

Land Grant

Report

2022-2023

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated Section 49-7-210, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission shall produce as part of the Factbook each year, a report to the General Assembly detailing, for the immediately preceding academic year, the amount of any federal appropriations made to, and the amount of any matching funds received by, each federal land-grant institution of higher education in this state for each of the agricultural research, extension, education, and related programs established under:

- (1)** Section 1444 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. § 3221);
- (2)** Section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. § 3222);
- (3)** Sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. § 343); and
- (4)** The Hatch Act of 1887 (7 U.S.C. § 361a et seq.).

The commission's report:

- (1)** Must include the amount of any state appropriations made to each federal land-grant institution of higher education in this state for agriculture education; and
- (2)** May include any additional information that may assist the general assembly in providing equitable funding to each of the federal land-grant institutions of higher education in this state.

For the purposes of this report, THEC publishes the most recent five years of data available.

Acknowledgements

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission gratefully acknowledges the institutions and agencies that provided the information necessary to compile the Tennessee Higher Education Land Grant Report. Original data is sourced from the United States Department of Agriculture and verified by the University of Tennessee and its institutions and Tennessee State University.

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

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History of Tennessee's Land Grant Universities

The Morrill Land-Grant Act, introduced by Representative Justin Morrill (VT) and passed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862, yielded an education-based solution to local labor market demands of the time. This act provides land and funds to establish universities focused on practical education teaching agriculture, military tactics, mechanic arts, and classical studies. The newly established institutions were envisioned as an opportunity to provide working-class families the necessary training to enter more sustainable careers. In Tennessee, the 1862 Morrill Act established the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

In 1890, the federal government passed the second Morrill Act. States with segregated land-grant institutions would be eligible to receive support for institutions serving only black students. The 1890 Morrill Act bestowed land-grant status to Tennessee State University. A third Morrill Act, enacted in 1994, granted land-grant status to Native American Tribal Colleges.ⁱ Tennessee has no tribal colleges and is therefore not a recipient of funds made available by the 1994 Morrill Act.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) offers capacity grants to support research and extension activities. The grant amounts are primarily distributed to land-grant institutions and are based on statutory formulas which include share of state population living in rural areas and percent of land dedicated to farming activity.ⁱⁱ Many of these grants—and all grants included in this report—require institutions provide matching funds from a non-federal source that are equal to or greater than the federal appropriation awarded. The non-federal source can be a singular source or collection of sources, like private organizations, state appropriations or county-level appropriations.

Funds Allocated to Land Grant Units

Total Capacity Grant Investment

The capacity grants of interest in this report are the Agriculture Extension Programs at 1890 Institutions, Agricultural Research at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, the Smith-Lever Capacity Grant, the Hatch Act of 1887, and the McIntire-Stennis Capacity Grant. Federal guidelines require institutions garner a one-to-one match of federal and non-federal funds to comply with the requirements of these federal grant programs. In fiscal year 2021-22—the most recent verifiable year of federal data—Tennessee State University and University of Tennessee secured their required non-federal match funds and received their federal allocations of \$8.4 million and \$16.5 million, respectively. The most recent five years of federal appropriations, matching funds required, and status of the match requirement are outlined in the tables below.

Total TSU				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	TSU	\$6,465,918	\$6,465,918	Yes
FY 2019	TSU	\$6,670,266	\$6,670,266	Yes
FY 2020	TSU	\$7,739,919	\$7,739,919	Yes
FY 2021	TSU	\$8,423,669	\$8,423,669	Yes
FY 2022	TSU	\$9,030,699	\$9,030,699	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by Tennessee State University.

Total UT				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required ¹	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	UT	\$15,469,466	\$15,716,650	Yes
FY 2019	UT	\$16,529,335	\$16,559,424	Yes
FY 2020	UT	\$16,506,016	\$16,520,955	Yes
FY 2021	UT	\$16,499,445	\$16,524,670	Yes
FY 2022	UT	\$16,594,069	\$16,626,147	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.

¹ Matching requirement for the Hatch Multistate Research fund is not a 1:1.

