

**FISCAL YEAR 2024 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS  
TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**



**Appropriations Bill: AGRICULTURE**

**Agency: NIFA and Rural Development**

AUTHORIZATION/TCU PROGRAM	FY 2021 ENACTED	FY 2022 ENACTED	FY 2023 ENACTED	FY 2024 AIHEC REQUEST
<b>Equity in Educational Land Grant Status Act [7 USC 301 note]</b>				
1994 Institutions Extension Program (NIFA)	\$8,500,000	\$9,500,000	\$11,000,000	<b>\$17,500,000</b>
1994 Institutions Research Program (NIFA)	\$4,000,000	\$4,500,000	\$5,000,000	<b>\$17,500,000</b>
1994 Institutions Equity Payment (NIFA)	\$4,500,000	\$5,500,000	\$7,000,000	<b>\$17,500,000</b>
Native American Endowment Payment (NIFA) *annual corpus payment (only annual interest distributed as payment)	\$11,880,000* (FY 2020 interest disbursement = \$5M)	\$11,880,000 (FY 2022 interest disbursement = \$4.8M)	\$11,880,000 (FY 2022 interest disbursement = \$4.8M)	<b>\$17,000,000*</b> Annual corpus payment (FY 2022 interest disbursement = \$4.8M)
<b>Consolidated Farm &amp; Rural Development Act [7 USC 1926(a)]</b>				
TCU Broadband Service Fund	--	--	--	<b>\$40,000,000</b>
TCU Essential Community Facilities	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	<b>\$20,000,000</b>
<b>Smith-Lever Act [7 USC 341 et seq.]</b>				
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program (FRTEP)	\$3,200,000	\$3,500,000	\$4,305,000	<b>\$7,700,000</b>

**Inequality among Land Grant Institutions:** The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act created the “1994 land-grants” nearly 25 years ago. Since then, funding for the 1994 land-grant programs has remained inadequate to address growing agricultural needs and opportunities in Indian Country. Stark inequities in federal funding and resources exist in the land-grant system. The first Americans, last to join the nation’s land-grant family, deserve parity.

**TCU Broadband Service Fund:** The ongoing pandemic has exacerbated the digital divide and underscored the lack of broadband access across Indian Country. To address these deficiencies that could leave Indian Country – and AI/AN students—behind the rest of the U.S. for generations, Congress must act to establish a permanent TCU IT Service Fund within the USDA-Rural Utilities Service Program. An annual \$40 million set-aside for TCUs, which are the 1994 land-grant institutions served by USDA, would help cover rapidly increasing network connectivity and equipment costs, maintenance, infrastructure expansion, and IT staffing.

