

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

§ 3434.3

(1) A veterinarian shall not be required to serve more than 60 working days per year of the agreement.

(2) A veterinarian who provides service pursuant to the agreement shall receive a salary commensurate with the duties and shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses as appropriate for the duration of the service.

§ 3431.24 Reporting requirements, monitoring, and close-out.

VMLRP participants will be required to submit periodic reports per the terms and conditions of their service agreements. In addition, the Secretary is responsible for ensuring that a VMLRP participant is complying with the terms and conditions of their service agreement, including any additional reporting or close-out requirements.

PART 3434—HISPANIC-SERVING AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Sec.

3434.1 Applicability of regulations.

3434.2 Purpose.

3434.3 Definitions.

3434.4 Eligibility.

3434.5 Agriculture-related fields.

3434.6 Certification.

3434.7 Duration of certification.

3434.8 Appeals.

3434.9 Recertification.

3434.10 Reporting requirements.

APPENDIX A TO PART 3434—LIST OF AGRICULTURE-RELATED FIELDS

APPENDIX B TO PART 3434—LIST OF HSACU INSTITUTIONS, 2024–2025

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 3103.

SOURCE: 77 FR 25040, Apr. 27, 2012, unless otherwise noted.

§ 3434.1 Applicability of regulations.

This part establishes the process to certify and designate a group of eligible educational institutions as Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities, as authorized by Section 7101 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA), 7 U.S.C. 3103; Public Law 110–246.

§ 3434.2 Purpose.

The Secretary will follow the processes and criteria established in this regulation to certify and designate qualifying colleges and universities as HSACUs. Institutions designated as HSACUs will be eligible for five new programs authorized by Congress in section 7129 of the FCEA as well as for other ongoing NIFA programs for which HSACUs are now eligible (*e.g.*, integrated programs authorized by section 406 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998). The five new programs include the HSACU Endowment Fund (formula-based), HSACU Institutional Capacity Building Grants Program (competitive), HSACU Extension Grants Program (competitive), HSACU Applied and Fundamental Research Grants Program (competitive), and HSACU Equity Grants Program (formula-based). The administrative provisions, including reporting requirements, for the HSACU Endowment Fund will be established in a separate part (7 CFR part 3437). The administrative provisions and reporting requirements for the other four new HSACU programs will be established as subparts in 7 CFR part 3430.

§ 3434.3 Definitions.

As used in this part:

Agency or NIFA means the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Agriculture-related fields means a group of instructional programs that are determined to be agriculture-related fields of study for HSACU eligibility purposes by a panel of National Program Leaders at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Department means the United States Department of Agriculture.

Hispanic-serving Institution means an institution of higher education that:

(1) Is an eligible institution, as that term is defined at 20 U.S.C. 1101a; and

(2) Has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time equivalent students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic students, as reported to the U.S. Department of Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System during the fall semester of the previous academic year.

§ 3434.4

Secretary means the Secretary of Agriculture and any other officer or employee of the Department to whom the authority involved has been delegated.

§ 3434.4 Eligibility.

(a) *General.* To be eligible to receive designation as a HSACU, colleges and universities must:

(1) Qualify as Hispanic-serving Institutions; and

(2) Offer associate, bachelors, or other accredited degree programs in agriculture-related fields pursuant to § 3434.5.

(b) *Non-eligibility.* The following colleges and universities are ineligible for HSACU certification:

(1) 1862 land-grant institutions, as defined in section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601);

(2) Institutions that appear in the Lists of Parties Excluded from Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits programs (Excluded Parties List System);

(3) Institutions that are not accredited by a nationally recognized accredited agency or association; and

(4) Institutions with Hispanic students receiving less than 15% of the degrees awarded in agriculture-related programs over the two most recent completed academic years.

§ 3434.5 Agriculture-related fields.

(a) The Secretary shall use the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) coding system developed by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics as the source of information for all existing instructional programs. This source is located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode>.