Section 1444 of the National Ag Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977

The Agriculture Extension Program at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions capacity grant supports agricultural and forestry extension activities at the 1890 land-grant institutions. This grant is limited to the 1890 land-grant institutions, statutorily excluding 1862 land-grant institutions like the University of Tennessee. Recipients must receive a 100 percent match from non-federal sources or apply for, and receive, a waiver. The program supports practical, research-based educational opportunities aligned with statewide and local needs—often funding small- to medium-size farms and helping them place their products in local, national, and international markets. Funds also support training for minority farmers and landowners in acquiring capital, adopting new technologies, and improving financial efficiencies.ⁱⁱⁱ

Agricultural Extension Programs at 1890 Institutions (Section 1444)				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	TSU	\$2,938,031	\$2,938,031	Yes
FY 2019	TSU	\$3,012,128	\$3,012,128	Yes
FY 2020	TSU	\$3,533,996	\$3,533,996	Yes
FY 2021	TSU	\$3,845,373	\$3,845,373	No ^{1, 2}
FY 2022	TSU	\$4,032,199	\$4,032,199	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by Tennessee State University.

1- State allocation in FY 2021 was \$3,745,700. TSU met the remaining \$99,673 with salary and benefits matching funds from the 60 counties served under these federal funds.

2 - The Governor's proposed budget for FY 2021 included additional recurring investments of \$2 million in operating dollars and \$101,800 for salary increases for TSU's agricultural extension program, a total recommended allocation of \$5.8 million. This additional funding was removed from the finalized budget, along with all operating and salary increases identified for higher education, due to state revenue uncertainties during the COVID-19 pandemic. These dollars were reinstated in the FY 2022 budget with additional salary revenue, resulting in a total recurring FY 2022 appropriation of \$5.9 million to the TSU Agricultural Cooperative Extension program.

Section 1445 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977

The Agriculture Research at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions, or Evans-Allen, capacity grant supports agricultural research at the 1890 land-grant institutions. As with the Section 1444 grant, this grant is limited to the 1890 land-grant institutions, statutorily excluding 1862 land-grant institutions like the University of Tennessee. Recipients of this grant must provide a 100 percent match from a non-federal source or apply for and receive a waiver. The funds from this grant are intended to support agricultural research and ensure capital capacity necessary for conducting agricultural research.^{iv}

Agricultural Research at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions (Section 1445)				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	TSU	\$3,410,347	\$3,410,347	Yes
FY 2019	TSU	\$3,532,650	\$3,532,650	Yes
FY2020	TSU	\$4,080,845	\$4,080,845	Yes
FY 2021	TSU	\$4,446,307	\$4,446,307	Yes
FY 2022	TSU	\$4,872,681	\$4,872,681	No ¹

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by Tennessee State University.

1 - State allocation in FY 2022 was \$4,858,100. TSU met the remaining \$14,581 with other funds.

Sections 3(b) and 3(c) of the Smith-Lever Act

Sections 3(b) and 3(c) of the Smith-Lever Act provide grant funds to 1862 land-grant institutions to conduct agricultural extension work. This grant is limited to the 1862 land-grant institutions, excluding 1890 land-grant institutions like Tennessee State University. Recipients of this grant must provide a 100 percent match from a non-federal source or apply for and receive a waiver.^v

Smith-Lever Capacity Grant				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	UT	\$8,767,110	\$8,934,249	Yes
FY 2019	UT	\$9,356,373	\$9,356,373	Yes
FY 2020	UT	\$9,337,771	\$9,337,771	Yes
FY 2021	UT	\$9,319,169	\$9,319,169	Yes
FY 2022	UT	\$9,447,475	\$9,447,475	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.

The Hatch Act of 1887

The Hatch Act of 1887 funds programs at state agricultural experiment stations that conduct agricultural research that solve problems at local, state, regional, and national levels. Potential research topics include soil and water conservation and use; plant and animal production, protection, and health; human nutrition; rural and community development; sustainable agriculture; molecular biology; and biotechnology.^{vi}

The Hatch Act of 1887 Multistate Research Fund supports institutions conducting research involving the partnership between a state agricultural experiment station and another state agricultural experiment station, the Agricultural Research Service, or a college or university to solve problems of concern to more than one state. This grant supports agricultural research efforts at 1862 land-grant institutions and state agricultural experiment stations.^{vii}

Both Hatch Act of 1887 grants require a 100 percent match from a non-federal source and are granted primarily to 1862 land-grant institutions and state agricultural experiment stations. As with the Smith-Lever act, this grant is limited to the 1862 land-grant institutions, excluding 1890 land-grant institutions like Tennessee State University.

