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# **USDA Announces the Release for the Implementation Plan for FY 2025 Plant Protection Act Section 7721 and National Clean Plant Network Program Projects**

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The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announces the release of the Implementation Plan for fiscal year (FY) 2025 Plant Protection Act Section 7721 (PPA7721) funding. The open period for submitting suggestions for the FY 2025 Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program (PPDMDPP) and National Clean Plant Network (NCPN) program will be announced later this spring. APHIS will provide \$75 million in plant protection funding for these projects, including at least \$7.5 million for projects under the NCPN.

APHIS will set aside up to \$4 million in PPA 7721 funding to support Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Tribal colleges and universities, and minority-affiliated organizations.

Under the PPA 7721's PPDMDPP, APHIS annually makes funds available to cooperators—from state and federal agencies, Tribal nations, colleges and universities, non-profit organizations, and industry—to support projects that protect

[specialty crops](#), nursery systems, forestry, other agricultural production systems, and natural resources from harmful and invasive plant pests and pathogens. The implementation plan outlines six strategic goal areas for funding PPDMDPP projects:

1. Enhancing plant pest/disease analysis and survey;
2. Targeting domestic inspection activities at vulnerable points in the safeguarding continuum;
3. Enhancing and strengthening pest identification and technology;
4. Safeguarding nursery production;
5. Conducting targeted outreach and education; and
6. Enhancing mitigation and rapid response capabilities.

Those interested in submitting projects should visit the [PPDMPP program page](#) on the APHIS website to get resources and guidance, including the FY 2025 Implementation Plan, help session webinar schedule, frequently asked questions, and more.

The FY 2025 Implementation Plan also describes priorities for projects supporting PPA 7721's NCPN. The NCPN is a network of clean plant centers for diagnostic and pathogen elimination services that produce clean propagative plant material and maintain blocks of pathogen-tested plant material in sites throughout the United States. NCPN program priorities include:

- Promoting the introduction, diagnosis, treatment, establishment, and release of clean plant materials for commercial development;
- Optimizing the implementation of new methods and best practices while increasing the awareness of the importance, availability, and use of clean plants; and
- Developing partnerships with university extension offices, State departments of agriculture, and other entities to interact with commercial nurseries, industry associations, and producers.

Funding is available for land-grant universities, non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, State agricultural experiment stations, State and Federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations. Proposals focused on specialty crops receive funding priority. Visit the [NCPN program page](#) on the APHIS website to learn more.

To receive email updates, subscribe to the Plant Protection Act 7721 topic in the [APHIS Stakeholder Registry](#).