

Land Grant University To You (*LGU2U*)

Finding Shared Priorities Session 3

LGU2U - June 8, 2023

LGU2U - Session 3

Priorities and Collaborating on Common Goals

Today's Topics

How do LGUs set priorities?

How does NIFA set priorities?

Where are the opportunities to collaborate on shared goals?

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SYSTEM FIVE-YEAR STRATEGY

REVISED JUNE 23, 2022

D.B. AND PAULA VARNER HALL



UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
System

N2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

February 14, 2020

"Where every person and every interaction matters"



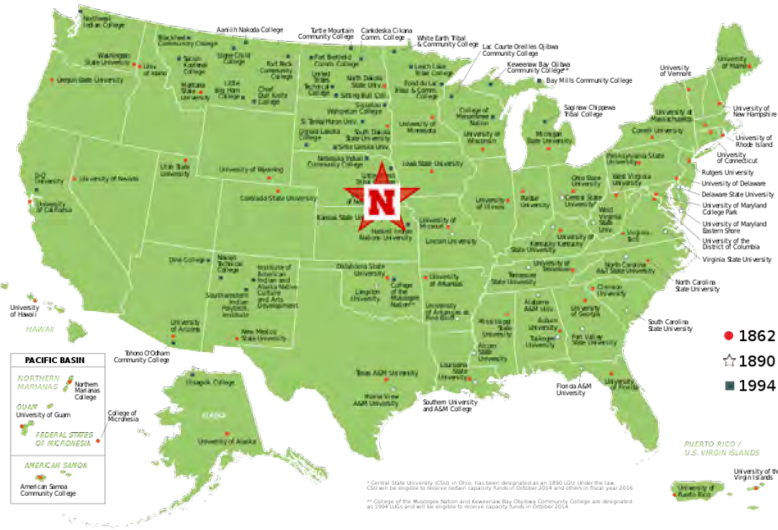
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2025



**Bold Collaboration And Thinking
Propelling Nebraska Forward**

[Communities](#)

NIFA LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



2023 FARM BILL TITLE VII POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly Unified Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Request

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

- Hatch Act:** Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES) located in every state provide research capacity for critical issues and innovations that affect agricultural production, profitability, and sustainability, such as disease resistance, crop genetics, conservation, economic analysis, food safety, invasive species, biosecurity, and precision agriculture. Geographically relevant research services across national, regional, state, and local contexts. **FY2024 Request: \$392 million**
- Even-Again:** Agricultural research at other colleges of agriculture takes place due to limited access capacity funds that enable research for small farmer challenges, food security and nutrition, and workforce development. More black students earning an agriculture graduate from these institutions. **FY2024 Request: \$104 million**
- 1894 Institution Research Program:** The Tribal College Research Program supports research that protects reservation forests, woodlands, grasslands, and rangelands, as well as sensitive soil and water quality. **FY2024 Request: \$75.5 million**
- Multi-State:** Priority research capacity addresses development of bio-based products, prevention of invasive fish, identification of new energy sources, expansion of nuclear recreational activity, and mitigation techniques for invasive species. It is a direct source of funds for research science graduates. **FY2024 Request: \$48 million**
- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI):** The flagship competitive grants program for federal agencies that supports food systems, increases food production, stimulates the bioeconomy, mitigates the impacts of climate variability, addresses water availability issues, enhances food safety, enhances human nutrition, and improves the next generation of agricultural professionals. **FY2024 Request: \$550 million**

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

- Smith-Lever Section (SLS) and ECR:** Capacity for 1862 Extension that supports a network of land grant university sponsored state, tribal, and local educators who deliver vital, timely, practical information to agricultural producers, small business owners, communities, youth, and families. **FY2024 Request: \$420 million**

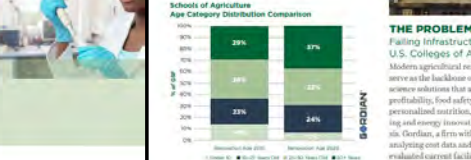
The NIFA requests investment that enables U.S. government across public university research, education programs, and research facilities.

APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly 2023 Farm Bill Request

REQUEST: APLU requests reauthorization and \$5 billion in mandatory funding for the Research Facilities Act in the 2023 Farm Bill.

Our public colleges of agriculture, including the historic land-grant university (LGU) systems, serve the nation by fostering excellence in research innovation while providing avenues to train future global leaders in agriculture and food systems. Public research accelerates technology adoption, growth of the agricultural and food marketplace, entrepreneurship, and public-private partnerships, returning tax to the economy for every dollar spent.

However, this system faces unprecedented infrastructure challenges. U.S. researchers and educators are being asked to perform 21st-century science in facilities constructed in the 1950s and 1970s.



THE PROBLEM
Failing Infrastructure at U.S. Colleges of Agriculture
Modern agricultural research and education facilities are at the backbone of cutting-edge research and applied science solutions that address climate change, agricultural profitability, food safety, zoonotic disease preparedness, personalized nutrition, biosecurity, new bio-based packaging and energy innovations, and advanced market analysis. Genfian, a firm with more than 30 yrs. of experience analyzing cost data and planning services for buildings, evaluated current facilities at U.S. schools of agriculture for research, teaching, and Extension. In 2020, Genfian assessed the state of facilities at the colleges or schools of agriculture, reporting that 69% of the buildings are at the end of their useful life. Genfian reports that the cost of upgrading deferred maintenance in 2021 is \$11.5 billion, with a replacement value of \$38.1 billion.

SOLUTION \$5 billion in mandatory funding for the Research Facilities Act over the lifetime of the next Farm Bill.



Strategic Priorities

- Continue to advance our framework for graduate education: <https://casnr.unl.edu/framework-graduate-education>
- Smart, sustainable pathways to grow enrollments -- be the destination for diverse educational pathways at the nexus of food, energy, water, and societal systems (FEWS²)
- Focus on the continuum of learners
- Teaching and learning innovation
- Amplify our impact through partnerships

#ThisIsCASNR

EDUCATION PATHWAY



THE CASNR
**CHANGE
MAKER**
COMPETITION

How Do You Want to Make a Difference in the World?

SPONSORED BY THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES (CASNR)

Here is your chance to share what you will tackle to leave your mark on the world.

Do you have an idea for making a difference in the world? Pitch us your idea in a 2-minute video. If your idea is selected you could earn a CASNR scholarship and have the chance to work directly with mentors on tackling your big idea.

Some VERY Recent Examples of...

External Awards -



Husker research hones in on sorghum's genetic makeup to improve nitrogen efficiency



Husker-led team exploiting oilseeds' potential in biofuels, bioproducts



\$25M federal award to expand robotics development, entrepreneurship, outreach

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IANR

150 50

Institutional Awards for Leverage -



With Catalyst award, Helikar sets five-year goal for draft of digital immune system

Round 2 Coming Up...



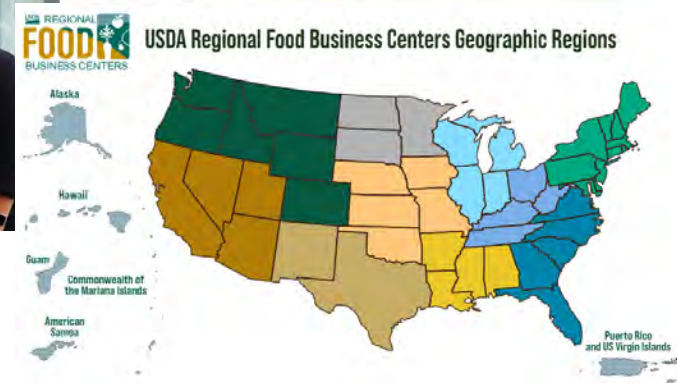
May 24, 2023 · 4 min read

USDA official visits university to discuss \$25M grant for Rural Prosperity Nebraska

by [Russell Shaffer](#) | [Rural Prosperity Nebraska](#)



Jennifer Lester Moffitt, under secretary of agriculture for marketing and regulatory programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, visited the University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s East Campus on May 23 to participate in a roundtable discussion on the \$25 million grant awarded to Rural Prosperity Nebraska to create the Heartland Regional Food Business Center.



