



PRODUCE SAFETY ASSOCIATION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT PROGRAM

Program Description

- Provides funding to assist the FDA in establishing, improving and implementing a comprehensive and nationally consistent system of support and accompanying resources for state and territorial produce safety regulatory programs that help or may help with implementation of FDA's Produce Safety Rule.
- The purpose of this support system and resources is to assist these agencies, in conjunction with the FDA, in advancing efforts for a nationally integrated food safety system through research, planning, establishment, and/or enhancement of state and territorial produce safety regulatory programs that encourage the safe production of fresh fruits and vegetables, understanding of the Produce Safety Rule, and compliance with the Produce Safety Rule's requirements.

Intended Outcomes

- In collaboration with the FDA, provide a system of support and related outputs that lead to national consistency in developing, implementing, and improving produce safety regulatory programs, with the goal of a nationally-aligned, consistent, and successful implementation of the Produce Safety Rule.
- Lead the planning and delivery of an annual National Produce Consortium meeting with all regulatory stakeholders involved in produce implementation. The consortium provides program updates, sharing best practices, and an opportunity for future developmental ideas.
- Coordinate, implement, and update the On-Farm Readiness Review system with the FDA and with partners from state and territorial produce safety programs.
- Assist the FDA in the development of national produce regulatory program standards that will establish and promote a uniform foundation for regulatory agencies responsible for oversight of produce.

Program Metrics

| Year | New Funds Awarded |
|------|-------------------|
| 2019 | \$1,300,000 |
| 2020 | \$1,300,000 |
| 2021 | \$157,062 |
| 2022 | \$1,299,637 |
| 2023 | \$1,300,000 |

- Current program funding: \$1.3M
- Current number of awards: 1
- Current partner: National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)