

Who We Are

The Southern Extension Risk Management Education Center (SRMEC) was established in 2009, and is located at the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. SRMEC's mission is "Empowering Producers to Manage Risk!" It is funded through USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), and is one of four regional ERME Centers located throughout the country.

The Southern Center serves the region which includes the states/territories of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

The Southern Center, in conjunction with the other three regional Centers, conducts the Extension Risk Management Education Competitive Grants Program. This program involves an annual competitive process, and provides funding to both public and private sector organizations for educational projects designed to improve the ability of agricultural producers to effectively manage the complex risks associated with their agribusinesses. The projects supported by the program provide tools and training which enable producers to establish new risk management strategies that will strengthen the economic viability of their farm enterprises.



Empowering Producers to Manage Risks

Southern Extension Risk Management Education Center

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United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2015-49200-24228.

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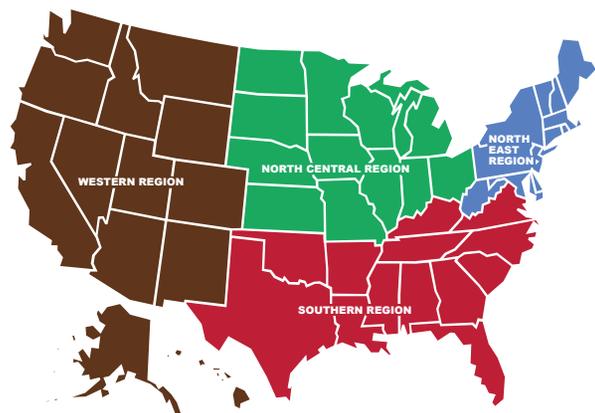


About ERME Results-Based Funding

Extension Risk Management Educations (ERME) is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions. The mission of the national program is *educating America's farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world's table.*

Educational efforts funded through the ERME Competitive Grants Program are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Awards are made to projects that clearly identify targeted results that will help participants manage risk, and then also identify how those results will be measured.

ERME has funded innovative educational projects that have generated tangible results for agricultural producers in all 50 states. Priorities of the program include commitments to **funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration.** The accomplishments of all funded projects are available for public viewing on the ERME website: www.extensionrme.org/ProjectSearch.



Empowering Producers to Manage Risks

Grants Available

The ERME Competitive Grants Program releases a Request for Applications (RFA) annually. Grant awards typically range in size from \$5,000 to \$50,000, and successful risk management education projects must address at least one of the following primary sources of agricultural risk:

- **Production**
- **Marketing**
- **Financial**
- **Legal**
- **Human**

For more information about funding opportunities, please visit the Southern Center's website: <http://srmec.uark.edu/>

Professional Improvement Opportunities

In addition to funding educational outreach projects, SRMEC annually supports and invests in activities to build capacity to understand risk management issues. These outreach efforts seek to address grower need through innovative programming in risk management education across the southern region. SRMEC activities are relevant and grass-roots, relying upon guidance from our diverse advisory council and input from a Risk Coordinator team — seasoned extension professionals from across the South.