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Priority Setting for Competitive Funding

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<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>

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- USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



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Welcome – Dr. Manjit Misra

Session Moderator – Dr. Steve Zeng

Approach

- Farm Bill process – Gary Mayo
- Budget / Appropriations process – Wayne Schintgen
- Stakeholder Engagement process – Josh Stull
- Priority Setting in AFRI – Dr. Mark Miranda



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Farm Bill Process June 2023

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General Overview of Congress

Party Composition



1. House

- Republicans (Majority) – 222
- Democrats (Minority) – 213



2. Senate

- Democrats (Majority, with Independents) – 48
- Republicans (Minority) – 49
- Independents – 3 (AZ, ME, VT)



General Overview of Congress

Committee System

Both Chambers

- Bills referred to Committees for consideration
- Committees hold hearings on issues/bills under jurisdiction
- Seniority is key to advancing to be head of Committee (Chairman / Ranking Member)





General Overview of Congress

Impact on USDA / NIFA

1. Authorizing Committees

- House / Senate Agriculture Committees
- Farm Bills reauthorize every 5-6 years most of NIFA's programs and provides mandatory funding for eight NIFA programs
- Current programs expire September 30, 2023
- Farm Bill reauthorization will be busy for House / Senate Agriculture Committees, Congress, and USDA/NIFA

