

APLU's UNIFIED REQUEST FOR NIFA FUNDING

America's land-grant universities (LGUs) lead the world-renowned research, education, and Extension that advances agriculture and ensures safe and nutritious food, clean drinking water, sustainable and productive forest resources, climate change adaptation and mitigation, fuel to power the nation, healthy families and communities, national security, fair trade, and supports a prosperous economy. The nationally recognized scientists and educators at LGUs are solving the complex, urgent, and important local, regional, national, and global challenges facing America's farmers, ranchers, businesses, and consumers. Furthermore, America's premiere youth development and education program, 4-H, is integrally tied into our LGUs through Extension.

Financial support comes from a partnership of federal, state, and local governments, and private organizations. The primary federal partner is the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA's renowned extramural science agency.

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) seeks an increase in federal funding for NIFA's flagship programs in Fiscal Year 2022. Increases across seven core priority areas will help provide research, education, and extension through the nationwide system of LGUs.

In addition to the requested increase, APLU also supports funding all NIFA lines at no less than FY 2021 levels.

APLU REQUESTS A \$471.79 MILLION INCREASE FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has a longstanding partnership with agricultural colleges and universities, including the land-grant university (LGU) system (state colleges of agriculture (1862s), historically Black colleges and universities (1890 HBCUs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (1994s)), non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, and Hispanic-serving institutions.

NIFA capacity programs enable the outstanding work of our Cooperative Extension System (CES), State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES), 1890s Research and Extension programs, 1994 Tribal Colleges and Universities programs, and McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Programs. Capacity program funding supports high-priority agricultural research needs, such as plant and animal protection and health, forestry and watersheds, climate change adaptation and mitigation, preservation of our natural resources, a healthy environment, safe and nutritious foods, and soil and water conservation. The Extension System associated with each LGU then shares this information and works with local-leaders and citizens to co-create solutions that enhance their communities, linking academic and research programs to societal needs. Federal funding is matched and highly leveraged at the state and local level, connecting local investment and implementation to the needs of the growers, foresters, ranchers, and communities, of that state or region and beyond.

The pandemic has laid bare gaps and challenges in the American economy with our food, fuel, feed, and fiber systems. With this disruption, the land-grant system has altered the methods and approaches in how students are taught, how the Cooperative Extension System responds and delivers education/outreach throughout communities, and how field, lab and greenhouse research is conducted. Through creativity and flexibility, these critical programs and delivery systems at our land-grant institutions have adjusted and continue to adjust, while navigating a myriad of state and local COVID-related disruptions and restrictions. In the coming year, our institutions will be enhancing economic development and workforce training, providing crucial health and community education, and bolstering research programs to address urgent agriculture, food, and natural resource problems.

In addition to capacity funding, NIFA's flagship competitive program, the Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), supports competitively peer-reviewed science and education to address priorities in food, agriculture, and natural resources of national and multistate importance. The national scope of AFRI also complements the local scope and capacity-sustaining purpose of NIFA capacity grants.

Increased investment will ensure American agriculture remains the world's leader and enable America's LGUs to recruit and retain the best and brightest scientists, drive innovation and discovery through research, expand outreach through CES, bolster public-private partnerships, and train and develop the talent needed to meet the growing demands of a diverse and impactful workforce.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture Agency: National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Program	FY 2022 Requested Amount	Program Description	Authorization	Eligibility	Matching Funds
AFRI (Research and Education Programs)	\$700,000,000	Provides competitively awarded research, Extension, and education grants addressing key issues of national and regional importance to agriculture, forestry, and related topics.	7 U.S.C. 450i(b), (National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teach Policy Act of 1977)	1862, 1890 and 1994 Land-grant institutions; other universities; government agencies; and many others.	Match required in limited circumstances.
Smith-Lever (Extension Activities)	\$400,050,000	Provides capacity funding for Cooperative Extension to deliver research-based programs and resources for communities, businesses, and individuals to meet local needs.	7 U.S.C. 341, (Sections 3(b)-(c) of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, as amended)	1862 Land-grant Universities in all 50 states, DC, and the U.S. territories.	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match.
Hatch Act (Research and Education Programs)	\$329,380,000	Provides capacity funding to support the State Agricultural Experiment Station research, enabling them complete applied research to address critical national, multi-state, state, and local problems.	7 U.S.C. 361a (Hatch Act of 1887, as amended)	State Agricultural Experiment Stations established pursuant to the Hatch Act of 1887	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match.
Evans-Allen (Research and Education Programs)	\$92,837,000	Provides capacity funding to support agricultural research at the 1890 Land-grant Institutions, including Tuskegee University.	7 U.S.C. 3222, (Sec on 1445, Research Act of 1977)	1890 Land-grant Universities and Tuskegee University	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match, but Secretary may waive.
1890 Extension (Extension Activities)	\$78,740,000	Provides capacity funding to support extension activities at the 1890 Institutions to provide educational opportunities that respond to the changing needs of limited-resource, minorities, and economically disadvantaged clients.	7 U.S.C. 3221, (Sec on 1444, Research Act of 1977)	1890 Land-grant Universities and Tuskegee University (the 1890 Institutions)	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match.
McIntire-Stennis (Research and Education Programs)	\$45,783,000	Provides funding to support forestry research (which includes forests and related rangelands) at land-grant and other public universities.	16 U.S.C. 582a, et seq. (McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Act of 1962)	Land-grant institutions, including 1890 institutions and other public universities that have a forestry school	States are required to provide at least a one-to-one match.
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	\$10,000,000	Provides capacity funding to support extension services at 1994 institutions to address special needs, take advantage of important opportunities, and/or demonstrate long-term sustained benefits of extension projects in 1994 land-grant institutions.	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3) (§ 3(b)(3) of the Smith-Lever Act, as added by § 534(b) of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note))	Tribal colleges and universities designated as 1994 Land-Grant Institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note.).	There is no matching requirement.
Payments to the 1994 Institutions (Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants Program)	\$6,000,000	Provides capacity funding to support faculty who develop classes and degree programs that teach science and math to American Indians, focusing on agriculture, natural resources, and human sciences.	7 U.S.C. 301 note (§ 535 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994)	Tribal colleges and universities designated as 1994 Land-Grant Institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note.).	There is no matching requirement.
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	\$6,000,000	Provides competitively awarded grants to support agricultural research that addresses high-priority concerns for tribal, national, or multistate significance, including investigative and analytical studies in the food and agricultural sciences.	7 U.S.C. 301 note (§ 536 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994)	Tribal colleges and Universities designated as 1994 Land-Grant Institutions under the Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 301 note.).	There is no matching requirement.

LAND-GRANT FUNDING

Program	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 PBR
AFRI	\$435,000,000	\$700,000,000
Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)	\$315,000,000	\$315,000,000
Hatch Act	\$259,000,000	\$329,380,000
Evans-Allen	\$73,000,000	\$92,837,000
1890 Extension	\$62,000,000	\$62,000,000
McIntire-Stennis	\$36,000,000	\$45,783,000
1994 Extension Services	\$8,500,000	\$8,500,000
Payments to 1994 Institutions	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000
1994 Research Grants	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000

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