

FDA FACT SHEET

ASSOCIATION PRODUCE 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, with FDA participation and collaboration, the planning and delivery of an annual National Consortium meeting of all regulatory parties involved in produce implementation, for the purposes of providing program updates, sharing best practices, and providing FDA with feedback on opportunities for enhancements and future developmental ideas.
- Program Years 1 and 2: Coordinate, implement, and update the On-Farm Readiness Review system with the FDA and with partners from state and territorial produce safety programs.
- Program Years 3 to 5: Assist the FDA in the development of national produce safety regulatory program that will establish and promote a uniform foundation of produce safety, including research on existing programs and how they can be leveraged to develop a national produce safety regulatory program.

Program Metrics:

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

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The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, and products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products