(b) A complete list of instructional programs deemed to be agriculture-related fields by the Secretary is provided in Appendix A to this part. This list will include the full six-digit CIP code and program title (or major) for each agriculture-related instructional program.

(c) The list of agriculture-related fields will be updated every five years starting in 2015. However, the Secretary reserves the right to make

7 CFR Ch. XXXIV (1–1–25 Edition)

changes at any time, if deemed appropriate and necessary.

(d) Any changes made in the CIP coding system by the U.S. Department of Education may result in a review or re-evaluation of the list of agriculture-related fields by the Secretary.

§ 3434.6 Certification.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, institutions that meet the eligibility criteria set forth in § 3434.4 and offer agriculture-related programs in accordance to the criteria set forth in § 3434.5 (see list in Appendix A to this part) shall be granted HSACU certification by the Secretary.

(b) A complete list of institutions with HSACU certification shall be provided in Appendix B to this part and posted on the NIFA Web site at <http://www.nifa.usda.gov>.

(c) Institutions with Hispanic students receiving less than 15% of degrees awarded in agriculture-related programs during the two most recent completed academic years shall not be granted HSACU certification by the Secretary.

(d) The list of HSACU institutions will be updated annually. However, the Secretary reserves the right to make changes at any time, when deemed appropriate and necessary.

§ 3434.7 Duration of certification.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, HSACU certification granted to an institution by the Secretary under this part shall remain valid for a period of one year.

(b) Failure to maintain eligibility status at any time during the HSACU certification period shall result in an immediate revocation of HSACU certification.

(c) Failure to remain in compliance with reporting requirements or adherence to any administrative or national policy requirements listed in award terms and conditions for any of the HSACU programs may result in a suspension or an immediate revocation of HSACU certification.

§ 3434.8 Appeals.

(a) An institution not listed as a HSACU in Appendix B to this part may submit an appeal to address denial of a

certification made pursuant to this part. Such appeals must be in writing and received by the HSACU Appeals Officer, Policy and Oversight Division, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 800 9th Street SW., Washington, DC 20024 within 30 days following an announcement of institutions designated for certification. The Appeals Officer will consider the record of the decision in question, any further written submissions by the institution, and other available information and shall provide the appellant a written decision as promptly as circumstances permit. Such appeals constitute an administrative review of the decision appealed from and are not conducted as an adjudicative proceeding.

(b) Appeals involving an agriculture-related field of study must include the CIP code and program title of the field of study (or major).

(c) Appeals from non-HSI schools will not be considered.

(d) The NIFA Assistant Director of the Institute of Youth, Family, and Community shall serve as the Appeals Officer.

(e) In considering such appeals or administrative reviews, the Appeals Officer shall take into account alleged errors in professional judgment or alleged prejudicial procedural errors by NIFA officials. The Appeals Officer's decision may:

- (1) Reverse the appealed decision;
- (2) Affirm the appealed decision;

(3) Where appropriate, withhold a decision until additional materials are provided. The Appeals Officer may base his/her decision in whole or part on matters or factors not discussed in the decision appealed from.

(f) If the NIFA decision on the appeal is adverse to the appellant or if an appellant's request for review is rejected, the appellant then has the option of submitting a request to the NIFA Deputy Director for Food and Community Resources for further review.

(g) The request for further review must be submitted to Policy and Oversight Division, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 800 9th Street SW., Washington, DC 20024 within 30 days

following the Appeals Officer's decision.

(h) No institution shall be considered to have exhausted its administrative remedies with respect to the certification or decision described in this part until the NIFA Deputy Director for Food and Community Resources has issued a final administrative decision pursuant to this section. The decision of the NIFA Deputy Director for Food and Community Resources is considered final.

(i) Appellants shall be notified in writing of any decision made by NIFA in regards to the appeal.

§ 3434.9 Recertification.

(a) The recertification process for a HSACU remains the same as the process outlined in § 3434.6.

(b) There is no limit to the number of times an institution may be recertified as a HSACU.

