

Hatch Act

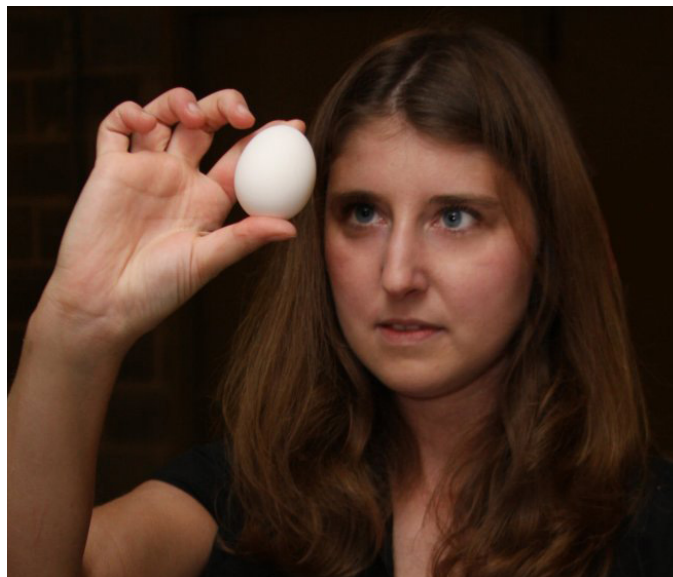
America’s national network of state-based, federally-supported food and agricultural research laboratories is the envy of the world.

These “State Agricultural Experiment Stations” were established under the Hatch Act of 1887 and receive appropriations through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Funds are distributed to each of the 50 states, D.C., and the territories and require a 1-to-1 match. However, most Hatch fund recipients provide an amount far greater than a 1-to-1 match.

Congress has long agreed with the land-grant system’s proposition that strong Hatch Act funding is critical to maintaining vibrant food and agriculture sector, a strong national emergency response capability, and the research infrastructure required to meet both U.S. imperatives and global food security requirements. To cite a handful of specific examples, Hatch Act funding currently goes to:

- Improve knowledge concerning the complex linkages between food, nutrition, and human health and to help combat the twin epidemics of obesity and diabetes.
- Promote innovation and technological advancement to maintain competitiveness of U.S. food, fiber, and fuel producers in the global marketplace.
- Protect America’s food supply and promotes job creation which in turn aids in the development and resilience of rural communities.
- Build strategies for producers, consumers, and communities to address extreme environmental conditions such as prolonged drought.
- Adaptation and mitigation of the impact of climate variability on agriculture and food production.
- Ensures environmental stewardship through sustainable management practices.

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities continues to seek sustained/enhanced funding for the Hatch Act. Congress has made modest increases to this critical land-grant capacity program in recent years and we hope to see this continue. To maintain vibrant agricultural economies relevant to each state and a strong national emergency response capability at land-grant universities and related institutions, we support Hatch Act funding at a level of \$256,201,000 in FY 2016.



| A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2016 | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Hatch Act..... | \$256.201 M+ |

IMPORTANCE OF STRONG HATCH ACT FUNDING

- Investments in agricultural research have a huge impact on agricultural productivity. From 1970 - 2004, the marginal real rate of return on investment was ≈ 50% annually.
- Thanks to research investments, today’s farmer grows twice as much food as his/her parents—using less land, energy, water, and environmental impacts. Predicted world population growth, higher incomes, and energy demands will require a further doubling of the global food supply by 2050.
- Investing in agricultural research pays off in home-grown jobs: agriculture is one of the nation’s largest employers, with more than 2 million farmers and some 19 million people in allied industries—jobs that pay \$2,600 more per year than other private sectors.
- Hatch supported research prepares young people for agriculture and bioscience professions essential to growing our economy and feeding a hungry planet.

For additional information, see page two or email Hunt Shipman (hshipman@cgagroup.com) or Jim Richards (jrichards@cgagroup.com). Phone: 202.448.9500



Hatch Act

Appropriations Bill

Agriculture

Agency

National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Account

Research and Education Activities

Program

Hatch Act

Requested Amount

\$256,201,000

Description

Provides funding to support the State Agricultural Experiment Stations enabling them to address critical national, multistate, state, and local problems. Funds are distributed to eligible institutions under a statutory formula.

Authorization

7 U.S.C. 361a (Hatch Act of 1887, as amended).

Eligible / Final Recipients

State Agricultural Experiment Stations established pursuant to the Hatch Act of 1887 at the 1862 land-grant universities or such other substantially equivalent institutions as any state shall determine.

Matching Funds

States are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match. However, Hatch funds are leveraged more than seven-fold nationwide.

President's FY 2016 Budget Request

\$256,201,000

Five-Year Funding History

FY 2015 \$243,701,000

FY 2014 \$243,701,000

FY 2013 \$218,342,000

FY 2012 \$236,334,000

FY 2011 \$236,334,000

A · P · L · U requests that \$256,201,000 be appropriated for the Hatch Act 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

Hatch Act funds benefit America by providing research capacity at 1862 land-grant universities and related institutions in order to:

- Improve knowledge concerning the complex linkages between food, nutrition, and human health.
- Protect America's food supply and ensure our biosecurity.
- Help promote job creation which allows rural community development and resilience.
- Combat the twin epidemics of obesity and diabetes.
- Preserve the nation's natural resources.
- Aid in understanding the adaptation and mitigation of the impact of climate variability and the effects it has on agriculture and food production.
- Build strategies for producers, consumers, and communities to address environmental conditions such as prolonged drought and climate variability.
- Promote innovation and technological advancement to maintain competitiveness of U.S. food, fiber, and fuel producers in the global marketplace.
- Increase farm productivity to address rising global food prices.
- Encourage young people to enter professions in the agricultural sector at a time when only 3.7 percent of the undergraduates at U.S. colleges are majoring in agricultural studies and related career fields.

