

Directive 119.1  
2/19/85

FEDERAL-STATE MARKETING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

I.  
PURPOSE

This Directive:

A. Outlines the procedures to be followed in fulfilling the requirements of the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (formerly known as the Matching Fund Program).

B. Assigns responsibilities relating to the Program.

II.  
AUTHORIZATION

The Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program is authorized under Section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, which states in part:

"The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make available from such sums as he may deem appropriate for allotment to State Departments of Agriculture, State Bureaus and Departments of Markets, State Agricultural Experiment Stations, and other appropriate State agencies for cooperative projects in marketing service and in marketing research to effectuate the purpose of Title 11 of this Act: Provided, that no such allotment and no payment under any such allotment shall be made for any fiscal year to any such State agency in excess of the amount which such State agency makes available out of its own funds for such research ... Such allotments shall be covered by cooperative agreements between the Secretary of Agriculture and the cooperating agency and shall include appropriate provisions for preventing duplication or overlapping of work within the State or States cooperating.

III.  
RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Administrator shall approve or deny Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program projects.

B. The Staff officer, Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program, shall:

1. Provide leadership and consulting services to States (including possessions participating in the Program) in the development and execution of marketing service projects.

2. Determine that a cooperative agreement is in existence between the participating State and the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

3. Review the cooperating State marketing service proposal to be financed by Federal-State funds, and ensure review is made by the appropriate commodity Division Director(s) and appropriate agencies within the Department.

4. Prepare written recommendations for funding in cooperation with the Director, Market Research and Development Division, to State requests for funding under the Program. Make recommendations to the Deputy Administrator, Marketing

Programs.

5. Prepare appropriate approval or denial responses to the requesting States at the direction of the Administrator.

6. Determine, in conjunction with each State, the frequency and amount of payments of grants authorized by the Administrator.

7. Inform Financial Management Division of all grants and provide payment requests to that Division.

8. Review approved project work in progress in States, as necessary. Such reviews require reports, telephone contacts, and onsite visits by the Staff Officer, by appropriate AMS commodity division employees, or by other appropriate Department employees with expertise in the project area. Oral reports shall be provided to the Staff Officer by reviewers. The Staff Officer shall take appropriate action when problems/discrepancies are found.

9. Advise AMS Division Directors alia others in the Department on progress of the projects.

10. Prepare information on the Program as needed for budget review, Congressional, or Department inquiries.

C. The Internal Control Office, Office of Deputy Administrator, Management, shall provide for review of internal controls exercised for a sampling of grants approved at least once every 2 years.

IV. Cooperative Agreement. A cooperative agreement between the participating States and AMS, the designated Agency for the purpose of this program, provides authorization for projects and allotment of funds on a matching basis.

Administrator

Distribution: G05

Responsible Office: TM

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