

FFAR and the 2018 Farm Bill

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research appreciates the interest of the food and agriculture community in the legislative future of FFAR. We look forward to continuing to work together to address critical food and agriculture challenges through innovative and collaborative research.

How will the next Farm Bill impact FFAR?

The key to the Foundation's success has been its Congressional funding and matching requirement, which together serve as a magnet for co-funders. To date, FFAR has leveraged \$105 million in non-Federal funds to match \$84 million in FFAR funds awarded. Continuation of this successful model depends upon additional Congressional investment in the next Farm Bill.

The scope of the Foundation's future research investments and breadth of food and agriculture challenges that FFAR addresses in the next few years will depend on whether or not, and at what level, FFAR is funded in the next Farm Bill.

FFAR is committed to becoming a lasting component of the food and agriculture research enterprise and the organization is planning for many possible scenarios and potential ways in which the organization can continue to support innovative science addressing today's food and agriculture challenges.

Potential future funding of FFAR was discussed at the Senate Agriculture Committee hearing "[Agricultural Research: Perspectives on Past and Future Successes of the 2018 Farm Bill](#)" held on June 15, 2017, in which FFAR Executive Director Dr. Sally Rockey testified on the success of the FFAR model and the importance of food and agriculture research. [Read Dr. Rockey's full written testimony here.](#)

Does FFAR need to be reauthorized to continue?

No, FFAR is an independent, 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization committed to existing in perpetuity. However, the FFAR model "as we know it" will not continue without additional funding from Congress and continuation of the Foundation's legislative statute requiring that all funding provided to FFAR by Congress be matched with equal or greater non-Federal funds.

Will my current FFAR grant or pending grant be affected by the 2018 Farm Bill?

No, all FFAR grant programs, whether open for applications, under review, or awarded, are within the Foundation's current budget. No grant program will be launched without committed funding for completion of all grants awarded.

Will future opportunities for funding be affected by the 2018 Farm Bill?

Yes. With a critical mission to support the food and agriculture system, the Foundation is continually working toward long-term organizational sustainability. However, the dynamic pace of program development and grant making demonstrated in 2017 and early 2018 will not be replicable without continued Congressional funding.

What is the legislative history of FFAR?

FFAR was established as part of the Farm Bill passed in 2014 and was championed by Senator Debbie Stabenow, then Majority Leader of the [Senate Agriculture Committee](#), and Senator Pat Roberts, then Ranking Member of the Committee, with broad support from many individuals and organizations.

Questions? Please contact Madeleine O'Connor, Director of Communications & Legislative Affairs: moconnor@foundationfar.org or 202.624.0704.