



United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service

2019 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program State Coordinators Conference

February 20 – 21, 2019

The Westin Arlington Gateway
801 N. Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA 22203

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 20, 2019	
7:30 AM	Conference registration <ul style="list-style-type: none">Continental breakfast provided
8:15 AM	Welcome & Introduction Dr. Lisa Benson, NASDA Foundation Nikki Nelson Miller, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown)
8:30 AM	USDA's Role in Supporting Specialty Crops across the Country
9:00 AM	FY 2019 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Update Carly Borgmeier, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown)
9:30 AM	Break
9:45 AM	Using Social Media for Promotion and Training <i>Moderator:</i> Perry Harlow, NASDA Foundation Johanna Heron, Alaska Division of Agriculture Nicole Moore, Illinois Department of Agriculture Jen Holton, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development Cindy Martel, Department of Agriculture
10:45 AM	The Importance of Food Safety and the SCBGP <i>Moderator:</i> Tricia Kovas, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown) Kristina Sweet, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets Betsy Dorton, South Carolina Department of Agriculture
11:45 AM	Networking Lunch
12:45 PM	Open Competitive Process: Applicant Training Tools <i>Moderator:</i> Lisa James, Arizona Department of Agriculture Emily Cook, New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets



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	Glenda Mostek, Colorado Department of Agriculture
1:30 PM	Working with Sub-Awardees <i>Moderator:</i> Melissa Ball, Virginia Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services Kathlyn Terry, Appalachian Sustainable Development
2:15 PM	Break
2:30 PM	Outcomes from SCBGP Evaluation Wilella Burgess, Purdue University
3:15 PM	Coffee with a Coordinator: Networking and Product Exchange Perry Harlow, NASDA Foundation
4:15 PM	Wrap Up Dr. Lisa Benson, NASDA Foundation
Thursday, February 21, 2019	
8:00 AM	Conference registration Continental breakfast provided
8:45 AM	Introduction to the Day Perry Harlow, NASDA Foundation
9:00 AM	Grant Monitoring and Evaluation <i>Moderator:</i> Carlos Coleman, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown) Ashley Jeppson, Nevada Department of Agriculture Casey Foster, Nebraska Department of Agriculture Jen Erdmann, Georgia Department of Agriculture
10:00 AM	USDA Agricultural Marketing Service and State Departments of Agriculture: Opportunities and Challenges John Miklozek, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown)
10:45 AM	Assessing and Reflecting Perry Harlow, NASDA Foundation
11:15 AM	Wrap UP Dr. Lisa Benson, NASDA Foundation John Miklozek, USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (tentative based on government shutdown)



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11:45 AM	Pick up box lunches and load onto buses for tour
12:15 PM	Arrive at University of District of Columbia College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability, and Environmental Sciences
12:20 PM	Opening remarks from UDC CAUSES staff
12:40 PM	Presentation by past and present SCBGP sub-awardees
2:00 PM	Tour of facility Hydroponics Kitchen and rain water harvesting Aquaponics Roof top garden
4:00 PM	Tour Concludes Buses will take participants back to the Westin Hotel
4:45 PM	Arrive at Westin Hotel