

# FDA FACT SHEET

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## ASSOCIATION PRODUCE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROGRAM

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### Program Description

- Provides funding to develop a national consortium to assist states and territories as they seek to establish or enhance their individual produce safety and regulatory programs reflective of the Produce Safety Rule.
- The consortium will facilitate long-term improvements to the national food safety system by providing consultation, information, and technical assistance to awardee states in support of their produce safety initiatives.
- The Association Produce cooperative agreement creates a community for states receiving this funding to exchange ideas and receive input from their colleagues, and provides enhancement services to review standardization of guidance and develop resources.

### Intended Outcomes

- Serve as a nationwide resource while working in partnership with state, local, tribal, and territorial entities to identify, share, and utilize data and research to improve the effectiveness of produce safety programs.
- Coordinate with state regulatory, food safety entities, and farming communities to develop tools and processes so that states may conduct on-farm advisory reviews.
- Foster a cooperative state, local, tribal, and territorial relationship which will leverage the expertise, knowledge, and enforcement authority of both federal and state regulatory staff, resulting in aligned, consistent, and successful on-farm regulatory programs for produce as envisioned by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and the FDA.

### Program Metrics:

- Current program funding: \$1.1M
- Current number of awards: 1
- Current partner: National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)

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