

Evans-Allen

The 2014 Farm Bill mandated the designation of Central State University as an 1890 land-grant university. As Congress develops the FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations bill, funding for Evans-Allen research should be increased to accommodate the addition of this institution so that the historically black land-grant universities can maintain their capacity to provide educational services and extension to farmers, families, and communities.

The First Morrill Act established a land-grant university in every state and the Second Morrill Act extended land-grant status to historically-black public institutions in southern and border states where, due to segregation, African-American students were barred from attending the 1862 land-grant universities.

The Evans-Allen Act of 1977 provides capacity funding for food and agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant universities and Tuskegee University (the 1890 Institutions) in a manner similar to that provided to the 1862 universities under the Hatch Act of 1887.

Throughout 2015, the 1890 Institutions will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the signing of the Second Morrill Act. Over the past twelve and a half decades, these universities have grown from struggling colleges rising from the restraints of segregation to world renowned institutions, providing education for underserved populations and research to benefit America and the world.

An 1890 University leader, looking back on the history of these universities, put it this way: *“Justin Morrill, the father of the land-grant system, authored the 1890 Act to admit the children of freed slaves to colleges where they could improve their lives and become part of the American dream. The 1890 Institutions are still ladders to opportunity, not filters. We educate not only bright students, but mentor and nurture diamonds in the rough so that they, ‘the sons of toil,’ whose opportunities have always been limited, can walk through doors of opportunity, not just knock on them.”*

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities continues to seek sustained/enhanced funding for the Evans-Allen research program. Congress has made increases to this critical land-grant capacity program and we hope to see this continue. So that the 1890 institutions can continue to provide high-quality research services to benefit the unique stakeholders of these institutions and the nation as a whole, the Evans-Allen program should be funded at a level of \$60,500,000 in FY 2016.



A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2016	
Evans-Allen.....	\$60.500 M+

EVANS-ALLEN: MORE THAN FOUR DECADES OF SUCCESS

- Evans-Allen supports the training of both undergraduate and graduate students in the food and agricultural sciences and 51.6% of all degrees awarded to African Americans in agriculture are from the 1890s.
- From projects that focus on increasing the nutritional value of crops, investigations on the causes of obesity and its prevention, to the development of new energy systems, the 1890s are making significant strides in bettering the lives not only of African Americans, their historical and target population, but of the citizens of this nation and the world over.
- For example, 1890 researchers are taking proactive approaches to food safety by designing nanobiosensors to detect microbes that cause foodborne illnesses before they reach consumers.

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Evans-Allen

Appropriations Bill

Agriculture

Agency

National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Account

Research and Education Activities

Program

Evans-Allen

Requested Amount

\$60,500,000

Description

Provides funding to support agricultural research at the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, including Tuskegee University. Funds are distributed to eligible institutions under a statutory formula.

Authorization

7 U.S.C. 3222, (Sec. 1445, Research Act of 1977).

Eligible / Final Recipients

1890 Land-Grant Universities and Tuskegee University (the 1890 institutions).

Matching Funds

By statute, eligible institutions are required to provide a 1:1 match.

President's FY2016 Budget Request

\$60,500,000

Five-Year Funding History

FY 2015 \$52,485,000

FY 2014 \$52,485,000

FY 2013 \$47,023,000

FY 2012 \$50,898,000

FY 2011 \$50,898,000

A·P·L·U requests that \$60,500,000 be appropriated for the Evans-Allen program at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. We oppose the FY 2016 budget proposal to change the law and make a portion of these funds competitive.

Benefits / Impacts

The Evans-Allen program provides critical base funding for the agricultural research programs at the 1890 Institutions. America realizes a substantial return on this investment, as these campuses are powerful economic engines of their states and the funding allows the leveraging of additional resources to more effectively address issues. Evans-Allen Program funding at the 1890 Institutions benefits the nation through:

- Improved nutrition and health of citizens with an emphasis on addressing the health challenges caused by obesity.
- Development of economically competitive and sustainable small-scale agricultural systems.
- Development of a broader range of alternative crops and marketing strategies for farmers.
- Increased biobased energy production.
- Implementation of effective strategies to mitigate threats to the safety and security of food systems.
- Better natural resource and environmental stewardship.
- Creation of new value-added plant and animal products.
- A focus on the education of students from minority and economically disadvantaged communities for a strong and diverse agricultural workforce.

The Evans-Allen Program has been extremely important in allowing the 1890 Institutions to attract top-notch scientists to their campuses, conduct high-quality research, and become more fully integrated within the land-grant system.



**125 Years of Providing Access
and Enhancing Opportunities**