

(c) Grant amount

A grant awarded under subsection (b) may be in an amount equal to—

- (1) not less than \$500,000; and
- (2) not more than \$2,000,000.

(d) Use of funds

(1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2), funds from a grant awarded under subsection (b) may be used—

- (A) to construct, purchase, or equip a building to serve as an innovation center;
- (B) to support programs to be carried out at, or in direct partnership with, the jobs accelerator that support the objectives of the jobs accelerator, including—
 - (i) linking rural communities and entrepreneurs to markets, networks, industry clusters, and other regional opportunities to support high-wage job creation, new business formation, business expansion, and economic growth;
 - (ii) integrating small businesses into a supply chain;
 - (iii) creating or expanding commercialization activities for new business formation;
 - (iv) identifying and building assets in rural communities that are crucial to supporting regional economies;
 - (v) facilitating the repatriation of high-wage jobs to the United States;
 - (vi) supporting the deployment of innovative processes, technologies, and products;
 - (vii) enhancing the capacity of small businesses in regional industry clusters, including small and disadvantaged businesses;
 - (viii) increasing United States exports and business interaction with international buyers and suppliers;
 - (ix) developing the skills and expertise of local workforces, entrepreneurs, and institutional partners to meet the needs of employers and prepare workers for high-wage jobs in the identified industry clusters, including the upskilling of incumbent workers;
 - (x) ensuring rural communities have the capacity and ability to carry out projects relating to housing, community facilities, infrastructure, or community and economic development to support regional industry cluster growth; or
 - (xi) any other activities that the Secretary may determine to be appropriate.

(2) Requirement

(A) In general

Subject to subparagraph (B), not more than 10 percent of a grant awarded under subsection (b) shall be used for indirect costs associated with administering the grant.

(B) Increase

The Secretary may increase the percentage described in subparagraph (A) on a case-by-case basis.

(e) Annual activity report and evaluation

Not later than 1 year after receiving a grant under this section, and annually thereafter for

the duration of the grant, an eligible entity shall—

- (1) report to the Secretary on the activities funded with the grant; and
- (2)(A) evaluate the progress that the eligible entity has made toward the strategic objectives identified in the application for the grant; and
- (B) measure that progress using performance measures during the project period, which may include—
 - (i) high-wage jobs created;
 - (ii) high-wage jobs retained;
 - (iii) private investment leveraged;
 - (iv) businesses improved;
 - (v) new business formations;
 - (vi) new products or services commercialized;
 - (vii) improvement of the value of existing products or services under development;
 - (viii) regional collaboration, as measured by such metrics as—
 - (I) the number of organizations actively engaged in the industry cluster;
 - (II) the number of symposia held by the industry cluster, including organizations that are not located in the immediate region defined by the partnership; and
 - (III) the number of further cooperative agreements;
 - (ix) the number of education and training activities relating to innovation;
 - (x) the number of jobs relocated from outside of the United States to the region;
 - (xi) the amount and number of new equity investments in industry cluster firms;
 - (xii) the amount and number of new loans to industry cluster firms;
 - (xiii) the dollar increase in exports resulting from the project activities;
 - (xiv) the percentage of employees for which training was provided;
 - (xv) improvement in sales of participating businesses;
 - (xvi) improvement in wages paid at participating businesses;
 - (xvii) improvement in income of participating workers; or
 - (xviii) any other measure the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.

(Pub. L. 87-128, title III, §379I, as added Pub. L. 115-334, title VI, §6424, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4765.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(B)(ii)(III)(bb), is act May 20, 1936, ch. 432, 49 Stat. 1363. Title VI of the Act is classified generally to subchapter VI (§950bb et seq.) of chapter 31 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 901 of this title and Tables.

§ 2008x. Reporting

(a) Definition of farm loan

In this section, the term “farm loan” means—

(1) a farm ownership loan under subtitle A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.); and

(2) an operating loan under subtitle B of that Act (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.).

(b) Reports

(1) Preparation

For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall prepare a report that includes—

(A) aggregate data based on a review of each outstanding farm loan made or guaranteed by the Secretary describing, for the United States and for each State and county in the United States—

- (i) the age of the recipient producer;
- (ii) the duration that the recipient producer has engaged in agricultural production;
- (iii) the size of the farm or ranch of the recipient producer;
- (iv) the race, ethnicity, and gender of the recipient producer;
- (v) the agricultural commodity or commodities, or type of enterprise, for which the loan was secured;
- (vi) the amount of the farm loan made or guaranteed;
- (vii) the type of the farm loan made or guaranteed; and
- (viii) the default rate of the farm loan made or guaranteed;

(B) for each State and county in the United States, data demonstrating the number of outstanding farm loans made or guaranteed, according to loan size cohort; and

(C) an assessment of actual loans made or guaranteed as measured against target participation rates for beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers, broken down by State, as described in sections 346(b)(2) and 355 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1994(b)(2), 2003).

(2) Submission of report

The report described in paragraph (1) shall be—

- (A) submitted—
 - (i) to—
 - (I) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;
 - (II) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;
 - (III) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate; and
 - (IV) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and
 - (ii) not later than December 30, 2019, and annually thereafter; and

(B) made publicly available not later than 90 days after the date described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

(c) Comprehensive review

(1) In general

Not later than 4 years after December 20, 2018 (and every 5 years thereafter), the Secretary shall—

(A) prepare a comprehensive review of all reports submitted under subsection (b)(2);

(B) identify trends within data outlined in subsection (b)(1), including the extent to which target annual participation rates for beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers (as defined by the Secretary) are being met for each loan type; and

(C) provide specific actions the Department will take to improve the performance of direct and guaranteed loans with respect to underserved producers and any recommendations the Secretary may make for further congressional action.

(2) Submission of comprehensive review

The comprehensive review described in paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) submitted to—

- (i) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;
- (ii) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;
- (iii) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate; and
- (iv) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) made publicly available not later than 90 days after the date of submission under subparagraph (A).

(d) Privacy

In preparing any report or review under this section, the Secretary shall aggregate or de-identify the data in a manner sufficient to ensure that the identity of a recipient producer associated with the data cannot be ascertained.

(Pub. L. 115-334, title V, §5413, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4722.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is title III of Pub. L. 87-128, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307. Subtitles A and B of the Act are classified generally to subchapters I (§1922 et seq.) and II (§1941 et seq.), respectively, of this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, and not as part of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act which comprises this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITION OF “SECRETARY”

“Secretary” as meaning the Secretary of Agriculture, see section 2 of Pub. L. 115-344, set out as a note under section 9001 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER V—RURAL COMMUNITY
ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

§ 2009. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) State

The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Is-