

Compiled for the Board on Agriculture Assembly by APLU's Office of Governmental Affairs (OGA), Office of Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resources (FANR), and Lewis-Burke Associates (LBA)

Appropriations Update: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill and Explanatory Statement Released

Early this morning (December 20), the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill and its accompanying explanatory statement were released. At this time, the omnibus package is expected to move through the Senate and then the House later this week before being signed into law by President Biden.

The omnibus appropriations bill provides \$1.701 billion for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), an increase of \$64 million over FY2022. The bill includes \$1.094 billion for Research and Education Activities, \$565 million for Extension Activities, and \$41.5 million in Integrated Activities. The bill includes an increase for the Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) of \$10 million (2.2 percent increase), funding the program at \$455 million. The explanatory statement encourages USDA to prioritize funding in AFRI for agro-acoustics, organic transitions, career and technical training opportunities for meat processing, and the Sustainable Agricultural Systems grants.

The bill includes modest increases for Hatch Act (State Agricultural Experiment Station—SAES) and Smith-Lever (Cooperative Extension at 1862 institutions) accounts, providing \$265 million for SAES/Hatch (a 1.9 percent increase over FY2022) and \$325 million for Smith Lever (b) and (c) (or a 1.6 percent increase). APLU remains concerned about the lack of increases in funding for both these accounts. Capacity funding for McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry received a 5.6 percent increase, bringing the account to \$38 million. Section 744 of the bill includes a waiver for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative matching requirement.

The agreement supports Evans-Allen research at \$89 million and 1890s Extension at \$72 million (reflecting increases of 11.3 percent and 10.8 percent respectively over FY2022). Research Grants for 1994 institutions receives \$5 million (an 11.1 percent increase). Extension Services at 1994 Institutions receives \$11 million (a 15.8 percent increase). Payments Funding for 1994 institutions receives \$7 million (an 27.3 percent increase). The joint explanatory statement notes concern that Extension Service resources do not adequately reach minority, socially disadvantaged, and Tribal communities and encourages NIFA to evaluate distribution of services.

The agreement provides \$2 million to make competitive grants for agricultural research facilities in support of the Research Facilities Act. The explanatory statement further encourages NIFA to prioritize facilities that are located at or primarily benefit minority serving institutions when making awards. In addition, the agreement urges NIFA to conduct outreach and grant writing technical assistance prior to issuing any funds for awards. Within the intramural Agricultural Research Service accounts, in addition to the \$74 million for Agricultural Research Service Buildings and Facilities, the statutory text provides \$56.7 million in funding for Community Project Funding/ Congressionally Directed Spending.

The Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA) receives \$1 million within the Office of Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics to further build out the planning and management structure and hire staff.

Within the explanatory statement, under the Office of the Secretary, there is recognition of the need for biobased and U.S. grown alternatives to plastic with direction that the Secretary explore U.S. based hemp as a robust and dependable plastic alternative. The Office is asked to issue a report to the Committees within 180 days of passage. Finally, the statutory text (Section 731) includes an audit of veterinary, livestock disease and vaccination, diagnostic laboratory capabilities, and emergency preparedness.

Note: The accompanying [explanatory statement](#) states, *“The joint explanatory statement accompanying this division is approved and indicates congressional intent. Unless otherwise noted, the language set forth in [House Report 117-392](#) carries the same weight as language included in this joint explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this joint explanatory statement. While some language is repeated for emphasis, it is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.”*

Sources:

- FY 2023 Omnibus Text: <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/JRQ121922.PDF>
- FY 2023 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies explanatory statement: <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Division%20A%20-%20Agriculture%20Statement%20FY23.pdf>
- House FY 2023 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Report: <https://www.congress.gov/117/crpt/hrpt392/CRPT-117hrpt392.pdf>

APLU BAA FY 2023 NIFA PRIORITIES
(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

	FY 2022 ENACTED	APLU BAA REQUESTS FY 23	PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FY 2023	HOUSE FY 2023	SENATE FY 2023	FY 2023 OMNIBUS	FY 23 OMNIBUS VS. FY22 ENACTED
Hatch Act	260.00	300.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	5.00 +1.92%
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans- Allen Program)	80.00	100.00	92.80	92.84	80.00	89.00	9.00 +11.25%
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act	36.00	46.00	43.28	38.00	43.00	38.00	2.00 +5.56%
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	4.50	17.50	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.50 +11.11%
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	445.00	500.00	564.0	500.00	455.00	455.00	10.00 +2.25%
Smith-Lever Act, Sections 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension	320.00	430.00	320.00	330.00	325.00	325.00	5.00 +1.56%

Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	65.00	85.00	65.00	76.00	65.00	72.00	7.00 +10.77%
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	9.50	17.500	19.00	15.00	14.00	11.00	1.50 +15.79%
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	5.50	17.50	15.00	10.00	7.00	7.00	1.50 +27.27%
Women and Minorities in STEM	1.00	10.00	2.30	2.31	2.00	2.00	1.00 +100.00%

