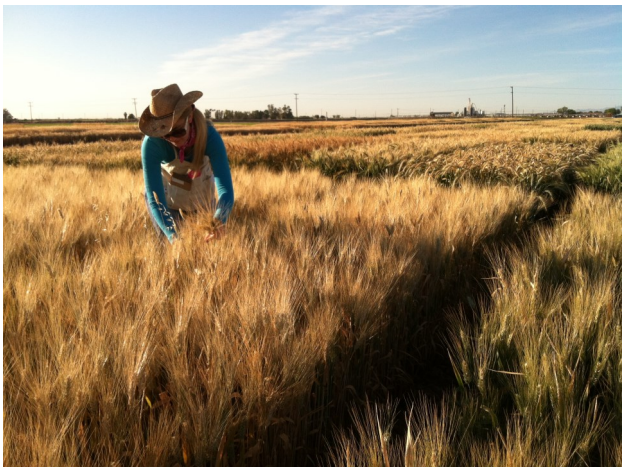
Hatch Act

The Hatch Act of 1887 authorized establishment of an Agricultural Experiment Station in each state who cooperate in funding research, matching federal dollars more than seven times and provide leadership in program direction or priorities. With increasing climate variability resulting in more frequent crop failures and extreme livestock stress, the U.S. could face significant risks to its food security, human health, economic growth, and environmental and natural resources. Hatch Act funding will provide support for research to address these challenges.



Safe, Secure & Plentiful Food

Using new knowledge and technology to enhance food production efficiency, improve nutritional quality, minimize risk, and ensure availability.

Environmental Stewardship

Mitigate negative impacts of agricultural on ecosystem goods and services, such as water security, nutrient cycling, atmospheric composition, and soil formation.

Health, Nutrition & Wellness

Employing a systematic, multidisciplinary approach to understanding the role of healthy foods in preventing, mitigating, and treating obesity and chronic diseases.

BioEconomy Development

Producing bioproducts in an environmentally sustainable and economically-feasible manner from renewable agricultural materials and natural resources.

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities seeks 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 2017.

Capacity funds are used to:

- Change lives
- Continue to engage with the public
- Compete in the federal grants environment
- Provide infrastructure and faculty support
- Support multistate partnerships
- Leverage state and local funding
- Solidify the legislated partnership with NIFA
- Operate as a national system
- Provide rapid response
- Inform research questions
- Translate science for practice

A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2017	
Hatch Act	$256,201,000

Want to know more?
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Hatch Act

Appropriations Bill
Agriculture

Agency
National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Account
Research and Education Activities

Program
Hatch Act

Requested Amount
$256,201,000

Program 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 at least a one-to-one match.

President's FY 2017 Request
$243,701,000

Five-Year Funding History

FY 2016	$243,701,000
FY 2015	$243,701,000
FY 2014	$243,701,000
FY 2013	$218,342,000
FY 2012	$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.

Benefits
The Hatch Act benefits America by providing 1862 Land-grant universities and related institutions the research capacity to:

- Improve knowledge of complex linkages between food, nutrition, and human health
- Protect America's food supply and ensure our biosecurity
- Promote job creation for rural and urban communities ensuring resilience and economic vitality
- Encourage young people to enter agricultural professions
- Combat twin epidemics of obesity and diabetes
- Preserve the nation's natural resources
- Aid in understanding climate variability adaptation and mitigation
- Promote innovation and advancement to maintain competitiveness of U.S. producers
- Increase farm productivity to address rising global food shortages
- Generate a marginal real rate of return on investment of approximately 50% annually
- Provide environmentally friendly practices for livestock, poultry, dairy and seafood production

Hatch Act Successes

- Citrus greening costs growers over $4.5 billion. Scientists have sequenced citrus DNA, identified bacterial causes, put resistance into bacteria-spreading insects, and developed resistant rootstocks.
- Researchers are producing fruit and vegetable varieties rich in capsaicin, beta-carotene and lycopene; along with disease resistance, higher yield potential and better nutritional quality.
- European corn borer causes $1 billion in losses annually. Researchers have discovered compounds in nematodes and bacteria only toxic to the borer, decreasing chances of harming beneficial insects.
- Genetically modifying sugarcane has increased oil content more than 80-fold for biodiesel production and improved efficiency of ethanol fuel production from sugarcane by more than 20%.