

**NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release**

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**NEBRASKA GRAPE AND WINERY BOARD SEEKS GRANT PROPOSALS**

April 1, 2011 - The Nebraska Grape and Winery Board is seeking grant proposals from individual growers, farm wineries, organizations, industry groups, or academic institutions that aim to assist in the betterment of Nebraska's grape and wine industry. The Board's goal is to fund meaningful projects that have the highest likelihood of significant, positive impact on grape and wine production in Nebraska.

Grant proposals will be considered on a competitive basis. Interested parties wishing to receive funds must submit a detailed proposal for review and approval by the Nebraska Grape and Winery Board. Proposals must clearly explain how the money will be used and how it will enhance the competitiveness of Nebraska's grape and wine industry. The Board anticipates funding proposals during the upcoming fiscal year (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012). Funding for projects will be subject to the availability of funds. Applications must be submitted electronically or by U.S. mail to Lee Grossman, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, PO Box 94947, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68509. The e-mail address is [leland.grossman@nebraska.gov](mailto:leland.grossman@nebraska.gov). Applications must be postmarked on or before Friday, May 15, 2011.

Eligible projects must enhance the competitiveness of Nebraska's grapes and wines and may focus on research, promotion, marketing, trade enhancement, education, "buy local" programs, improved efficiency and reduced costs of distribution systems, product development, developing cooperatives, and other opportunities. Proposals should be initiated by individual growers, farm wineries, organizations, industry groups or academic institutions, or should involve collaboration or partnerships between producers, industry groups, academics, or other organizations. Grant proposals must show how the project will benefit the entire grape and wine industry, and not a particular business venture. Any and all outcomes and records, resulting from a funded project, must be available for examination upon request by members of the public. Two – five year project proposals will be considered, subject to annual review and re-authorization.

Grant proposal guidelines and application information can be found at [http://www.grapeandwineryboard.nebraska.gov/grant\\_information.html](http://www.grapeandwineryboard.nebraska.gov/grant_information.html) or by contacting the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 800-422-6692. For more information, contact Casey Foster or Lee Grossman at 800-422-6692.

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