

2026 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES - OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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PREFACE

This publication summarizes the fiscal year (FY) 2026 Budget for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Throughout this publication any reference to the “Budget” is in regard to the 2026 Budget, unless otherwise noted. All references to years refer to fiscal year, except where specifically noted. The budgetary tables throughout this document show actual amounts for 2023 and 2024, Full-Year Continuing Resolution levels for 2025, and the President’s Budget request for 2026. Amounts for 2025 estimated levels include: non-enacted amounts such as Full-Time Equivalent levels, fleet levels, information technology investment levels, recovery levels, transfers in and out, balances available end of year, and obligation levels.

Throughout this publication, the “2018 Farm Bill” is used to refer to the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. Most programs funded by the 2018 Farm Bill are funded through 2025, as extended by the American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-158, Division D). Amounts shown in 2025 and 2026 for most Farm Bill programs reflect those confirmed in the baseline.

Pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, sequestration is included in the numbers for mandatory programs in 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

In tables throughout this document, amounts equal to zero (0) are displayed as dashes (-). Amounts less than 0.5 and greater than zero are rounded and shown as a zero (0). This display treatment is used to prevent the masking of non-zero amounts that do not round up to one (1).

AGENCY-WIDE**PURPOSE STATEMENT**

The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) provides overall leadership and coordination of programs in the Department to plan for and respond to major natural and terrorist emergencies and threats. OHS mitigates risk and safeguards USDA personnel, customers, assets, and information by leading Government-wide initiatives and championing USDA’s interests in homeland and national security. OHS is responsible for Departmental emergency operations, continuity of operations, training and exercises, security clearances, classified information, safety of ionizing radiation, intelligence, and coordinating all homeland and national security policy, planning, and preparedness activities for USDA.

The general authority of the OHS for managing all activities relating to homeland security is contained in 7 U.S.C. 6922 with additional details codified in 7 CFR 2.95. Additionally, OHS activities and funding support the National Security Memorandum (NSM)-16: National Security Memorandum on Strengthening the Security and Resilience of United States Food and Agriculture; the NSM-15: Countering Biological Threats, Enhancing Pandemic Preparedness, and Achieving Global Health Security; and NSM-22: Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience to protect the critical investments in U.S. infrastructure in the face of threats from our adversaries, , strategic competition, and supply chain disruptions.

OHS is headquartered in Washington, D.C. As of September 30, 2024, there were 53 full-time permanent employees, which includes 19 Working Capital Fund staff.

AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FTEs**Table OHS-1. Available Funds and FTEs (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023		2024		2025		2026	
	Actual	FTEs	Actual	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs
Discretionary Appropriations:								
Office of Homeland Security ...	\$1,396	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4
Lapsing Balances	-11	-	-7	-	-	-	-	-
Total Obligations, OHS.....	1,385	4	1,889	4	1,896	4	1,896	4
Other USDA:								
Radiation Safety.....	1,196	4	1,191	3	1,386	3	1,413	3
Personnel and Document								
Security.....	8,244	15	4,647	19	5,306	20	5,306	20
Security Operations.....	6,440	19	6,966	19	7,378	19	7,378	19
Other Reimbursable Programs	3,252	6	2,681	6	2,681	7	2,681	7
Total, Other USDA.....	19,132	44	15,485	47	16,751	49	16,778	49
Total, Agriculture Available	20,528	48	17,381	51	18,647	53	18,674	53
Total Available, OHS.....	20,528	48	17,381	51	18,647	53	18,674	53

* This table assumes a reduced 2026 FTE baseline due to 2025 voluntary staff separations and administrative cost efficiencies.

