



FACT SHEET

NUTRITION SECURITY

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) supports nutrition security -- having physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Promoting nutrition security is a critical ingredient to recovering from the pandemic, rebuilding the rural economy, addressing the impacts of climate change, and ensuring racial justice and equity.

During fiscal year 2021, NIFA estimates it will invest more than \$122.1 million to promote nutrition security through five primary programs: Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP); Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP); Community Food Projects (CFP); Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program (FASLP); and Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) competitive grants program -- Diet, Nutrition and the Prevention of Chronic Diseases. NIFA supports 17 additional programs that also promote nutrition security.

NUTRITION SECURITY PRIORITIES

- **Supporting Innovative Inter- and Trans-Disciplinary Solutions to Promote Healthy Eating Patterns and Lifestyle Behaviors:** NIFA aims to support projects that tackle the “whole picture” regarding underlying factors and most promising strategies to promote nutrition security.
- **Harnessing a Holistic Research Agenda, from Farm to Fork:** NIFA works along every link of the food chain to build a more sustainable, resilient, equitable and nourishing food systems including:
 - **PRODUCTION** (e.g., agroecology, community and home food gardening, urban agriculture, farmers’ markets)
 - **PREPARATION** (e.g., ensuring sufficient, safe, and nutritious food preparation in culturally, contextually, and economically sensitive ways including disaster preparedness)
 - **CONSUMPTION** (e.g., enabling positive and sustained healthy eating behavior to decrease the health and financial burden of diet-related non-communicable diseases and health disparities)
 - **INCREASING ACCESS TO AND IMPROVING** the nutritional quality of our federal nutrition safety net
 - **DISPOSAL** (e.g., limit food waste while ensuring food safety)

This work factors in food accessibility, availability, and affordability.

- **Integrating with Climate-Smart Agriculture:** NIFA aims to spark transformative discoveries, education, and engagement with the greatest potential to promote nutrition security while also fostering better integration with climate-smart agriculture.
- **Empowering individuals, families, and communities:** NIFA works to engage and empower individuals, families and communities to promote nutrition security, such as food sovereignty (a person’s right to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems).

LEARN MORE & APPLY FOR FUNDING

Join our NIFA Nutrition Security Webinar Series to learn more about our work and funding opportunities, visit: nifa.usda.gov/program/nifa-nutrition-security-webinar-series.