



ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Founded in 1887, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A•P•L•U) is an association of over 215 public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state public university systems.

A•P•L•U member campuses enroll more than 3.5 million undergraduate and 1.1 million graduate students, employ more than 645,000 faculty members, and conduct nearly two-thirds of all academic research, totaling more than \$34 billion annually.

As the nation's oldest higher education association, A•P•L•U is dedicated to excellence in learning, discovery and engagement. For more information, visit www.aplu.org

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (NIFA)

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE (AFRI)

APLU FY2014 Request: \$383.4 million

(FY2014 PBR = \$383.4M; FY2013 = \$277M; FY2012 = \$264.5M)

APLU supports a request of \$383.4 million for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, USDA's flagship competitive grants program.

- AFRI provides peer-reviewed grants to support: (1) high priority fundamental and mission-linked research of importance in the biological, environmental, physical, and social sciences relevant to agriculture, food, the environment, and rural communities; and (2) competitively awarded research, extension, and education grants addressing key issues of national and regional importance to agriculture, forestry, and related topics.
- AFRI benefits the nation in numerous ways, providing:
 - America's farmers and foresters with the genomic data and biotechnology tools to expand food and fiber production, processing, and international trade.
 - U.S. healthcare professionals with insight into the relationships between diet and health.
 - Extension specialists and their clients expanded knowledge about water quality to help protect the environment and safeguard our food systems.
 - University educators with the funding to train new generations of food, agriculture, and natural resource scientists.

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 (\$236.3 million) for agriculture experiment stations
- Evans-Allen (\$50.9 million) for agricultural research
- McIntire-Stennis (\$32.9 million) for cooperative forestry research
- Smith-Lever Funds 3(b) and 3(c) (\$294 million) for cooperative extension
- Extension Services at 1890 Institutions (\$42.6 million)
- 1994 Institutions Extension and 1994 Institutions Research (\$6.1 million)

Additional APLU FY2014 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/>.