

Hatch Act

As Congress looks for alternatives to sequestration, completes the F. Y. 2013 appropriations process, and develops the F. Y. 2014 Agriculture Appropriations bill, Hatch Act funding must be sustained to maintain vibrant agricultural economies relevant to each state and a strong national emergency response capability.

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. A minimum 1-to-1 match is required from the states, but many jurisdictions provide a greater amount.

Congress has long agreed with the land-grant system’s proposition that strong Hatch Act funding is critical to maintaining vibrant state and national agricultural economies, a strong national emergency response capability, and the research infrastructure required to meet both U.S. imperatives and global food security requirements. In this 21st “Bio” Century, U.S. land-grant university agricultural research is on the frontline of sustaining and securing America’s leadership and competitiveness in what is, and will be, the key macroeconomic sector of our time.



A·P·L·U PRIORITY REQUEST	
Hatch Act.....	\$236.334 M

MAINTAIN HATCH ACT FUNDING!

- 1. Sequestration.** Congress and the President must work out a fiscally-sound alternative to the scheduled sequestration cuts. *If it is not possible to avoid these reductions totally, then the effects on the Hatch Act program must be minimized.*
- 2. F. Y. 2013 Appropriations.** Congress must act expeditiously to complete the F.Y.2013 appropriations process and should maintain Hatch Act funding at no less than the F.Y.2012 level of \$236.334 million.
- 3. F. Y. 2014 Appropriations.** Once the F.Y.2013 appropriations decisions are final, Congress should complete the F.Y.2014 appropriations process in a timely way and fund the Hatch Act program at no less than the F.Y.2012 level of \$236.334 million.

IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINED 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 fewer emissions. 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 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.

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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

\$236,334,000

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 2014 Budget Request

Unknown at this time

Five-Year Funding History

FY 2013 Unknown at this time
FY 2012 \$236,334,000
FY 2011 \$236,334,000
FY 2010 \$215,000,000
FY 2009 \$207,106,000

A·P·L·U requests that Congress provide no less than \$236.334 million for the Hatch Act program at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

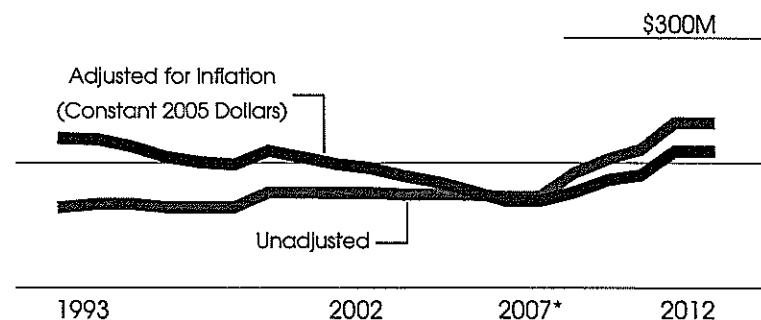
Benefits / Impacts

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

- Develop new biofuels/bioproductions, enhance energy efficiency, reduce dependence on foreign oil.
- Improve knowledge concerning the complex linkages between food, nutrition, and human health.
- Protect America's food supply and ensure our biosecurity.
- Combat the twin epidemics of obesity and diabetes.
- Preserve the nation's natural resources.
- Build strategies for producers, consumers, and communities to address climate change.
- Promote innovation and technological advancement to maintain competitiveness of U.S. food, fiber, and fuel producers in 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.
- Support science for society through new knowledge dissemination, and in technology transfer and commercialization of technologies for the agricultural production and processing sectors.

Hatch Act Appropriation Must be Maintained

Basic federal support for State Agricultural Experiment Stations declined for more than 15 years until a bipartisan effort reversed the trend.



*Data for FY 2007 not included in this chart because of a funding anomaly.