

APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly Fiscal Year 2025 Appropriations Request

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)



The Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) requests bold federal investment in our nation's colleges of agriculture and forestry by advancing funding increases for core accounts that underpin the strength of our nation's public research, Extension, and education system serving U.S. food and agriculture. The return on investment of U.S. agriculture research and Extension is \$20 for every public \$1 invested. Yet federal support for NIFA agricultural research, education, and Extension has been flat in real dollars, resulting in destabilization of the very system the U.S. relies on to ensure food security. This system cultivates U.S.-based agricultural leaders, reinforces domestic preparedness against pests and diseases, and ensures U.S. leadership in global food security and technology.

The BAA requests investments that rebuild U.S. preeminence across public university research, Cooperative Extension System, education programs, and research facilities.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

- ▶ **Hatch Act:** Agricultural Experiment Stations located in every state provide research *capacity-people, partnership capabilities, and strategy support* for critical issues and innovations that affect agricultural production, profitability, and sustainability. *Collaborative, multistate researchers* work across states and regions to solve food security, production, climate change, biosecurity, and nutrition issues.
FY 2025 Request: \$300 million
- ▶ **Evans-Allen:** Agricultural research at 1890s colleges of agriculture is supported by Evans-Allen funds, a *capacity* program that supports research for small farmer challenges, food security and nutrition, and workforce development. Most Black students majoring in agriculture graduate from 1890s institutions.
FY 2025 Request: \$113 million
- ▶ **1994 Institution Research Program:** The Tribal College Research Program supports research that protects reservation forests, woodlands, grasslands, and crops, and monitors soil and water quality.
FY 2025 Request: \$17.5 million
- ▶ **McIntire-Stennis:** Cooperative forestry research *capacity* funding addresses the development of biobased products, prevention of forest fires, identification of new energy sources, expansion of outdoor recreational activity, and development of mitigation techniques for invasive species. It is a source of funds for graduate students in natural resource sciences.
FY 2025 Request: \$46 million
- ▶ **Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI):** AFRI is the flagship *competitive* grants program for federal research priorities on rural economic development, food production, bioeconomy, climate mitigation and adaptation, water availability, food safety, human nutrition, and early career scientists.
FY 2025 Request: \$500 million

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

- ▶ **Smith-Lever Section 3(b) and (c):** Smith-Lever *capacity* funding for 1862 land-grant university Extension programs provides critical expertise, community, and resources to every corner of the country. From agricultural information services bringing research discoveries to the field, to children and family programming like 4-H, to economic and workforce development services helping rural and urban communities thrive, extension is an essential on-the-ground service funded by the Smith-Lever capacity funds.
FY 2025 Request: \$420 million
- ▶ **Extension Services at 1890 Institutions:** Assists 1890s institutions in working with diverse communities to provide research-based, education about market development, acquisition of capital and technology, estate planning, and profitability. Stakeholders of this *capacity* program include owners of small-to-medium size farms and other underserved populations.
FY 2025 Request: \$92 million
- ▶ **Tribal College Extension Grants Program (TCEP):** This *capacity* program enables 1994 institutions to deliver science-based, culturally relevant extension education programs to Tribal communities addressing financial and economic security, youth programming, and public health needs on Tribal lands.
FY 2025 Request: \$17.5 million



- USDA ERS reports that U.S. public agricultural R&D spending in 2019 was 1/3 of that in 2002 (constant dollars).
- Without the U.S. Cooperative Extension System, 28% additional farmers would have left farming over the last 30 yrs.
- Workforce estimates between 2021-2025 indicate the U.S. has 20,000 more jobs than college graduates in food, agriculture, environmental, and natural resource sciences.

► **Smith-Lever 3(d) Programs:** Includes the following important programs—Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP); Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education; New Technologies for Agricultural Extension; Children, Youth, and Families at Risk; and Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Programs.

FY 2025 Request: \$95 million

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

► **Women and Minorities in STEM (WAMS):** This program increases student success for rural women and minorities in agricultural research, education, and Extension.

FY 2025 Request: \$10 million

► **1994 Institutions Equity Payments:** These equity-based payments that support Tribal college undergraduate and/or graduate studies in food and agricultural sciences. Payments support curricula design, faculty development, experiential learning, equipment, and student retention.

FY 2025 Request: \$17.5 million

INFRASTRUCTURE

► **Research Facilities Act (RFA):** A 2021 report determined 70% of research facilities at U.S. public colleges of agriculture are at the end of their useful life with \$11.5 billion in deferred maintenance. RFA supports modernization of research facilities at colleges of agriculture.

FY 2025 Request: \$500 million

GLOBAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION PARTNERSHIPS

► **International Capacity and Competitive Grants:** *Partnerships to Build Capacity in International Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching* program strengthens international collaboration and the exchange of research results that promote teaching and Extension. *Competitive Grants for International Agricultural Science and Education* program strengthens U.S. economic competitiveness and promotes international market development.

FY 2025 Request: \$15 million

APLU BAA FY 2025 Ag Appropriations Request (In Thousands)

Appropriations Accounts	U.S. Code	FY 2022	FY 2023 Omnibus	FY 2024 House/Senate*	FY 2025 BAA Request
RESEARCH					
Hatch Act	7 U.S.C. 361a-i	\$260,000	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$300,000
Evans-Allen Research (1890 Research)	7 U.S.C. 3222	\$80,000	\$89,000	\$89,000	\$113,000
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$17,500
McIntire-Stennis	16 U.S.C. 582a through a-7	\$36,000	\$38,000	\$38,000	\$46,000
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	7 U.S.C. 450i(b)	\$445,000	\$455,000	\$455,000*	\$500,000
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM					
Smith-Lever 3(b) & (c)	7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of P.L. 93 471	\$320,000	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$420,000
Extension Services at 1890 Universities	7 U.S.C. 3221	\$65,000	\$72,000	\$72,000	\$92,000
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)	\$9,500	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$17,500
Smith-Lever 3(d)	7 U.S.C. 343(d)	\$90,455	\$91,250	\$91,250	\$95,000
EDUCATION					
Women and Minorities in STEM (WAMS)	7 U.S.C. 5925	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$17,500
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Research Facilities Act (RFA)	7 U.S.C. 390	\$ -	\$2,000	\$2,000*	\$500,000
GLOBAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION					
Partnerships for Capacity	7 U.S.C. 3292	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$10,000
International Agricultural Competitive Grants	7 U.S.C. 3292b	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$5,000

*\$2 million for RFA and a \$5 million increase for AFRI was in the final Senate bill.

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