

technically qualified person, firm, or organization by contract or otherwise on a temporary basis and for a term not to exceed six months in any fiscal year to perform research, inspection, classification, technical, or other special services, without regard to the civil-service laws.

(Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, title II, § 208, 60 Stat. 1091.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Provisions that authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to “fix the compensation” of any technically qualified person, firm, or organization by contract or otherwise on a temporary basis and for a term not to exceed six months in any fiscal year to perform research, inspection, classification, technical or other special services, without regard to the “Classification Act of 1923, as amended” were omitted as obsolete. Sections 1202 and 1204 of the Classification Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 972, 973 repealed the 1923 Act and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the 1949 Act. While section 1106(a) of the 1949 Act provided that references in other laws to the 1923 Act should be held and considered to mean the 1949 Act, it did not have the effect of continuing the exceptions contained in this subsection because of section 1106(b) which provided that the application of the 1949 Act to any position, officer, or employee shall not be affected by section 1106(a). The Classification Act of 1949 was repealed by Pub. L. 89-554, § 8(a), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 632 (of which section 1 revised and enacted Title 5, U.S.C., into law). Section 5102 of Title 5, now contains the applicability provisions of the 1949 Act, and section 5103 of Title 5 authorizes the Office of Personnel Management to determine the applicability to specific positions and employees.

#### § 1627a. Sheep production and marketing grant program

##### (a) Establishment

The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, shall establish a competitive grant program for the purposes of strengthening and enhancing the production and marketing of sheep and sheep products in the United States, including through—

- (1) the improvement of—
  - (A) infrastructure;
  - (B) business; and
  - (C) resource development; and

- (2) the development of innovative approaches to solve long-term needs.

##### (b) Eligibility

The Secretary shall make grants under this section to at least one national entity, the mission of which is consistent with the purpose of the grant program.

##### (c) Funding

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2019, and \$400,000 for fiscal year 2024, to remain available until expended.

(Aug. 14, 1946, ch. 966, title II, § 209, as added Pub. L. 113-79, title XII, § 12102(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 978; amended Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, § 12102, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4942; Pub. L. 118-22, div. B, title I, § 102(d)(8)(E), Nov. 17, 2023, 137 Stat. 118.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 118-22 inserted “and \$400,000 for fiscal year 2024,” after “2019.”

2018—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-334 substituted “\$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2019” for “\$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2014”.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2023 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 118-22 to be applied and administered as if enacted on Sept. 30, 2023, see section 102(g) of Pub. L. 118-22, set out in an Extension of Agricultural Programs note under section 9001 of this title.

#### § 1627b. National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

##### (a) Definitions

In this section:

###### (1) Board

The term “Board” means the Board of Directors established under subsection (f).

###### (2) Center

The term “Center” means the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center established under subsection (b).

###### (3) Eligible entity

The term “eligible entity” means an entity that promotes the betterment of the United States sheep or goat industries and that is—

- (A) a public, private, or cooperative organization;
- (B) an association, including a corporation not operated for profit;
- (C) a federally recognized Indian Tribe; or
- (D) a public or quasi-public agency.

###### (4) Fund

The term “Fund” means the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center Revolving Fund established under subsection (e).

###### (5) Intermediary

The term “intermediary” means a financial institution receiving Center funds for establishing a revolving fund and relending to an eligible entity.

##### (b) Establishment of Center

The Secretary shall establish a National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

##### (c) Purposes

The purposes of the Center shall be to—

- (1) promote strategic development activities and collaborative efforts by private and State entities to maximize the impact of Federal assistance to strengthen and enhance production and marketing of sheep or goat products in the United States;

- (2) optimize the use of available human capital and resources within the sheep or goat industries;

- (3) provide assistance to meet the needs of the sheep or goat industry for infrastructure development, business development, production, resource development, and market and environmental research;

- (4) advance activities that empower and build the capacity of the United States sheep