

ing the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers by maintaining and expanding a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management.

(b) Selection criteria

In allocating funds made available to carry out this section, the Secretary may give priority to grants that—

- (1) demonstrate an ability to work directly with agricultural producers;
- (2) collaborate with farm management educational programs and associations;
- (3) address the farm management needs of a variety of crops and regions of the United States; and
- (4) contribute data to the national farm financial management database.

(c) Administration

Paragraphs (4), (7), (8), and (11)(B) of subsection (b) of section 3157 of this title shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

- (1) such sums as are necessary for fiscal year 2013; and
- (2) \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2023.

(Pub. L. 101–624, title XVI, §1672D, as added Pub. L. 110–234, title VII, §7208, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1241; Pub. L. 110–246, §4(a), title VII, §7208, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2002; amended Pub. L. 113–79, title VII, §7213, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 886; Pub. L. 115–334, title VII, §7211, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4811.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110–234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115–334, §7211(1), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Secretary may make competitive research and extension grants for the purpose of—

- “(1) improving the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers; and
- “(2) establishing and maintaining a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management.”

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 115–334, §7211(2)(A), substituted “educational programs and” for “and producer”.

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 115–334, §7211(2)(B), substituted “contribute data to” for “use and support”.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 115–334, §7211(3), substituted “2023” for “2018”.

2014—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 113–79 substituted “to carry out this section—” for “such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.” and added pars. (1) and (2).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110–234 by Pub. L. 110–246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–234, see section 4 of

Pub. L. 110–246, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.

§ 5925g. Urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production research, education, and extension initiative

(a) Competitive research and extension grants authorized

In consultation with the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee established under section 6923(b) of this title, the Secretary may make competitive grants to support research, education, and extension activities for the purposes of facilitating the development of urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production, harvesting, transportation, aggregation, packaging, distribution, and markets, including by—

- (1) assessing and developing strategies to remediate contaminated sites;
- (2) determining and developing the best production management and integrated pest management practices;
- (3) identifying and promoting the horticultural, social, and economic factors that contribute to successful urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production;
- (4) analyzing the means by which new agricultural sites are determined, including an evaluation of soil quality, condition of a building, or local community needs;
- (5) exploring new technologies that minimize energy, lighting systems, water, and other inputs for increased food production;
- (6) examining building material efficiencies and structural upgrades for the purpose of optimizing growth of agricultural products;
- (7) developing new crop varieties and agricultural products to connect to new markets; or
- (8) examining the impacts of crop exposure to urban elements on environmental quality and food safety.

(b) Grant types and process

Subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (4), paragraph (7), and paragraph (11)(B) of subsection (b) of section 3157 of this title shall apply with respect to the making of grants under this section.

(c) Priority

The Secretary may give priority to grant proposals that involve—

- (1) the cooperation of multiple entities; or
- (2) States or regions with a high concentration of or significant interest in urban farms, rooftop farms, and indoor production facilities.

(d) Funding

(1) Mandatory funding

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section—

- (A) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2019, to remain available until expended; and
- (B) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2024, to remain available until expended.

(2) Authorization of appropriations

In addition to amounts made available under paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appro-

priated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XVI, § 1672E, as added Pub. L. 115-334, title VII, § 7212(a), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4812; amended Pub. L. 118-22, div. B, title I, § 102(d)(5)(B), Nov. 17, 2023, 137 Stat. 117.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 118-22 inserted dash after “section”, designated remainder of existing provisions as subpar. (A), and added subpar. (B).

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.

§ 5926. Centers of excellence

(a) Funding priorities

The Secretary shall prioritize centers of excellence established for purposes of carrying out research, extension, and education activities relating to the food and agricultural sciences (as defined in section 3103 of this title) for the receipt of funding for any competitive research or extension program administered by the Secretary.

(b) Composition

A center of excellence is composed of 1 or more of the eligible entities specified in subsection (b)(7) of section 3157 of this title that provide financial or in-kind support to the center of excellence.

(c) Criteria for centers of excellence

(1) Required efforts

The criteria for recognition as a center of excellence shall include efforts—

(A) to ensure coordination and cost effectiveness by reducing unnecessarily duplicative efforts regarding research, teaching, and extension;

(B) to leverage available resources by using public-private partnerships among agricultural industry groups, institutions of higher education, and the Federal Government;

(C) to implement teaching initiatives to increase awareness and effectively disseminate solutions to target audiences through extension activities; and

(D) to increase the economic returns to rural communities by identifying, attracting, and directing funds to high-priority agricultural issues.

(2) Additional efforts

Where practicable, the criteria for recognition as a center of excellence shall include efforts to improve teaching capacity and infrastructure at colleges and universities (including land-grant colleges and universities, co-operating forestry schools, NLGCA Institutions (as those terms are defined in section 3103 of this title), and schools of veterinary medicine).

(d) Centers of excellence at 1890s Institutions

(1) Recognition

The Secretary shall recognize not less than 3 centers of excellence, each led by an 1890 Institution (as defined in section 7601 of this title), to focus on 1 or more of the areas described in paragraph (2).

(2) Areas of focus

(A) Student success and workforce development

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may engage in activities to ensure that students have the skills and education needed to work in agriculture and food industries, agriculture science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and related fields of study.

(B) Nutrition, health, wellness, and quality of life

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may carry out research, education, and extension programs that increase access to healthy food, improve nutrition, mitigate preventive disease, and develop strategies to assist limited resource individuals in accessing health and nutrition resources.

(C) Farming systems, rural prosperity, and economic sustainability

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may share best practices with farmers to improve agricultural production, processing, and marketing, reduce urban food deserts, examine new uses for traditional and nontraditional crops, animals, and natural resources, and continue activities carried out by the Center for Innovative and Sustainable Small Farms, Ranches, and Forest Lands.

(D) Global food security and defense

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may engage in international partnerships that strengthen agricultural development in developing countries, partner with international researchers regarding new and emerging animal and plant pests and diseases, engage in agricultural disaster recovery, and continue activities carried out by the Center for International Engagement.

(E) Natural resources, energy, and environment

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may focus on protecting and managing domestic natural resources for current and future production of food and agricultural products.

(F) Emerging technologies

A center of excellence established under paragraph (1) may focus on the development of emerging technologies to increase agricultural productivity, enhance small farm economic viability, and improve rural communities by developing genetic and sensor technologies for food and agriculture and providing technology training to farmers.