

retary determines institution or State is not entitled to allotment under this chapter.

**§ 3315. Auditing, reporting, bookkeeping, and administrative requirements**

**(a) In general**

Except as provided elsewhere in this Act or any other Act of Congress—

(1) assistance provided under this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of sections 3157(e), 3157(f), and 3157(h)<sup>1</sup> of this title;

(2) the Secretary shall provide that each recipient of assistance under this chapter shall submit an annual report, at such times and on such forms as the Secretary shall prescribe, stating the accomplishments of projects (on a project-by-project basis) for which such assistance was used and accounting for the use of all such assistance. If the Secretary determines that any portion of funds made available under this chapter has been lost or applied in a manner inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter or regulations issued thereunder the recipient of such funds shall reimburse the Federal Government for the funds lost or so applied, and the Secretary shall not make available to such recipient any additional funds under this Act until the recipient has so reimbursed the Federal Government;

(3) the Secretary may retain up to 4 percent of amounts made available for agricultural research, extension, and teaching assistance programs for the administration of those programs authorized under this Act or any other Act; and

(4) the Secretary shall establish appropriate criteria for grant and assistance approval and necessary regulations pertaining thereto.

**(b) Agreements with former agricultural research facilities of the department**

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary, for purposes of supporting ongoing research and information dissemination activities, including supporting research and those activities through co-locating scientists and other technical personnel, sharing of laboratory and field equipment, and providing financial support, shall enter into grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or other legal instruments with former Department of Agriculture agricultural research facilities.

**(c) Community food projects**

The Secretary may retain, for the administration of community food projects under section 2034 of this title, 4 percent of amounts available for the projects, notwithstanding the availability of any appropriation for administrative expenses of the projects.

**(d) Peer panel expenses**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law regarding a competitive research, education, or extension grant program of the Department of Agriculture, the Secretary may use grant program funds, as necessary, to supplement funds otherwise available for program administration, to pay for the costs associated with peer review of grant proposals under the program.

**(e) “In-kind support” defined**

In any law relating to agricultural research, education, or extension activities administered by the Secretary, the term “in-kind support”, with regard to a requirement that the recipient of funds provided by the Secretary match all or part of the amount of the funds, means contributions such as office space, equipment, and staff support.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, § 1469, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 1019; Pub. L. 105-185, title II, § 230(b), June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 547; Pub. L. 110-234, title IV, § 4002(b)(1)(B), (2)(H), title VII, § 7132(b), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1096, 1097, 1228; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title IV, § 4002(b)(1)(B), (2)(H), title VII, § 7132(b), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1857, 1858, 1989; Pub. L. 113-79, title VII, § 7121, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 876.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of “this chapter”, referred to in subsec. (a), see note set out under section 3102 of this title.

Sections 3157(e), 3157(f), and 3157(h) of this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), were redesignated as sections 3157(f), 3157(g), and 3157(i), respectively, by Pub. L. 101-624, title XIV, § 1497(1), Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3630.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsecs. (b) to (e). Pub. L. 113-79 added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsecs. (b) to (d) as (c) to (e), respectively.

2008—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 110-246, § 7132(b), substituted “made available” for “appropriated”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-246, § 4002(b)(1)(B), (2)(H), made technical amendment to reference in original act which appears in text as reference to section 2034 of this title.

1998—Pub. L. 105-185, § 230(b)(1), reenacted section catchline without change, designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), and inserted heading.

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 105-185, § 230(b)(2), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3) which read as follows: “three per centum of the appropriations shall be retained by the Secretary for the administration of the programs authorized under this chapter; and”.

Subsecs. (b) to (d). Pub. L. 105-185, § 230(b)(3), added subsecs. (b) to (d).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 4002(b)(1)(B), (2)(H) of Pub. L. 110-246 effective Oct. 1, 2008, see section 4407 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 1161 of Title 2, The Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 1901 of Pub. L. 95-113, set out as an Effective Date of 1977 Amendment note under section 1307 of this title.

**§ 3315a. Availability of competitive grant funds**

Except as otherwise provided by law, funds made available to the Secretary to carry out a competitive agricultural research, education, or

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

extension grant program under this or any other Act shall be available for obligation for a 2-year period beginning on October 1 of the fiscal year for which the funds are made available.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, §1469A, as added Pub. L. 107-171, title VII, §7217, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 449.)

### § 3316. Rules and regulations

The Secretary is authorized to issue such rules and regulations as the Secretary deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, §1470, Sept. 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 1019.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of “this chapter”, referred to in text, see note set out under section 3102 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1977, see section 1901 of Pub. L. 95-113, set out as an Effective Date of 1977 Amendment note under section 1307 of this title.

### § 3317. Program evaluation studies

(a) The Secretary shall regularly conduct program evaluations to meet the purposes of this chapter and the responsibilities assigned to the Secretary and the Department of Agriculture in this chapter. Such evaluations shall be designed to provide information that may be used to improve the administration and effectiveness of agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs in achieving their stated objectives.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to encourage and foster the regular evaluation of agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs within the State agricultural experiment stations, cooperative extension services, and colleges and universities, through the development and support of cooperative evaluation programs and program evaluation centers and institutes.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, §1471, as added Pub. L. 97-98, title XIV, §1439(a), Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1314.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of “this chapter”, referred to in subsec. (a), see note set out under section 3102 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Dec. 22, 1981, see section 1801 of Pub. L. 97-98, set out as a note under section 4301 of this title.

### § 3318. Contract, grant, and cooperative agreement authorities

#### (a) Purposes, nature and construction

The purpose of this section is to confer upon the Secretary general authority to enter into contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements to further the research, extension, or teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences of the Department of Agriculture. This authority supplements all other laws relating to the Department of Agriculture and is not to be construed as limiting or repealing any existing authorities.

#### (b) Authority of Secretary; legal effect of agreement; participation by other Federal agencies

(1) Notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, the Secretary may use a cooperative agreement as the legal instrument reflecting a relationship between the Secretary and a State cooperative institution, State department of agriculture, college, university, other research or educational institution or organization, Federal or private agency or organization, individual, or any other party, if the Secretary determines that—

(A) the objectives of the agreement will serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in agricultural research, extension, and teaching activities, including statistical reporting; and

(B) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of those objectives.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal agency may participate in any such cooperative agreement by contributing funds through the appropriate agency of the Department of Agriculture or otherwise if it is mutually agreed that the objectives of the agreement will further the authorized programs of the contributing agency.

#### (c) Duration and eligibility

The Secretary may enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, for periods not to exceed five years, with State agricultural experiment stations, State cooperative extension services, all colleges and universities, other research or education institutions and organizations, Federal and private agencies and organizations, individuals, and any other contractor or recipient, either foreign or domestic, to further research, extension, or teaching programs in the food and agricultural sciences of the Department of Agriculture.

#### (d) Vesting of title

The Secretary may vest title to expendable and nonexpendable equipment and supplies and other tangible personal property in the contractor or recipient when the contractor or recipient purchases such equipment, supplies, and property with contract, grant, or cooperative agreement funds and the Secretary deems such vesting of title a furtherance of the agricultural research, extension, or teaching objectives of the Department of Agriculture.

#### (e) Applicable requirements

Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, the Secretary may enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, as authorized by this section, without regard to any requirements for competition, the provisions of section 6101 of title 41, and the provisions of section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31.

(Pub. L. 95-113, title XIV, §1472, as added Pub. L. 97-98, title XIV, §1439(a), Dec. 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1315; amended Pub. L. 99-198, title XIV, §1424, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1552.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

For definition of “this chapter”, referred to in subsec. (e), see note set out under section 3102 of this title.