

## House Agriculture Appropriations Funding Levels for FY 2020

On June 4, the House Committee on Appropriations [approved](#) its Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 agriculture appropriations bill, [H.R. 3164](#). The bill is expected to move to the House floor in a “minibus” package of appropriations bills, [H.R. 3055](#), during the week of June 17. A summary of the House agriculture appropriations bill is outlined in the table below. The agriculture appropriations bill is one of 12 appropriations (spending) bills that Congress must pass by September 30 of each fiscal year to keep government programs funded.

Program(s)/Topics	House FY 2020 Agriculture Appropriations Bill	Comparison to Enacted FY 2019 Appropriations
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	<p>\$71.1 billion in mandatory spending, including \$5 billion in reserve to cover any unexpected costs.</p> <p>Directs USDA to research and report ways states can best serve people transitioning out of incarceration, including through pre-release applications for SNAP and employment and training program, with particular attention to states that ameliorate the federal lifetime bar on SNAP for those with felony drug convictions.</p> <p>Directs USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to make college student SNAP eligibility information on its website easier to understand and more accessible; directs FNS to collect and disseminate information about existing SNAP flexibilities and approaches state SNAP agencies are taking to help eligible college students access SNAP benefits; and encourages USDA to work with the Department of Education to share the best practices with higher education institutions.</p> <p>Requires further rulemaking prior to USDA implementation of changes in definitions of “variety” and “staple food” for SNAP authorized retailer purposes.</p> <p>Directs USDA to report on steps it will take to better coordinate nutrition education, utilize experts from the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion in the Dietary Guidelines development, and track program effectiveness across five main nutrition education programs.</p>	<p>\$73.5 billion was provided in FY 2019, including \$3 billion in contingency reserve. The decrease in overall funding for FY 2020 is due to declining enrollment.</p>
Child Nutrition programs, mandatory funding	\$24 billion in mandatory funding, including \$552 million for Summer Food Programs	This is \$873 million above the FY 2019 enacted level.

<p>Child Nutrition programs, mandatory funding <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Directs USDA to publish data on the compliance of school food authorities on the nutritional requirements under the law, including total number of school food authorities in each state, the number of school food authorities in compliance with the requirements, and the percentage of school food authorities in compliance with the requirements by state.</p> <p>Of the \$16.5 million made available for Team Nutrition, the bill provides \$1 million for technical assistance to help schools to meet the sodium-reduction targets and requests a report on the use of the fund. Also requests information on USDA’s plans to update the sodium-reduction targets consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommendations on sodium. Strongly encourages USDA to work with industry and other stakeholders to ensure that there are a wide variety of lower-sodium options on the market from which schools can procure.</p> <p>Encourages USDA, in collaboration with U.S. Department of Education, to develop best practices to ensure school schedules provide students adequate time to eat healthy school meals.</p> <p>Directs USDA FNS to include all territories, including those that receive block grants, in any studies it does on the Child Nutrition Programs.</p> <p>Urges USDA to consider implementing flexibilities in allowing schools to utilize leftover, compliant foods in a more efficient manner to address the issue of food waste.</p> <p>Encourages Secretary of USDA to continue evaluating how strained, high protein yogurt is credited based on the best available science and requests a briefing from USDA to better understand food crediting in the Child Nutrition programs, particularly how decisions are made regarding products containing high protein.</p> <p>Urges any in-person trainings for school food service personnel to be held during normal working hours and in the event such a training is scheduled outside working hours, all efforts should be made to inform food service personnel of the necessity of the training.</p>	
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<p>Child nutrition programs, discretionary* funding</p>	<p>\$35 million for school meals equipment grants, \$50 million for the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) for Children Demonstration, and \$10 million for school breakfast expansion grants. (This is the first time since 2012 that the school breakfast expansion grants program has been funded.)</p> <p>Provides increased funding for Summer EBT to serve more children and directs USDA to expand the Summer EBT program into new areas while also continuing to serve areas that have received such funding in prior years. Also encourages Secretary of USDA to prioritize Summer EBT projects through the SNAP model versus the WIC model.</p>	<p>\$30 million was provided for equipment grants and \$28 million was provided for Summer EBT in FY 2019.</p>
<p>Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)</p>	<p>\$6 billion in discretionary funding, including \$90 million for breastfeeding peer counselors and \$14 million for infrastructure. The House bill rescinds \$800 million of unobligated funding for WIC.</p> <p>Directs USDA FNS to continue making all policy documents related to WIC publicly available within one week of their release to WIC state administrators.</p> <p>Urges USDA FNS to reach out to stakeholders and requests a briefing on how the proposed realignment of state WIC agencies within FNS regional offices is proceeding and how state and Indian Tribal Organizations' concerns are being addressed.</p> <p>Directs USDA FNS to review the work of state agencies who have received bonus awards for their successful efforts in promoting and supporting breastfeeding among WIC participants to look for commonalities and trends and then develop a report summarizing these best practices—including a summary of the factors that prevent or impede breastfeeding and recommendations on how they can be addressed.</p> <p>Encourages USDA to continue its education and outreach efforts through WIC to provide pregnant women with the information they need to prevent Zika.</p>	<p>\$6.075 billion was appropriated for WIC in FY 2019, including \$60 million for breastfeeding peer counselors and \$19 million for infrastructure. Due to large carryover balances and declining enrollment, the proposed FY 2020 level and rescission is anticipated to have no impact on program participation.</p>
<p>Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)</p>	<p>\$3.8 billion in mandatory funding</p>	<p>Consistent with FY 2019 Appropriations</p>

