

APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly Unified Fiscal Year 2024 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 cultivate U.S.-based agricultural leaders, reinforce domestic preparedness against pests and diseases, and ensure the U.S. leadership in global food security and technology.

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



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UNIVERSITIES

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

- ▶ **Hatch Act:** Agricultural Experiment Stations located in every state provide research *capacity* for critical issues and innovations that affect agricultural production, profitability, and sustainability, such as climate resilience strategies, conservation, economic analysis, food safety, invasive species, biosecurity, and precision agriculture. Geographically relevant research occurs across national, regional, state, and local contexts. **FY2024 Request: \$300 million**
- ▶ **Evans-Allen:** Agricultural research at 1890s colleges of agriculture takes place due to Evans-Allen *capacity* funds that enable research for small farmer challenges, food security and nutrition, and workforce development. Most Black students majoring in agriculture graduate from 1890s institutions. **FY2024 Request: \$108 million**
- ▶ **1994 Institution Research Program:** The Tribal College Research Program supports research that protect reservation forests, woodlands, grasslands, and crops, as well monitor soil and water quality. **FY2024 Request: \$17.5 million**
- ▶ **McIntire-Stennis:** Forestry research *capacity* addresses development of biobased products, prevention of forest fires, identification of new energy sources, expansion of outdoor recreational activity, and mitigation techniques for invasive species. It is a direct source of funds for resource science graduates. **FY2024 Request: \$46 million**
- ▶ **Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI):** The flagship *competitive* grants program for federal priorities that improves rural economies, increases food production, stimulates the bioeconomy, mitigates the impacts of climate variability, addresses water availability issues, ensures food safety, enhances human nutrition, and trains the next generation of agricultural professionals. **FY2024 Request: \$500 million**

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

- ▶ **Smith-Lever Section 3(b) and (c): Capacity** for 1862 Extension that supports a network of land-grant-university-connected state, tribal, and local educators who deliver vital, timely, practical information to agricultural producers, small business owners, communities, youth, and families. **FY2024 Request: \$420 million**
- ▶ **Extension services at 1890 institutions: Capacity** that assists 1890s in working with diverse communities with research-based, non-formal education about market development, acquisition of capital and technology, estate planning, and profitability. Stakeholders include small to medium size farmers or other underserved populations. **FY2024 Request: \$88 million**
- ▶ **Tribal College Extension Grants Program (TCEP):** Enables 1994 institutions to deliver science-based, culturally relevant extension education programs to address biobased energy, production, and food safety needs, improving quality of life on reservations. **FY2024 Request: \$17.5 million**
- ▶ **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. **FY2024 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.

FY2024 Request: \$10 million

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

FY2024 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 in deferred maintenance. RFA allows for construction of modern facilities at colleges of agriculture that support agricultural research, that will increase pest and disease preparedness and use of advanced technologies, nation-wide.

FY2024 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 promote international market development.

FY2024 Request: \$15 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.

APLU BAA FY 2024 Ag Appropriations Request (In Thousands)

Appropriations Accounts	U.S. Code	FY 2022	FY 2023 Omnibus	FY 2024 Approps Requests	% Increase Over FY2023
RESEARCH					
Hatch Act	7 U.S.C. 361a-i	\$260,000	\$265,000	\$300,000	13%
Evans-Allen Research (1890 Research)	7 U.S.C. 3222	\$80,000	\$89,000	\$108,000	21%
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$17,500	250%
McIntire-Stennis	16 U.S.C. 582a through a-7	\$36,000	\$38,000	\$46,000	21%
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	7 U.S.C. 450i(b)	\$445,000	\$455,000	\$500,000	10%
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	\$420,000	29%
Extension Services at 1890 Universities	7 U.S.C. 3221	\$65,000	\$72,000	\$88,000	22%
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)	\$9,500	\$11,000	\$17,500	59%
Smith-Lever 3 (d)	7 U.S.C. 343(d)	\$90,455	\$91,250	\$95,000	4%
EDUCATION					
Women and Minorities in STEM (WAMS)	7 U.S.C. 5925	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$10,000	500%
Payments to the 1994 institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$17,500	150%
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Research Facilities Act	7 U.S.C. 390	\$ -	\$2,000	\$500,000	249%
GLOBAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION					
Partnerships for Capacity	7 U.S.C. 3292	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,000	N/A
International Agricultural Competitive Grants	7 U.S.C. 3292b	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,000	N/A

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