

**Main Research Center
Budget No. 640
Senate Bill No. 2020**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2017-19 legislative appropriation	336.12	\$49,557,415	\$59,084,828	\$108,642,243
2015-17 legislative appropriation	<u>353.85</u>	<u>55,198,683</u>	<u>78,098,525</u>	<u>133,297,208</u>
2017-19 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2015-17 appropriation	(17.73)	(\$5,641,268)	(\$19,013,697)	(\$24,654,965)

Item Description

Full-time equivalent position reduction - In Section 1 of 2017 Senate Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly removed 17.73 FTE positions for the Main Research Center. Section 10 allows the State Board of Higher Education to adjust or increase FTE positions as needed.

Transfer authority - In Section 9 of Senate Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly authorized the Director of the Main Research Center, with approval from the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education and appropriate branch research center directors, to transfer appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center. Any amounts transferred must be reported to the Office of Management and Budget.

Veterinary diagnostics laboratory - In Section 2 of 2015 House Bill No. 1020, the Legislative Assembly identified \$18 million of one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund for the construction of a new veterinary diagnostics laboratory. In Section 12 of 2017 Senate Bill No. 2020, the Legislative Assembly authorized the Main Research Center to continue unexpended funds appropriation authority for the veterinary diagnostics laboratory from the 2015-17 biennium to the 2017-19 biennium.

Status/Result

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education approved staff reductions of 30.28 FTE positions at its November 2017 meeting. The Main Research Center has implemented the staff reductions, most of which were vacant positions. The remaining reductions were through buyouts, retirements, and resignations.

To date there have been no transfers of appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center, and the agency does not anticipate making any transfers during the remainder of the 2017-19 biennium.

The Main Research Center continued unexpended funds of \$2.8 million from the 2015-17 biennium to the 2017-19 biennium. The new veterinary diagnostics laboratory was completed in October 2017. Once finalized, the total cost of the project is anticipated to be approximately \$17.8 million.