(c) In the event an institution is not granted recertification due to non-compliance with reporting requirements for a HSACU program, the institution shall be notified in writing and given a period of 90 days from the date of notification to be in compliance.

§ 3434.10 Reporting requirements.

(a) The certification process does not involve any reporting requirements.

(b) Reporting requirements for HSACU programs (*e.g.*, HSACU Endowment Fund) shall be established in separate parts.

APPENDIX A TO PART 3434—LIST OF AGRICULTURE-RELATED FIELDS

The instructional programs listed in this appendix are observed to be agriculture-related fields for HSACU eligibility purposes. Programs are listed in numerical order by their six-digit CIP code followed by the full title of the instructional program, as listed by the U.S. Department of Education.

01.0000, Agriculture, General
 01.0101, Agricultural Business and Management, General
 01.0102, Agribusiness/Agricultural Business Operations
 01.0103, Agricultural Economics
 01.0104, Farm/Farm and Ranch Management
 01.0105, Agricultural/Farm Supplies Retailing and Wholesaling
 01.0106, Agricultural Business Technology
 01.0199, Agricultural Business and Management, Other

Pt. 3434, App. B

01.0201, Agricultural Mechanization, General
01.0204, Agricultural Power Machinery Operation
01.0205, Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment/Machine Technology
01.0299, Agricultural Mechanization, Other
01.0301, Agricultural Production Operations, General
01.0302, Animal/Livestock Husbandry and Production
01.0303, Aquaculture
01.0304, Crop Production
01.0306, Dairy Husbandry and Production
01.0307, Horse Husbandry/Equine Science and Management
01.0308, Agroecology and Sustainable Agriculture
01.0309, Viticulture and Enology
01.0399, Agricultural Production Operations, Other
01.0401, Agricultural and Food Products Processing
01.0504, Dog/Pet/Animal Grooming
01.0505, Animal Training
01.0507, Equestrian/Equine Studies
01.0508, Taxidermy/Taxidermist
01.0599, Agricultural and Domestic Animal Services, Other
01.0601, Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Operations, General
01.0603, Ornamental Horticulture
01.0604, Greenhouse Operations and Management
01.0605, Landscaping and Groundskeeping
01.0606, Plant Nursery Operations and Management
01.0607, Turf and Turfgrass Management
01.0608, Floriculture/Floristry Operations and Management
01.0699, Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Business Services, Other
01.0701, International Agriculture
01.0801, Agricultural and Extension Education Services
01.0802, Agricultural Communication/Journalism
01.0899, Agricultural Public Services, Other
01.0901, Animal Sciences, General
01.0902, Agricultural Animal Breeding
01.0903, Animal Health
01.0904, Animal Nutrition
01.0905, Dairy Science
01.0906, Livestock Management
01.0907, Poultry Science
01.0999, Animal Sciences, Other
01.1001, Food Science
01.1002, Food Technology and Processing
01.1099, Food Science and Technology, Other
01.1101, Plant Sciences, General
01.1102, Agronomy and Crop Science
01.1103, Horticultural Science
01.1104, Agricultural and Horticultural Plant Breeding
01.1105, Plant Protection and Integrated Pest Management
01.1106, Range Science and Management
01.1199, Plant Sciences, Other