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)	\$245 million in discretionary funding	\$222.9 million was provided for CSFP in FY 2019.
The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	<p>\$320.8 million in mandatory funding for TEFAP commodities, plus \$79.6 million in discretionary funding for administrative funding (storage and transportation)</p> <p>Bill also permits states to use up to 15 percent of the funds provided for purchasing TEFAP commodities to help with the costs of storing, transporting, and distributing commodities.</p>	\$294.5 million in mandatory funding was provided for commodities in FY 2019. Admin funding is consistent with FY 2019 levels.
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)	<p>\$153 million (included in the total funding level for SNAP)</p> <p>The bill also provides \$3 million for the 638 Tribal Self Governance Demonstration Program for Tribal Organizations as described in the 2018 Farm Bill. Additionally, encourages USDA Secretary to review Department-wide nutrition programs, with the full participation of Indian tribes and tribal organizations, to consider ways in which more Native foods can be incorporated into these programs where possible and the possibility of allowing tribes to provide input into federal nutrition guidance that reflects unique Indian tribal needs.</p>	\$153 million was provided in FY 2019.
WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)	\$18.5 million in discretionary funding	Consistent with FY 2019 Appropriations
Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)	<p>\$20.6 million in mandatory funding</p> <p>Encourages USDA to improve eligible participants' awareness of SFMNP through education and outreach.</p> <p>Directs USDA to research and report to Congress on backlog of states requesting SFMNP funding.</p>	Consistent with FY 2019 Appropriations
<p>Puerto Rico's Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP)**</p> <p><i>** NAP is Puerto Rico's block granted version of SNAP</i></p>	<p>\$1.96 billion (included in the total funding level for SNAP)</p> <p>Directs USDA Secretary to post to the department website information regarding monthly enrollment, issuance data, and Puerto Rico's Plan of Operations for NAP. Directs USDA Secretary, acting through the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, to measure the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in Puerto Rico. Provides USDA with \$7 million to develop a report to Congress updating prior research on the feasibility of implementing SNAP in Puerto Rico and to support a preliminary planning process for implementation.</p>	\$1.97 billion was provided in FY 2019 through H.J.Res.31, with an additional \$600 million in disaster relief funding provided to NAP through H.R. 2157.

Cross-government Coordination on Nutrition	Calls on USDA to lead a “whole government approach” and report on agencies’ responsibilities and coordination	N/A
Congressional Hunger Center Fellows Program	\$2 million	Consistent with FY 2019 Appropriations
“Food for Peace”, P.L. 83-480 grants (international)	\$1.85 billion	\$1.5 billion was provided in FY 2019
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (international)	\$235 million	\$210.3 million was provided in FY 2019
Prohibiting USDA’s proposed relocation of Economic Research Service (ERS) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)	Language included to prohibit the use of funds to relocate ERS and NIFA outside the National Capital Region.	N/A

\* Discretionary funding is subject to annual appropriations

**Resources:**

- House FY 2020 agriculture appropriations:
  - [Committee summary](#) of agriculture appropriations bill
  - [H.R. 3164](#) - Making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.
  - [H. Rept. 116-107](#) (Report to accompany H.R. 3164)
  - [Rules Committee Print 116-18: Text of H.R. 3055](#) - Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2020
- Enacted FY 2019 appropriations bill report (to accompany H.J.Res.31): [H. Rept. 116-9](#)

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