Hatch Act 1887				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	UT	\$4,884,203	\$4,884,203	Yes
FY 2019	UT	\$5,178,836	\$5,178,836	Yes
FY 2020	UT	\$5,161,268	\$5,161,268	Yes
FY 2021	UT	\$5,143,700	\$5,143,700	Yes
FY 2022	UT	\$5,146,539	\$5,146,539	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.

The Hatch Act of 1887 (Multistate Research Fund)				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required ²	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	UT	\$1,152,093	\$1,232,138	Yes
FY 2019	UT	\$1,232,780	\$1,313,117	Yes
FY 2020	UT	\$1,230,421	\$1,313,117	Yes
FY 2021	UT	\$1,231,696	\$1,313,861	Yes
FY 2022	UT	\$1,238,701	\$1,319,157	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.

² Matching requirement for the Hatch Multistate Research fund is not a 1:1.

McIntire-Stennis Capacity Grant

The McIntire-Stennis Capacity Grant provides funding to states that are leading forestry research and training of forest scientists. These scientists conduct research on managing land dedicated to crops and timber; improving conditions of water flow; protecting against floods and erosion; and protecting forest lands against fire, insects, diseases, or other destructive agents. Recipients of this grant must provide a 100 percent match from a non-federal source or apply for and receive a waiver. Both 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions are eligible to receive this grant.^{viii}

TSU – McIntire-Stennis Capacity Grant				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	TSU	\$117,540	\$117,540	Yes
FY 2019	TSU	\$125,488	\$125,488	Yes
FY 2020	TSU	\$125,078	\$125,078	Yes
FY 2021	TSU	\$131,989	\$131,989	Yes
FY 2022	TSU	\$125,819	\$125,819	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by Tennessee State University.

UT – McIntire-Stennis Capacity Grant				
		Federal Appropriation	Matching Funds Required	Match Met by Direct State Allocation
FY 2018	UT	\$666,060	\$666,060	Yes
FY 2019	UT	\$711,098	\$711,098	Yes
FY 2020	UT	\$708,779	\$708,799	Yes
FY 2021	UT	\$747,940	\$747,940	Yes
FY 2022	UT	\$712,976	\$712,976	Yes

Source: United States Department of Agriculture, verified by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture.

Current Funding of Land-Grant Institutions & Units

The state of Tennessee directly allocates funds to the units below which house each of the land-grant capacity funds requiring non-federal match funds.

State Appropriations					
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
UT Ag. Experiment Station	\$29,048,400	\$30,435,300	\$31,092,900	\$31,160,800	\$32,488,900
UT Ag. Extension Service	\$35,590,500	\$37,509,700	\$38,276,100	\$38,428,800	\$42,280,600
UT Total	\$64,638,900	\$67,945,000	\$69,369,000	\$69,589,600	\$74,769,500
TSU Institute of Ag. and Environmental Research	\$3,541,700	\$3,613,700	\$4,771,800	\$4,771,600	\$4,858,100
TSU Cooperative Extension	\$3,510,100	\$3,610,200	\$3,703,500	\$3,705,200	\$5,865,100
TSU McIntire-Stennis Forestry Research	\$193,300	\$196,200	\$198,900	\$198,900	\$207,800
TSU Total	\$7,245,100	\$7,420,100	\$8,674,200	\$8,675,700	\$10,931,000
Total Land-Grant Funding	\$71,884,000	\$75,365,100	\$78,043,200	\$78,265,300	\$85,700,500

Endnotes

ⁱ Land-grant university FAQ. (n.d.). The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). Retrieved from <http://www.aplu.org/about-us/history-of-aplu/what-is-a-land-grant-university/>

ⁱⁱ Capacity grants. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/capacity-grants>

ⁱⁱⁱ Agricultural extension programs at 1890 institutions. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/agricultural-extension-programs-1890-institutions>

^{iv} Agricultural research at 1890 land-grant institutions. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/agricultural-research-1890-land-grant-institutions>

^v Smith-Lever Act capacity grant. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/smith-lever-act-capacity-grant>

^{vi} The Hatch Act of 1887. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/hatch-act-1887>

^{vii} The Hatch Act of 1887 (multistate research fund). (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/hatch-act-1887-multistate-research-fund>

^{viii} McIntire-Stennis capacity grant. (n.d.). United State Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/mcintire-stennis-capacity-grant>