



ASSOCIATION OF  
PUBLIC &  
LAND-GRANT  
UNIVERSITIES

# FY2018 Appropriations Priorities

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,  
AND RELATED AGENCIES

## ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

APLU is a research, policy, and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities.

With a membership of 237 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems, and affiliated organizations, APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research, and expanding engagement.

Annually, its 195 U.S. member campuses enroll 4 million undergraduates and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1.1 million degrees, employ 1 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$40.7 billion in university-based research.

APLU  
1307 New York Avenue NW  
Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20005  
p: 202.478.6040  
[www.aplu.org](http://www.aplu.org)

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (NIFA)

**APLU FY2018 Request: \$1.526 billion (+\$200 million from FY2016)**  
(FY2018 PBR = \$1.253B; FY2017 = \$1.363B; FY2016 = \$1.326B)

America's land-grant universities and other institutions provide essential research, education and public outreach that sustain U.S. food, fiber and renewable fuel production by addressing many urgent and important local, regional, national and global problems. Financial support for this world-renowned enterprise comes from both public and private sources. However, the most significant funding source is the federal-state partnership managed by NIFA, USDA's extramural science agency.

APLU supports \$1.526 billion for NIFA in FY2018. This represents a \$200 million increase from FY2016 funding levels, and \$162 million over FY2017.

### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE (AFRI)

**APLU FY2018 Request: \$418 million**  
(FY2018 PBR = \$349M; FY2017 = \$375M; FY2016 = \$350M)

APLU supports an appropriation of \$418 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, USDA's flagship competitive grants program. AFRI funds competitive grants supporting research, education and extension activities to address key issues of national, regional, and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture, including farm efficiency and profitability, ranching, renewable energy, forestry, aquaculture, human nutrition, food safety and biotechnology.

## APLU FY2018 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

### **CAPACITY FUNDS: FORMULA & BLOCK GRANT FUNDING PROGRAMS OF NIFA**

APLU also urges strong support for several NIFA funding lines that underwrite the basic research and extension capacity at America's land-grant universities and related institutions. Most of these programs have state-matching requirements and are essential to sustain the national food, agriculture, and natural resources research and extension capabilities that benefit both rural and urban areas.

- Hatch Act (\$291 million) for agriculture experiment stations
- Smith-Lever Funds 3(b) and 3(c) (\$358.4 million) for cooperative extension
- Evans-Allen (\$64.7 million) for agricultural research
- McIntire-Stennis (\$40.6 million) for cooperative forestry research
- 1890 Institutions Extension Services (\$54.5 million)

*Additional APLU FY2018 Agriculture Appropriations bill priorities and detailed justifications, as determined by the Association's Commission on Food, Environment and Renewable Resources Board on Agriculture Assembly, are available at <http://www.land-grant.org>*

---