, including biological pesticides) for blackberry and raspberry production
- Non-chemical strategies for pest control
- Management of spotted wing drosophila (SWD), lantern fly and other emerging pests
- Soil borne disease and nematode management
- Investigation of virus resistance and management

**Production Efficiency and Profitability**

- Management of blackberries and raspberries in tunnels, greenhouses, controlled environments and shade structures (pruning, training and trellis systems)
- Post-harvest handling for small farmers
- Pruning and training systems to improve production
- Using horticultural management techniques, equipment, or improved cultivars to support harvest mechanization in fresh market
- Development of cultural practices to aid in extreme climate/weather events
- Fertility management
| | Pruning practices for primocane-fruiting blackberries  
| | Management systems that reduce labor inputs  
| Cultivar Development and Testing | Breeding for tolerance to environmental issue  
| | Breeding for controlled environments or season extension  
| | Breeding for reduced blackberry red drupelet reversion  
| | Black raspberry development, including thornlessness and earlier/later ripening cultivars  
| Special Needs | Marketing  
| | Product development for caneberry value added products  
| | Health benefits research  

**Award Range** - $2,000 - $5,000; Duration – 12 mos

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| USDA – Food and Nutrition Services - Farm to School Grant Program |  
| | The Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program is designed to increase the availability of local foods in schools and help connect students to the sources of their food through education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips, and local food sourcing for school meals. Grants can launch new farm to school programs or expand existing efforts. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Farm to School Grant awards projects of 24 months in length for funding up to $500,000. Applicants are required to provide matching support of at least 25 percent of the total project budget in the form of cash or in-kind contributions. The RFA offers three tracks - Implementation, State Agency, and Turnkey - to support a variety of projects and implementation stages. Eligible applicants may include schools and other institutions that operate Child Nutrition Programs, Indian Tribal Organizations, agricultural producers or groups of agricultural producers, nonprofit entities, and State and local agencies.  
| | Award Range: up to $500k; Duration: 24 months  

**Proposal Due**  
**January 12, 2024**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal Due</th>
<th>NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities – Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 12, 2024</td>
<td>Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-sized institutions — such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, cultural organizations, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities — improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections. These may include special collections of books and journals, archives and manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, decorative and fine art objects, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture, historical objects, and digital materials.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award Range: up to $10k ; Duration: 15 months</td>
<td>Link to NOFO pdf</td>
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