PERMANENT POSITIONS BY GRADE AND FTEs**Table OHS-2. Permanent Positions by Grade and FTEs**

Item	2023			2024			2025			2026		
	Actual		Total	Actual		Total	Estimated		Total	Estimated		Total
	HQ	Field		HQ	Field		HQ	Field		HQ	Field	
SES.....	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1
GS-15.....	6	1	7	6	-	6	6	-	6	6	-	6
GS-14.....	14	2	16	17	1	18	13	2	15	13	2	15
GS-13.....	6	3	9	10	1	11	11	1	12	11	1	12
GS-12.....	7	1	8	8	1	9	11	1	12	11	1	12
GS-11.....	2	1	3	6	1	7	5	1	6	5	1	6
GS-9	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GS-7	2	-	2	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1
Total Permanent	40	8	48	49	4	53	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Perm. FT												
EOY.....	40	8	48	49	4	53	48	5	53	48	5	53
FTE*.....	43	5	48	48	3	51	48	5	53	48	5	53

* This table assumes a reduced 2026 FTE baseline due to 2025 voluntary staff separations and administrative cost efficiencies.

SHARED FUNDING PROJECTS**Table OHS-3. Shared Funding Projects* (thousands of dollars)**

Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Working Capital Fund:				
Administrative Services:				
AskUSDA Contact Center	\$2	\$3	\$3	\$3
General Counsel Legal Compliance	-	-	1	7
Material Management Service Center	12	12	11	11
Mail and Reproduction Management Division.....	32	44	55	56
Integrated Procurement Systems	15	18	15	15
Personnel and Document Security Program	1	1	3	3
Procurement Operations Division	36	49	56	56
Human Resources Enterprise System Management.....	1	1	4	4
Subtotal	99	128	148	155
Finance and Management:				
National Finance Center.....	32	21	15	15
Financial Shared Services	92	102	81	81
Internal Control Support Service.....	-	13	11	11
Financial Management Support Services.....	181	201	214	216
Subtotal	305	337	321	323
Information Technology:				
Client Experience Center.....	522	451	456	497
Department Administration Information Tech. Office	200	323	371	371
Digital Infrastructure Services Center	58	114	51	51
Enterprise Cybersecurity Services	16	46	36	36
Enterprise Data and Analytics Services	17	65	65	65
Enterprise Network Services	40	87	61	63
Subtotal	853	1,086	1,040	1,083
Office of the Executive Secretariat	15	16	12	12
Total, Working Capital Fund	1,272	1,567	1,521	1,573
Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs:				
Advisory Committee Liaison Services	-	-	-	-
Agency Partnership Outreach	1	1	3	3
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility**	-	-	1	-
Employee Experience.....	1	1	1	1
Intertribal Technical Assistance Network.....	-	-	-	-
Medical Services	5	5	6	6
National Capital Region Interpreting Services	1	2	4	4
Office of Customer Experience.....	1	-	1	1
Physical Security	1	1	2	2
Security Detail.....	1	1	3	3
Security Operations	1	1	3	3
Talent Group.....	1	1	1	1
TARGET Center	-	-	1	1
Total, Department-Wide Reimbursable Programs	13	13	26	25
Agency Total	1,285	1,580	1,547	1,598

*This table is based on a preliminary 2026 estimate, which will be adjusted at a later date to reflect the Department's updated posture and footprint.

**In alignment with the current Administration's priorities, the 2025 amounts reflect expenses incurred prior to January 20, 2025.

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ACCOUNT 1: OFFICE HOMELAND SECURITY**APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE**

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored):

Office of the Secretary (Including Transfers of Funds)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$42,696,000 of which not to exceed \$6,000,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed \$1,896,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security; not to exceed \$5,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations; not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, of which \$1,500,000 shall be for 7 U.S.C. 2279(c)(5); not to exceed \$18,300,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$17,000,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Administration mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office; not to exceed \$3,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed \$5,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$22,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551-558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs shall be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT***Table OHS-4. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (In dollars)***

Item	Amount
Enacted, 2025	\$1,896,000
Change in Appropriation.....	-
Budget Estimate, 2026	<u>1,896,000</u>

PROJECT STATEMENTS**Table OHS-5. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

Item	2023		2024		2025		2026		FTE		
	Actual	FTEs	Actual	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	Inc. or Dec.	Chg Key
Discretionary Appropriations:											
Office of Homeland Security.....	\$1,396	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4	-	-	
Lapsing Balances	-11	-	-7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Obligations	1,385	4	1,889	4	1,896	4	1,896	4	-	-	