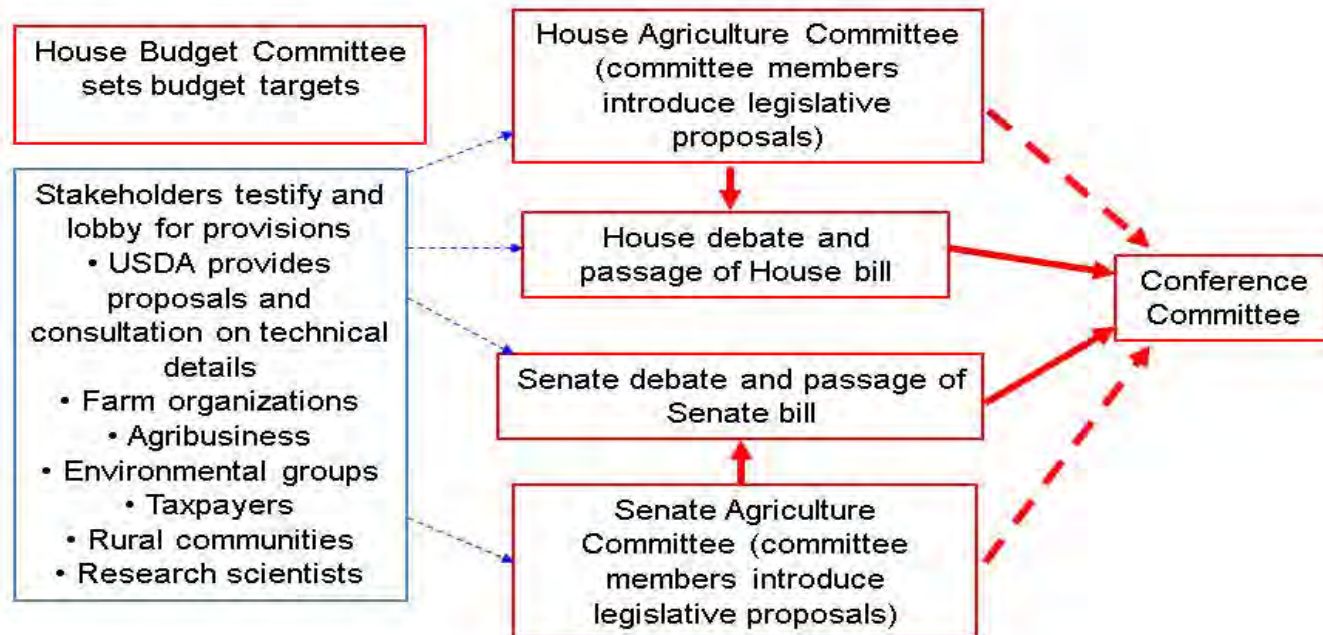
2. Appropriations Committees

- House / Senate Appropriations Committees
- Specifically, Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees
- Funds USDA and agencies, including NIFA



