

NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education, and extension and catalyzes transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges. | www.nifa.usda.gov

Strengthening the Land-Grant University Mission through Capacity Funding

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is committed to supporting the research, education, and extension efforts of its land-grant institution partners. An important source of support for these institutions are legislatively authorized capacity funds. Several types of capacity funds are available annually on a non-competitive basis and are matched at the state and local levels. The amounts allocated to each state depend on variables such as rural population, farm population, forest acreage, and poverty rates.

Benefits of Capacity Funding



Promotes multistate and multi-institutional collaborations for forming the national research and extension “systems” needed for addressing complex, multidimensional, and regional challenges.



Provides institutions the flexibility to address local and regional emergencies and emerging challenges while sustaining long-term research programs and longitudinal studies.



Strengthens the infrastructure and capabilities of land-grant institutions.

Learn more about the value of NIFA's Capacity Programs

<https://go.usa.gov/xNy5N>

The Wide Reach of Capacity Funding

19,971

Number of projects supported by capacity funds from 2000-2015.

\$1.86

Amount of non-federal funding leveraged for every \$1 spent on federal capacity funding.

6 Million+

Number of youth empowered by 4-H. Smith-Lever 3(b) & (c) is the federal source of funding for 4-H.

1 in 6

Number of agriscience patents influenced by innovations at land-grant institutions.

28,400+

Number of full-time equivalent jobs supported by capacity funds in 2015.

Learn more about the 4-H model for positive youth development:

<https://go.usa.gov/xN8ks>

The Big 8

These capacity programs comprise 49 percent of NIFA's Total Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations.

- 1 **HATCH** supports research and training of students at state agricultural experiment stations.
- 2 **EVANS-ALLEN** supports research at the 1890 historically black colleges and land-grant universities.
- 3 **MCINTIRE-STENNIS** supports forestry research and training at state agricultural experiment stations, forestry schools, and land-grant forestry research programs.
- 4 **ANIMAL HEALTH AND DISEASE RESEARCH** enhances the capacity of veterinary schools and state agricultural experiment stations to conduct research to improve the health of poultry, livestock, aquaculture, and other income-producing animals.
- 5 **1890S EXTENSION** provides primary support for extension programs at the 1890 land-grant institutions.
- 6 **RENEWABLE RESOURCES EXTENSION ACT** supports forest and rangeland education programs that benefit landowners and land managers, communities, and the environment.
- 7 **EXPANDED FOOD NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM** provides nutrition education programming to low-income families to help them develop healthy habits in eating, physical activity, food handling, and food storage.
- 8 **SMITH-LEVER 3(B) & (C)** established the Cooperative Extension System, which translates knowledge into solutions that help improve people's lives.

NIFA's partnership with the Land-Grant University and Cooperative Extension System:

Congressional funding

Administration of federal funds by NIFA

Land-grant universities use federal plus state and local funds to manage extension programs

Extension professionals translate knowledge to meet the unique needs of communities across America

Extension professionals are integrated within more than 3,000 counties and county equivalents across all U.S. states, districts, and territories. These professionals translate science into opportunities to help improve people's lives.



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Fueling Discovery and Engagement in Agriculture through Competitive Grants Programs

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) envisions a future in which all people, at all times, have sufficient access to safe and nutritious foods that meet the needs and preferences for active and healthy lifestyles. Depressed agricultural production and farm incomes need a boost from evidence-based agricultural science, driven by research and extension supported via a competitive peer-review process. NIFA is the largest source of competitive agricultural research funding in the United States and supports the research, education, and extension activities needed to fuel discoveries and innovations in agriculture.

Meeting Global Food Demands

\$1 Trillion

Value of the U.S. food system, which supports 21 million jobs.

\$20.3 Billion

U.S. agricultural trade surplus in 2016.

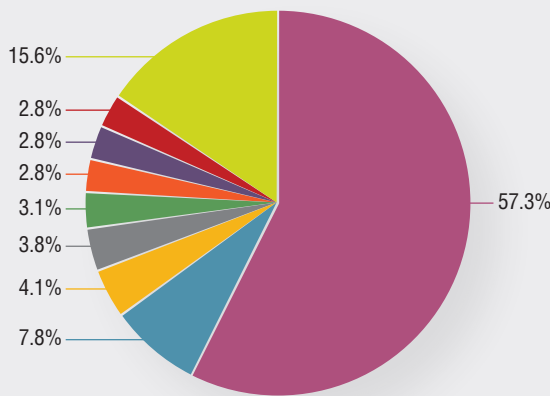
9.7 Billion

Projected global population by the year 2050, which is more than double the population of the world in 1985. Continuing to meet the world's food needs will require decreasing food losses, increasing food production, using less land and water resources, and overcoming increasingly variable environmental constraints.

Did You Know?

NIFA administers the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), America's flagship agricultural competitive grants program.

NIFA's Total Fiscal Year 2017 Competitive Grants Appropriations: \$654 million



- AFRI • Agriculture and Food Research Initiative
- SCRI • Specialty Crops Research Initiative
- SARE • Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education
- CDRE • Emergency Citrus Research and Extension Program
- CPPM • Crop Protection and Pest Management
- BFRDP • Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program
- OREI • Organic Ag Research and Extension Initiative
- FINI • Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive
- All Others

A 'Systems Approach'

NIFA supports projects that address biophysical, social, environmental, and economic challenges across the food supply and distribution chain. These projects require multiple disciplines to work together to achieve the following goals:



Enhance Agricultural Productivity and Profitability by improving local, regional, and national agriculture with minimal ecological footprint and environmental impact.



Strengthen the Sustainable Bioeconomy by promoting the use of renewable biological resources and improving supply chain logistics to create new value-added income streams for farmers and rural communities.



Improve the Safety and Nutrition of Food for Healthy Lifestyles by ensuring that the food produced, packaged, processed, prepared, and consumed is nutritious, safe to eat, and sustainably produced.



Conserve and protect land and water resources from a variable and changing climate, extreme weather events, pollution, and pest and disease threats.



Develop a diverse workforce with the requisite knowledge, skills, and training to advance food and agriculture.

Take a Closer Look at NIFA

Learn more about the outcomes and successes of NIFA-funded projects.



<https://nifa.usda.gov/impacts>

NIFA's partnership with the Land-Grant University and Cooperative Extension System:



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SOURCES: Ag and Food Sectors and the Economy. Economic Research Service. www.ers.usda.gov. | U.S. agricultural exports. Economic Research Service. www.ers.usda.gov. | World Bank Open Data: Population, total. Data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL.