

Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Ag in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program (SPECA)

Stakeholder Feedback Collected for K-14 Programming:

This document highlights stakeholder feedback received during webinars, grant review panels, and project director's meetings for SPECA and during one-on-one in person, phone, and email communication with various stakeholders.

- Stakeholders consistently request increased funding for K-14 schools.
- Stakeholders request that K-14 schools be eligible for more NIFA program.
- Stakeholders request funding to use for K-14 infrastructure development (greenhouses, aquaponics, etc.)

NIFA Program Response:

- Requests sent forward for increased funding for K-14 programming. Budget for one program, AFRI-PD-STEP increased by 50% from 2017 to 2018.
- Webinars on program eligibility held. Resource developed highlighting programs for which K-14 schools are eligible.
- Information shared on programs in sister USDA agencies that provide funding for infrastructure (i.e. [USDA Rural Development – Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program](#)).