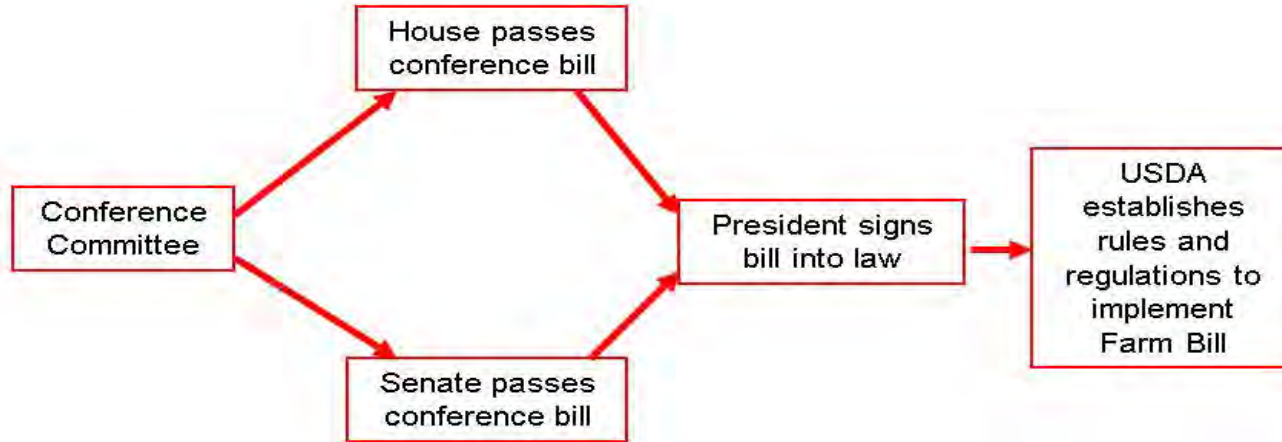


Farm Bill legislative process, part I



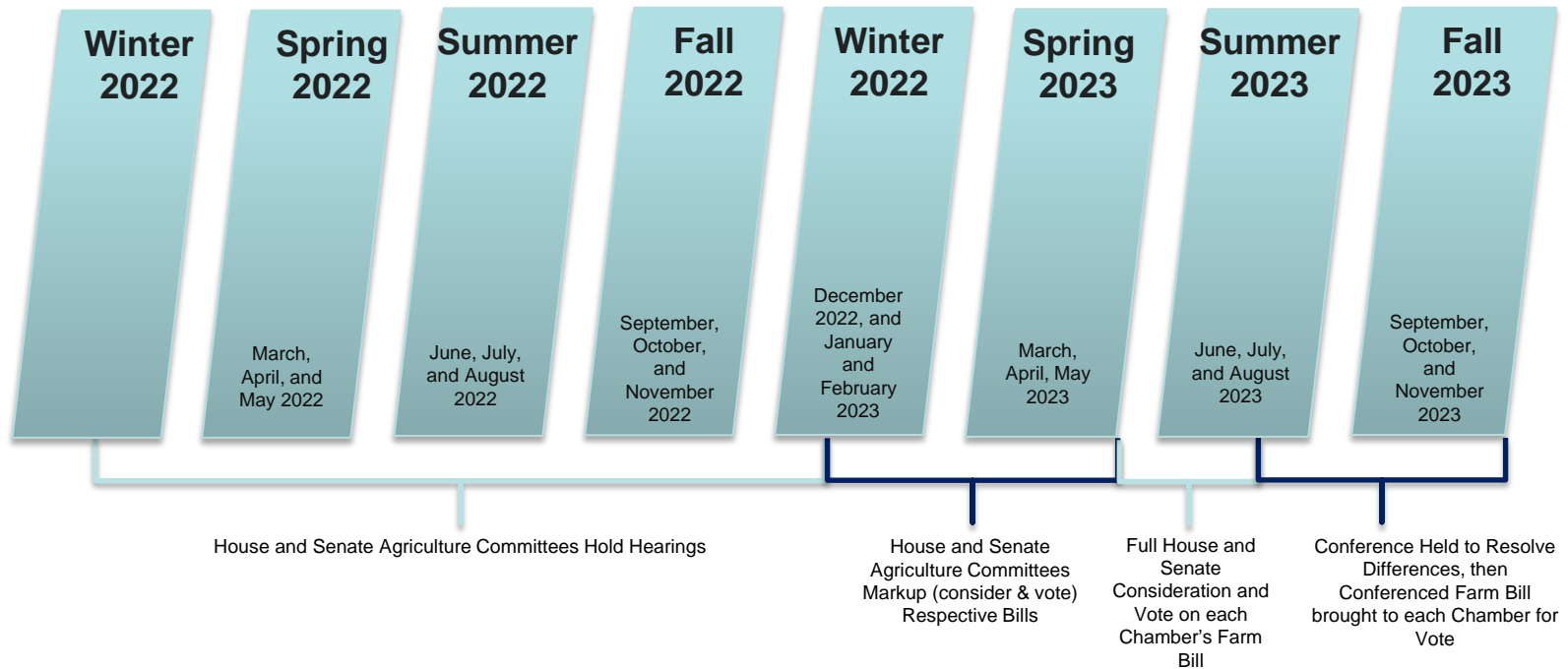


Farm Bill legislative process, part II





Farm Bill Regular Order / Process





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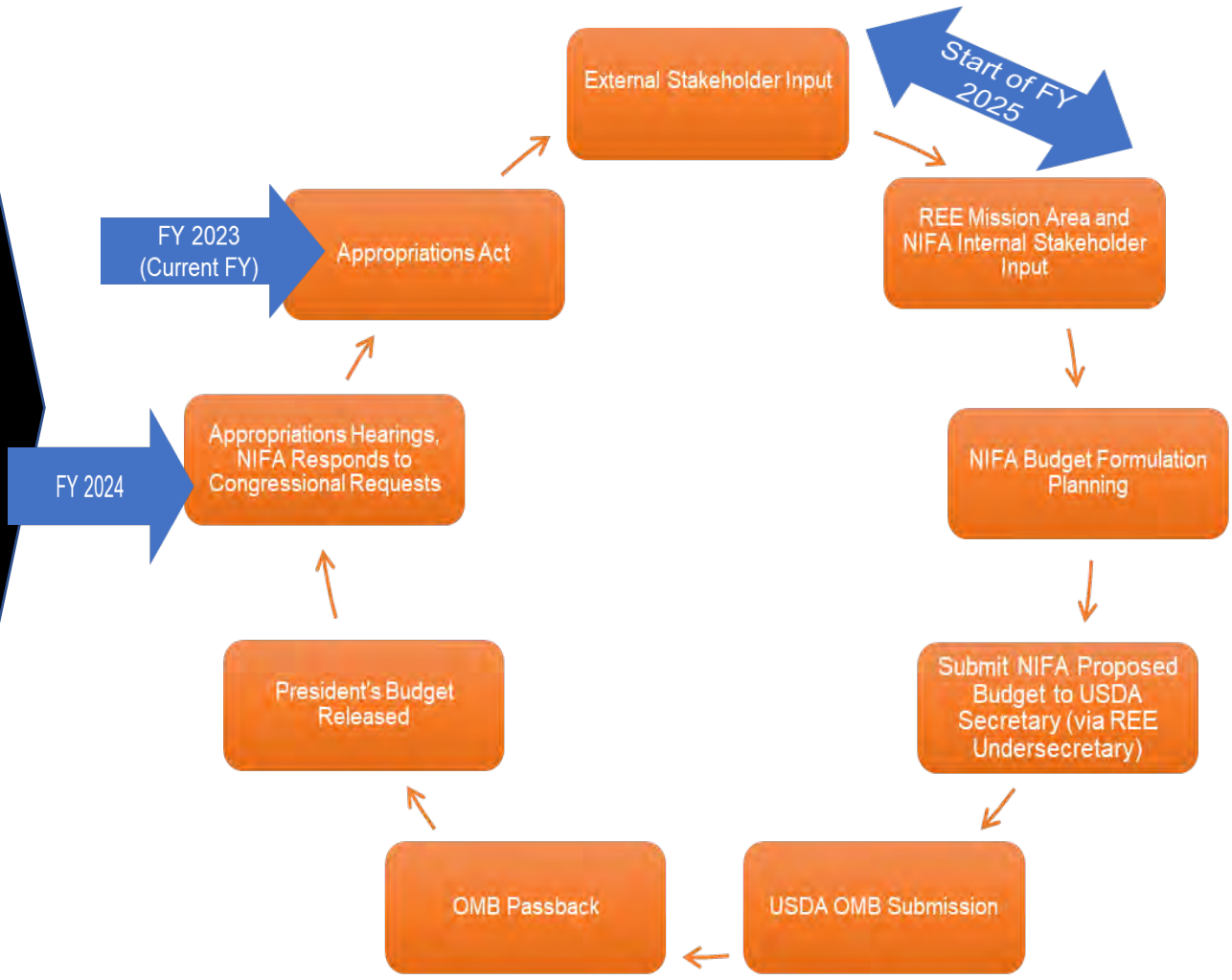
Budget Process Overview June 2023

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Budget Process Overview





Budget Process Stages



FORMULATION



JUSTIFICATION



EXECUTION



Main Participants

- NIFA Leadership and Staff
 - NIFA Budget Office coordinates
- USDA Leadership –OSEC/Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Senior Staff
 - USDA Office of Budget and Program Analysis (the Secretary’s budget office)
- White House
 - Office of Management and Budget (the President’s budget office)
- Congressional Members and Staff



Formulation Timeline

- Feb to May: Agencies generate request
- June/July: Agency Request due to OSEC
- August: Secretary decisions to agency
- September: Budget due to OMB
- First Monday in Feb: Budget due to Hill



Formulation - Inputs

- Development of budget with input from:
 - Director
 - Senior Leadership
 - Administration: OMB, Office of Science and Technology Policy
 - OSEC: Secretary/Under Secretary for REE
 - Partners, Stakeholders

Justification and Presentation

- The Budget Office:
 - Coordinates the preparation of materials used at Congressional hearings
 - Written witness statements
 - Written Questions for the (hearing) Record (QFRs) on NIFA's budget as a result of hearings
 - Monitors Congressional appropriations process



Budget Execution

- Begins with begins with an Appropriation of funds from Congress
 - Annual agriculture appropriations bill (discretionary)
 - Authorizing legislation, eg. Farm bill, providing direct (mandatory) spending
- Documentation/Recording
 - Apportionments (OMB)
 - Warrants (Treasury)
 - Allotment (OBPA)/Allocation of funds (NIFA)



Budget Execution (cont')

- Within NIFA, the Budget Office manages the budget execution process at the top level, to ensure appropriations are posted to our financial systems at the correct account and program level
- Budget Office works with OGFM to ensure proper funds control following the basics rules of:
 - Purpose
 - Time
 - Amount

End of Fiscal Year

- The NIFA Budget Office helps ensure a timely close out of annual funds at the end of the fiscal year and works with OMB, Treasury, OBPA and the NIFA OGFM to perform close out duties associated with execution.