Table OHS-6. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2023		2024		2025		2026		FTE		
	Actual	FTEs	Actual	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	Inc. or Dec.	
Discretionary Obligations:											
Office of Homeland Security	\$1,385	4	\$1,889	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4	-	-	
Add back:											
Lapsing Balances	11	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Appropriation.....	1,396	4	1,896	4	1,896	4	1,896	4	-	-	

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES**Office of Homeland Security**

Base funding for the Office of Homeland Security provides leadership in national security through the development and execution of departmental policy, the support of emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and the coordination of threat mitigation activities to ensure a more resilient Department and Nation. OHS is a center of excellence for emergency management and homeland security known for leadership, innovation, and service for the benefit of USDA and stakeholders. This involves coordination with Mission Areas, Agencies and Office for policy formulation, response plans, reporting, as well as action assignments to meet acute and major threats to the Nation's food and agriculture systems and key USDA assets. It also involves activation of the USDA incident management system and the Federal Response Plan responsibilities in the event of a major incident; oversight of USDA nationwide policies and procedures related to homeland and national security; and coordination with the National Security Council, Department of Homeland Security and other Federal agencies, public and private organizations. OHS mitigates risk and safeguards USDA personnel, customers, assets, and information by leading Governmentwide initiatives and championing USDA's equities in homeland and national security. OHS is responsible for Departmental emergency operations, continuity of operations, training and exercises, security clearances, classified information, safety of ionizing radiation, and coordinating all homeland and national security policy, planning, and preparedness activities for USDA.

OHS has no justification of changes because allocations remained the same.

GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF OBLIGATIONS AND FTEs**Table OHS-7. Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and FTEs (thousands of dollars, FTEs)**

State/Territory/Country	2023		2024		2025		2026	
	Actual	FTEs	Actual	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs	Estimated	FTEs
District of Columbia	\$1,385	4	\$1,889	4	\$1,896	4	\$1,896	4
Obligations	1,385	4	1,889	4	1,896	4	1,896	4
Lapsing Balances	11	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Available	1,396	4	1,896	4	1,896	4	1,896	4

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS**Table OHS-8. Classification by Objects (thousands of dollars)**

Item No.	Item	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Estimated	2026 Estimated
Personnel Compensation:					
	Washington D.C.	\$553	\$664	654	654
11	Total personnel compensation.....	553	664	654	654
12	Personal benefits.....	194	218	234	234
13.0	Benefits for former personnel.....	-	-	14	14
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	747	882	902	902
Other Objects:					
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	15	22	23	23
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	3	2	5	5
	Communications, utilities, and misc.				
23.3	charges	21	13	15	15
24.0	Printing and reproduction	1	-	1	1
25.1	Advisory and assistance services.....	214	676	673	673
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources ..	2	11	14	14
	Other goods and services from Federal				
25.3	sources	356	-	59	59
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	-	276	196	196
25.5	Research and development contracts	2	1	2	2
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	16	4	5	5
31.0	Equipment	8	2	1	1
	Total, Other Objects	638	1,007	994	994
99.9	Total, new obligations	1,385	1,889	1,896	1,896
DHS Building Security Payments (included in 25.3)					
		\$9	\$8	\$8	\$8
Information Technology Investments:					
Major Investment 1					
Related Mission Area PPA #1					
11	Internal Labor.....	\$391	\$434	\$451	\$468
	External Labor (Contractors).....	1,266	782	620	634
	Total Major Investment 1	1,657	1,216	1,071	1,102
	Total IT Investments	1,657	1,216	1,071	1,102
Position Data:					
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position	\$199,000	\$208,000	\$224,000	\$231,000
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position.....	\$146,000	\$157,000	\$161,000	\$166,000

* This table assumes a reduced 2026 FTE baseline due to 2025 voluntary staff separations and administrative cost efficiencies.