7 CFR Ch. XXXIV (1–1–25 Edition)

01.1201, Soil Science and Agronomy, General
01.1202, Soil Chemistry and Physics
01.1203, Soil Microbiology
01.1299, Soil Sciences, Other
01.9999, Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences, Other
03.0101, Natural Resources/Conservation, General
03.0103, Environmental Studies
03.0104, Environmental Science
03.0199, Natural Resources Conservation and Research, Other
03.0201, Natural Resources Management and Policy
03.0204, Natural Resources Economics
03.0205, Water, Wetlands, and Marine Resources Management
03.0206, Land Use Planning and Management/Development
03.0207, Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism
03.0208, Natural Resources Law Enforcement and Protective Services
03.0299, Natural Resources Management and Policy, Other
03.0301, Fishing and Fisheries Sciences and Management
03.0501, Forestry, General
03.0502, Forest Sciences and Biology
03.0506, Forest Management/Forest Resources Management
03.0508, Urban Forestry
03.0509, Wood Science and Wood Products/Pulp and Paper Technology
03.0510, Forest Resources Production and Management
03.0511, Forest Technology/Technician
03.0599, Forestry, Other
03.0601, Wildlife and Wildlands Science and Management
03.9999, Natural Resources and Conservation, Other
13.1301, Agricultural Teacher Education
14.0301, Agricultural/Biological Engineering and Bioengineering
19.0501, Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies, General
19.0504, Human Nutrition
19.0505, Foodservice Systems Administration/Management
19.0599, Foods, Nutrition, and Related Services, Other
30.1901, Nutrition Sciences
30.3301, Sustainability Studies
51.0808, Veterinary/Animal Health Technology/Technician and Veterinary Assistant

**APPENDIX B TO PART 3434—LIST OF
HSACU INSTITUTIONS, 2024–2025**

The institutions listed in this appendix are granted HSACU certification by the Secretary and are eligible for HSACU programs

National Institute of Food and Agriculture**Pt. 3434, App. B**

for the period starting July 1, 2024 and ending July 1, 2025. Institutions are listed alphabetically under the state of the school's location, with the campus indicated where applicable.

ARKANSAS (1)

Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas

ARIZONA (12)

Arizona State University Campus Immersion
Arizona Western College
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Cochise County Community College District
Estrella Mountain Community College
GateWay Community College
Glendale Community College
Mesa Community College
Phoenix College
Rio Salado College
Scottsdale Community College
South Mountain Community College

CALIFORNIA (97)

Allan Hancock College
American River College
Antelope Valley Community College District
Bakersfield College
Butte College
Cabrillo College
California Baptist University
California Lutheran University
California State Polytechnic University—Humboldt
California State Polytechnic University—Pomona
California State University—Bakersfield
California State University—Channel Islands
California State University—Chico
California State University—East Bay
California State University—Fresno
California State University—Fullerton
California State University—Long Beach
California State University—Los Angeles
California State University—Monterey Bay
California State University—Northridge
California State University—Sacramento
California State University—San Bernardino
California State University—San Marcos
California State University—Stanislaus
Chabot College
Chaffey College
Citrus College
Clovis Community College
College of San Mateo
College of the Canyons
College of the Desert
College of the Sequoias
Cosumnes River College
Crafton Hills College
Cuesta College
Cypress College
Diablo Valley College
East Los Angeles College
El Camino Community College District

Evergreen Valley College
Foothill College
Fresno City College
Fresno Pacific University
Fullerton College
Glendale Community College
Hartnell College
Imperial Valley College
Lake Tahoe Community College
Las Positas College
Long Beach City College
Los Angeles City College
Los Angeles Harbor College
Los Angeles Mission College
Los Angeles Pierce College
Los Angeles Southwest College
Los Angeles Trade Technical College
Madera Community College
Merced College
MiraCosta College
Modesto Junior College
Monterey Peninsula College
Moorpark College
Mt San Antonio College
Mt San Jacinto Community College District
Orange Coast College
Oxnard College
Palomar College
Pasadena City College
Porterville College
Reedley College
Rio Hondo College
Riverside City College
Saddleback College
Saint Mary's College of California
San Bernardino Valley College
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego Miramar College
San Diego State University
San Francisco State University
San Joaquin Delta College
San Jose City College
San Jose State University
Santa Barbara City College
Santa Monica College
Santa Rosa Junior College
Southwestern College
University of California—Irvine
University of California—Riverside
University of California—Santa Barbara
University of California—Santa Cruz
University of La Verne
University of Redlands
Ventura College
Victor Valley College
West Hills College-Coalinga
West Los Angeles College
Yuba College