Rolling Years

- At this time we are working on:
 - Reporting on 2022
 - Managing execution of 2023
 - Answering questions and monitoring Congressional action on 2024
 - Planning for 2025 budget formulation



Questions

- Contact Information:
 - Budget Officer, NIFA
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 - Budget Formulation, NIFA
 - Ashley Riordan
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 - Budget Execution, NIFA
 - Wayne Schintgen
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Overview of Stakeholder Engagement Process

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Stakeholder Engagement Process

- Agency listening sessions – NIFA Listens



- Biennial stakeholder listening opportunity to collect input to understand key challenges, promising opportunities, and recommended top priorities related to advancing agricultural research, teaching, and outreach.
- 700+ registered participants over two virtual sessions, providing both oral and written feedback. Input gathered from stakeholders in 87 distinct organizations, in 36 states and DC.

Stakeholder Engagement Process

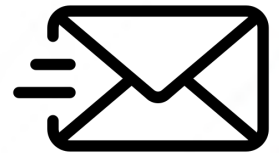
- Program listening sessions
 - Typically held for new programs.



- NIFA Update
 - Weekly agency e-news update, includes listening sessions announcements and funding opportunities.

Stakeholder Engagement Process

- RFA - call for stakeholder input.
 - NIFA seeks comments on all RFAs, in order to deliver programs efficiently, effectively, with integrity, and with a focus on customer service. NIFA considers comments to the extent possible when developing RFAs.



Questions

Contact Information:

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Overview of Priority Setting for AFRI

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Priority Setting for AFRI

- **Inputs**

- Authorizing legislation – Farm Bill
- Congress – Congressional Directives
- Administration's priorities – President, Secretary of Agriculture, REE Under Secretary, NIFA Director
- Stakeholders – formal and informal; meetings, email, *etc.*
- Expertise of NIFA staff



Authorizing Legislation – Farm Bill

- **Farm Bill Priorities for AFRI**
 - Plant health and production, and plant products
 - Animal health and production, and animal products
 - Food safety, nutrition, and health
 - Bioenergy, natural resources, environment
 - Agriculture systems and technology
 - Agriculture economics and rural communities
- **Each priority includes 5 to 10 sub-priorities**



Congressional Directives

- Directives and suggestions are provided annually
 - Some directives reiterate the legislative authorization, others are additional directives
 - Lead up to the Federal budget process

Administration's Priorities

- Priorities change with changing Administrations
- Current Administration's priorities
 - Advancing racial justice, equity, opportunity, and rural prosperity
 - Addressing climate change via climate-smart agriculture, forestry, and clean energy
 - Tackling food and nutrition insecurity
 - Creating more, better, and new market opportunities

Stakeholder Input

- Input from many sources, multiple avenues
- Formal and informal processes
 - AFRI Requests for Applications have an email address for submission of stakeholder comments
 - Stakeholder workshops (e.g., NIFA Listens)
 - Informal meetings, email, phone calls
- NIFA staff obtain stakeholder input on a continuous (daily or almost daily) basis



Expertise of NIFA staff

- Sift through and filter many inputs
- Determine what must or should be done – what is best for society
- Determine what can be done within legislative authority and Administration's priorities
- Assimilate into appropriate funding priorities
 - Maintain focus, impact and scale – avoid diminishing impact (*i.e.*, can't divide the pie into 500 tiny pieces)
 - Provide continuity – avoid whiplash to applicants

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Priorities and Collaborating on Common Goals

Thank You For Your Time!

Please watch for follow up messages with “LGU2U” in the subject line.

For updates:

<https://www.ncra-saes.org/nc-lgu2u-initiative>