

Extension and County Partnerships – A
Recipe for Success for over 100 Years

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Associate Director – County Operations

**VG Young School for County Commissioner Courts
February, 2023**



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**Legal Foundation for Land-Grant University
System**

- 1862 Morrill Act – Original Land Grant Legislation
- 1876 Hatch Act – Experiment Stations
- 1890 Morrill Act – Second Morrill Act, Historically African American Serving Institutions
- 1914 Smith-Lever Act – Cooperative Extension Service



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“The land grant university system is being
built on behalf of the people, who have
invested in these public universities their
hopes, their support, and their confidence.”

Abraham Lincoln, upon signing the Morrill Act, July 2, 1862

SERVING YOU TODAY

TRUSTED RESEARCH
LOCAL EDUCATORS...
EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
PROVIDING SOLUTIONS



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Member of The Texas A&M System

- Statewide Educational Agency
- Part of Nationwide Cooperative Extension System
- Partnership – Federal, State, and County Government
- Address Needs of Local Residents
- Specialist Support



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Legal Authority in Texas Texas Agriculture Code

Section 43.031

- The commissioners court of any county may establish and conduct cooperative demonstration work in agriculture and home economics in cooperation with Texas A&M University.



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Section 43.032

The demonstration work shall be conducted on terms and conditions agreed to by the commissioners court and the agents of Texas A&M University

Section 43.033

The commissioners court may employ any means and may appropriate and expend money as necessary to establish and conduct demonstration work under this subchapter.



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Role of County Extension Agent

- Local Resident Educator Serving Youth and Adult Audiences
- Work with planning groups to ensure relevance
- All County Agents have 4-H responsibility



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Extension's Role in the County

- We are **YOUR** Education Department
 - Resource for your employees
 - Resource for your constituents
 - Resource for **YOU**
- We have direct and immediate access to the best educational resources available



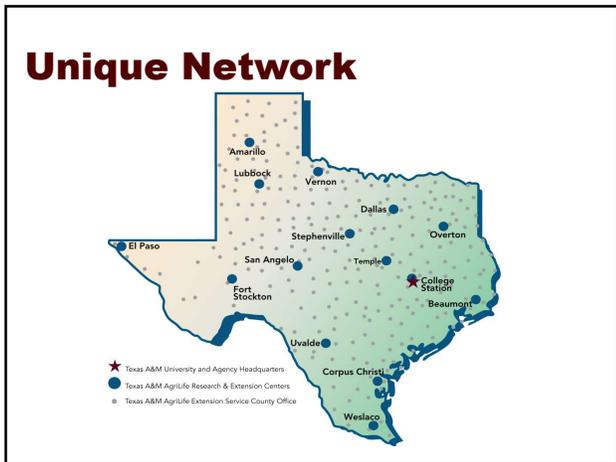
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Qualifications

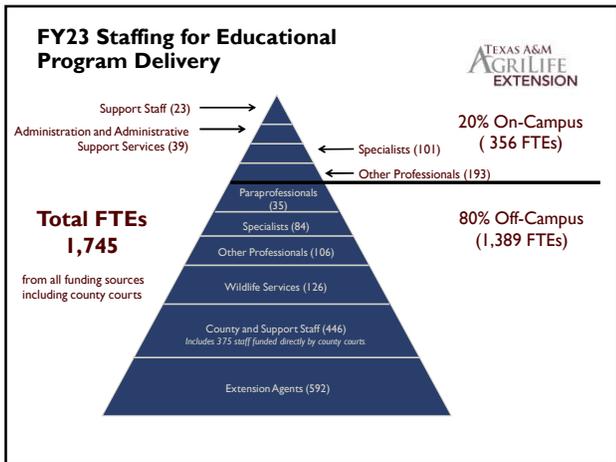
- Bachelors Degree Required
- Preferred Degree in Agriculture, Health, Family and Consumer Science or Youth Development field
- Masters Degree preferred
- Individual Job Description for Each Position
- Performance Evaluations annually with input from Court.



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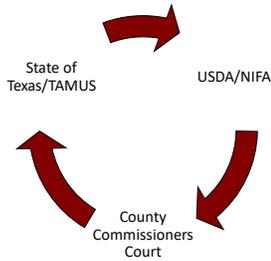


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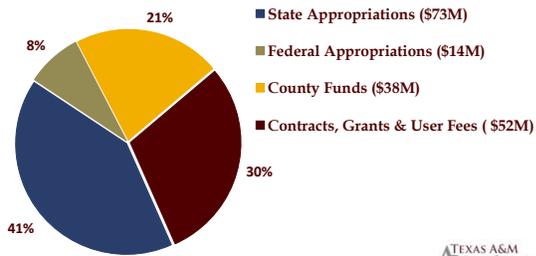
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Funding Source Partnerships



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Total Estimated Available Funds Fiscal Year 2023 \$177 million



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Historic Partner Responsibilities

Extension	County
General human resources oversight	Office space, utilities, and supplies
Training and professional development	Office support staff
Educational resources	Travel and mileage funding
Support of departments and specialists	Salary support for Agents
Salary support of Agents	Other operational needs



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Future of Extension

- Maintain/Expand the Network
- Base funding has been level or decreased for several years
 - Legislative Request 2023
 - Expanded funding sources
- Extension Strategic Plan - 2023
 - Resource Stewardship
 - STEM/Youth Education
 - Community Sustainability
 - Economic Strength
 - Healthy Living



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Future Program Priorities

- Emergency Management and Preparedness
- New Landowners
- Path to the Plate
- Healthy Texas
- 4-H Growth and Expansion



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Questions?

- **Thanks for your partnership and continued support of Extension.**



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