COLORADO (6)

Colorado State University Pueblo
Community College of Denver
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Regis University
Trinidad State College
University of Northern Colorado

Pt. 3434, App. B

7 CFR Ch. XXXIV (1–1–25 Edition)

CONNECTICUT (2)

Gateway Community College
Norwalk Community College

FLORIDA (12)

Ana G. Mendez University
Broward College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
Hillsborough Community College
Indian River State College
Miami Dade College
Nova Southeastern University
Palm Beach State College
Seminole State College of Florida
University of Central Florida
Valencia College

GEORGIA (2)

Dalton State College
Lanier Technical College

IDAHO (1)

College of Southern Idaho

ILLINOIS (6)

City Colleges of Chicago—Richard J Daley
College
College of Lake County
Dominican University
Northeastern Illinois University
Triton College
University of Illinois Chicago

KANSAS (1)

Seward County Community College

NEVADA (4)

College of Southern Nevada
Nevada State College
Truckee Meadows Community College
University of Nevada—Las Vegas

NEW JERSEY (9)

Atlantic Cape Community College
Bergen Community College
Hudson County Community College
Kean University
Middlesex College
Montclair State University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Passaic County Community College
William Paterson University of New Jersey

NEW MEXICO (9)

Central New Mexico Community College
Eastern New Mexico University—Main Cam-
pus
Eastern New Mexico University—Roswell
Campus
New Mexico Highlands University
Northern New Mexico College
Santa Fe Community College
University of New Mexico—Los Alamos Cam-
pus

University of New Mexico—Main Campus
Western New Mexico University

NEW YORK (12)

CUNY City College
CUNY Hostos Community College
CUNY Hunter College
CUNY LaGuardia Community College
CUNY Lehman College
CUNY Queens College
CUNY Queensborough Community College
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Mercy College
Nassau Community College
Suffolk County Community College

NORTH CAROLINA (1)

Sampson Community College

OREGON (1)

Chemeketa Community College

PUERTO RICO (20)

Dewey University—Juana Díaz
Instituto Tecnológico de Puerto Rico—
Recinto de Manatí
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Aguadilla
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Arecibo
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Barranquitas
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Bayamon
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Guayama
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
Ponce
Inter American University of Puerto Rico—
San German
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto
Rico—Arecibo
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto
Rico—Ponce
Universal Technology College of Puerto Rico
Universidad Ana G. Mendez—Carolina Cam-
pus
Universidad Ana G. Mendez—Cupey Campus
Universidad Ana G. Mendez—Gurabo Campus
University of Puerto Rico—Arecibo
University of Puerto Rico—Humacao
University of Puerto Rico—Medical Sciences
University of Puerto Rico—Rio Piedras
University of Puerto Rico—Utuado

RHODE ISLAND (1)

Rhode Island College

TENNESSEE (1)

Southern Adventist University

TEXAS (35)

Amarillo College
Angelo State University

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Pt. 3434, App. B

Austin College
Austin Community College District
Concordia University Texas
Dallas College
Houston Community College
Huston-Tillotson University
Lee College
Lone Star College System
Odessa College
Palo Alto College
Saint Edward's University
Sam Houston State University
South Plains College
Southwest Texas Junior College
Southwestern University
St. Mary's University
Sul Ross State University
Tarrant County College District
Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi
Texas A & M University-Kingsville
Texas State University
Texas Woman's University
The University of Texas at Arlington
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of Texas at El Paso

The University of Texas at San Antonio
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Tyler Junior College
University of Houston
University of Houston-Clear Lake
University of North Texas
University of the Incarnate Word
Wayland Baptist University

VIRGINIA (1)

Northern Virginia Community College

WASHINGTON (6)

Big Bend Community College
Columbia Basin College
Heritage University
Perry Technical Institute
Wenatchee Valley College
Yakima Valley College

[89 FR 81293, Oct. 8, 2024]

PARTS 3435–3499 [RESERVED]