



Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Governor Mike Braun

Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development

Don Lamb, Director

ISDA Strategic Budget Plan for FY26-FY27

For fiscal years FY26–FY27, ISDA’s spending plan focuses on optimizing our staffing in response to overall budget constraints. Because program expenses are minimal relative to personnel costs, savings are achieved by eliminating positions that recently became vacant due to natural staff attrition. Specifically, we have removed the following roles:

- International Trade Manager
- Communications Deputy Director
- Economic Development Program Manager
- Grain Buyers Inspector
- Indiana Grown Marketing and Communications Manager
- Market Reporter

Since these positions were unfilled, no current staff will be impacted. We will work closely with our existing team to reassess priorities and discontinue efforts as needed. If current positions become vacant, we may reassess priorities to determine appropriate staff responsibilities.

The Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency experienced a reduction in its usual funding levels. Rather than receiving the standard \$600K in both FY26 and FY27, the agency was allocated \$600K solely in FY26. To adapt to this change while maintaining optimal service, we plan to distribute the funding evenly—spending \$300K in FY26 and reserving the remaining \$300K for FY27.

To achieve an additional 5% reserve, ISDA has transferred the Indiana Grown program’s salary costs from the General Fund to the Indiana Grown fund. Moving forward, the Indiana Grown program will actively pursue new revenue streams—including sponsorships, booth space rentals, and enhanced sales event income—in an attempt to sustain the high caliber events and member opportunities the program has hosted in the past.

We have further reduced expenditures by limiting staff travel for conferences, events and trade missions and by cutting subscriptions for services such as Politico Pro.

Historically, our agency has prioritized federal funding to maintain a lean state budget. At present, we are exploring the possibility of using a portion of Specialty Crop Block Grant dollars to support ISDA programming focused on specialty crops, particularly within the Indiana Grown and International Trade programs. We are also in discussions with other states to learn from their successful funding strategies.



Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Governor Mike Braun

Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development

Don Lamb, Director

While some federal grant opportunities remain uncertain—such as potential grants arising from USDA’s Make America Healthy Again initiative—we remain vigilant and prepared for upcoming opportunities based on future announcements.

The agency has completed a review of all open contracts. We have chosen to let the following open contracts expire and do not plan to renew them:

- Barnes and Thornburg – legal services
 - We hired a General Counsel in April 2025 and will be working with the Attorney General’s office to handle any outstanding legal matters.
- Job Management Inc- Storage of items used at State Fair
 - We have worked with State Fair to find storage for these items
- Journal Communications – Agriculture magazine advertisement
 - Due to funding cuts, this has been discontinued.

There is one anticipated procurement requirement for developing an agriculture portal, mandated by HEA 1149. Preliminary discussions with IOT and Salesforce are underway to evaluate available options.

Currently, no new capital expenditure plans are anticipated.

The only anticipated exceptions to FMC or state policies pertain to reserve requirements for the following funds: Indiana Grown–12525, Grain Buyers–12336/53810, and Soils–42134. Detailed requests and justifications for these exceptions are provided in the attached documentation.



State of Indiana

State Budget Agency
State House #212
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-5610

Mike Braun, Governor
Chad Ranney, Director

Approved Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan

Agency Name: Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Pursuant to applicable state budgeting and financial management guidelines, the undersigned hereby affirm that the Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan submitted for the above-named agency has been reviewed and is approved for implementation. This approval signifies the plan submitted is in alignment with agency priorities, applicable legal requirements, and available funding levels.

Chad E. Ranney

Chad E. Ranney

State Budget Director

Date: 7/29/25

Micah Beckwith

Micah Beckwith

Secretary of Agriculture

Date: 7-29-25

Don Lamb

Don Lamb

Director, Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Date: 7/28/25

Ensuring that Indiana's priorities are funded today and tomorrow.