FY 2023 NIFA ACCOUNTS OF INTEREST
(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

RESEARCH & EDUCATION ACTIVITIES	FY 2022 ENACTED	PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FY 2023	HOUSE FY 2023	SENATE FY 2023	FY 23 OMNIBUS	FY 23 OMNIBUS VS. FY22 ENACTED
Hatch Act	260.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	5.00 +1.92%
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act	36.00	43.28	38.00	43.00	38.00	2.00 +5.56%
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen Program)	80.00	92.80	92.84	80.00	89.00	9.00 +11.25%
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	5.50	15.00	10.00	7.00	7.00	1.50 +27.27%
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions	28.50	26.00	30.00	28.50	30.00	1.50 +5.26%
Scholarships at 1890 Institutions	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions	14.00	14.00	20.00	15.00	16.00	2.00 +14.29%

Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	4.00	3.19	5.00	4.50	5.00	1.00 +25.00%
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	4.50	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.50 +11.11%
Capacity Building Grants for Non-Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture	5.00	5.00	5.00	7.00	6.00	1.00 +20.00%
Grants for Insular Areas	2.00	2.00	2.70	2.00	2.50	0.50 +25.00%
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	445.00	564.00	500.00	455.00	455.00	10.00 +2.25%
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment	9.50	8.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.50 +5.26%
Veterinary Services Grant Program	3.50	3.00	4.00	3.50	4.00	0.50 +14.29%
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Supplemental and Alternative Crops	2.00	0.66	0.66	2.00	2.00	0.00 +/-0.00%

New Beginning for Tribal Students	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Agricultural Genome to Phenome Initiative	2.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	2.50	0.50 +25.00%
SPECIAL RESEARCH GRANTS						
Global Change/UV Monitoring	1.40	1.925	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.00 +/-0.00%
Potato Research	2.75	0.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	1.25 +45.45%
Aquaculture Research	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.50	2.20	0.20 +10.00%
NECESSARY EXPENSES OF RESEARCH & EDUCATION ACTIVITIES						
Grants Management Systems	7.92	7.92	7.92	7.94	7.92	0.00 +/-0.00%
Federal Administration - Other Necessary Expenses	12.02	13.49	12.60	12.93	12.60	0.58 +4.83%
Subtotal, Research & Education Activities	1,046.24	1,378.42	1,142.02	1,084.77	1,094.12	47.88 (+4.58%)

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES	FY 2022 ENACTED	PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FY 2023	HOUSE FY 2023	SENATE FY 2023	FY 23 OMNIBUS	FY 23 OMNIBUS VS. FY22 ENACTED
Smith-Lever Act, Sections 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension	320.00	320.00	330.00	325.00	325.00	5.00 +1.56%
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	65.00	65.00	76.00	65.00	72.00	7.00 +10.77%
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	9.50	19.00	15.00	14.00	11.00	1.50 +15.79%
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions	21.50	21.50	25.00	21.50	21.50	0.00 +/-0.00%
Renewable Resources Extension Act	4.06	4.10	4.06	4.10	4.06	0.00 +/-0.00%
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs	5.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program	2.50	2.00	2.50	2.50	2.50	0.00 +/-0.00%
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields	1.00	2.31	2.31	2.00	2.00	1.00 +100.00%

Food Safety Outreach Program	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Food & Ag Service Learning	2.50	2.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	-0.50 -20.00%
Farmer and Ranch Stress Assistance Network	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
SMITH-LEVER ACT, SECTION 3(D) PROGRAMS						
Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP)	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
New Technologies for Agriculture Extension	3.55	3.00	3.55	3.55	3.55	0.00 +/-0.00%
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	8.40	8.86	8.40	8.50	8.40	0.00 +/-0.00%
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program	3.50	7.70	7.70	4.00	4.31	0.81 +23.14%
NECESSARY EXPENSES OF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES						

Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Federal Administration - Other Necessary Expenses for Ext. Activities	8.10	8.10	8.99	8.10	9.10	1.00 +12.35%
Subtotal, Extension Activities	550.61	538.45	585.50	561.75	565.41	14.80 +2.69%
INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES	FY 2022 ENACTED	PRESIDENT'S BUDGET REQUEST FY 2023	HOUSE FY 2023	SENATE FY 2023	FY 23 OMNIBUS	FY 23 OMNIBUS VS. FY22 ENACTED
Methyl Bromide Transition Program	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Organic Transition Program	7.50	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.50	0.00 +/-0.00%
Regional Rural Development Centers	2.50	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.00	0.50 +20.00%
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative (Homeland Security)	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	0.00 +/-0.00%
Crop Protection / Pest Management Program	20.00	20.000	20.00	22.00	21.00	1.00 +5.00%

Subtotal, Integrated Activities	40.00	39.00	39.50	42.00	41.50	1.50 +3.75%
Total, NIFA	1,636.85	1,820.88	1,768.02	1,691.00	1,701.03	64.18 +3.92%