

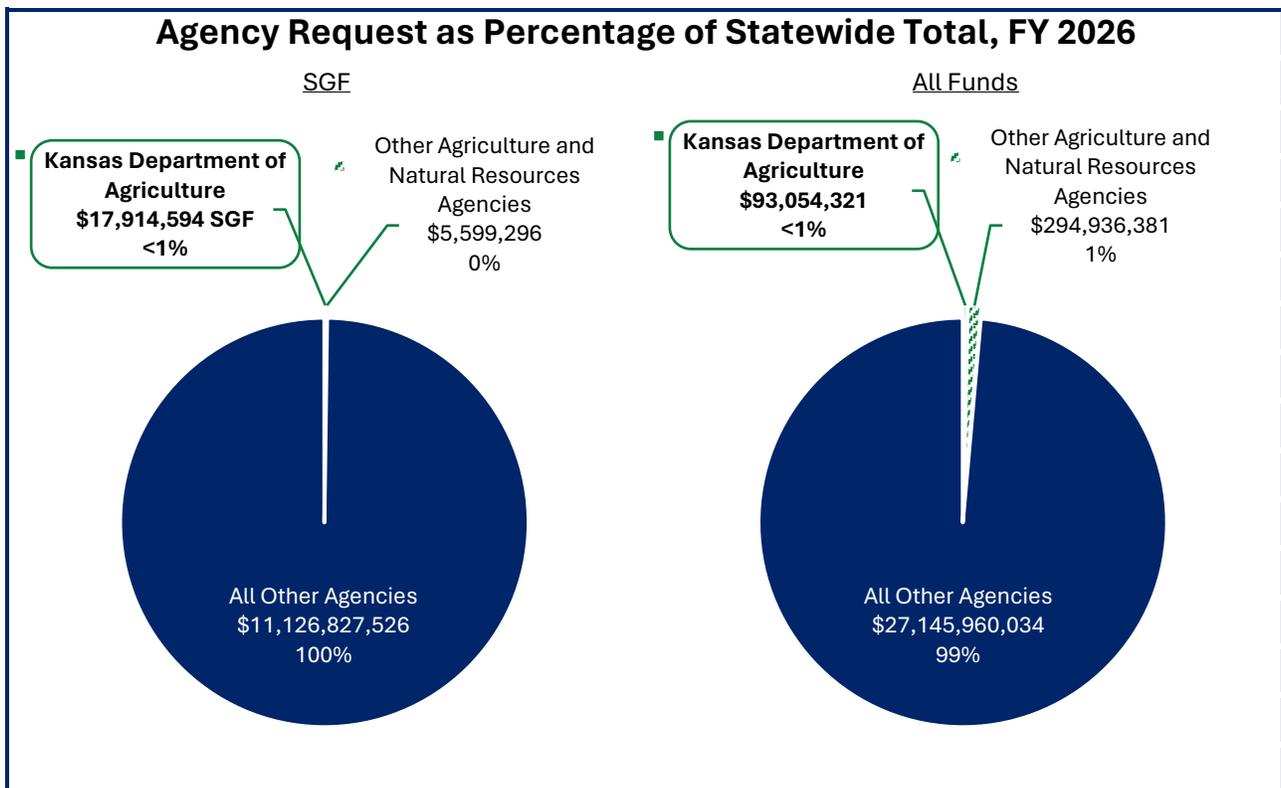
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

Executive Summary

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is responsible for implementing food safety, consumer and environmental protection, and water resource allocation programs. This includes the assurance of safe meat, milk, and egg supplies; safety of the food supply through inspection at food processing and retail establishments; the responsible and judicious use of pesticides and nutrients; the protection of Kansas' natural and cultivated plants; the integrity of weighing and measuring devices in commerce; and that the waters of Kansas are put to beneficial use.

Expenditures by Fiscal Year and Version				
	SGF	All Funds	Note	
FY 2024 Actual	\$ 13,370,040	\$ 63,390,011	Actual expenditures	
FY 2025 Actual	14,864,944	78,812,083	Actual expenditures	
FY 2026 Approved	17,914,594	96,402,152	2025 SB 125	
FY 2026 Agency	17,914,594	93,054,321	Revised estimate, submitted September 2025	
FY 2027 Agency	15,321,058	83,186,835	Agency request, submitted September 2025	



KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

Budget and Policy Snapshot

The tables below provide a selection of items that inform the agency budget request. These items include **supplemental and enhancement requests** (NEW), adjustments related to **reappropriated funds** (E), **language-only policy changes** requested for inclusion in legislation, changes in **federal or state policy** that impact agency funding, and other budgetary items.

These tables are not intended to be a comprehensive list of changes in the agency budget request. For more detail on individual fiscal year requests, please refer to the [FY 2026 Analysis](#) and [FY 2027 Analysis](#) sections later in this document.

FY 2026

Item	Amount	Source	Note
 SGF Reappropriation	\$ 192,321	SGF	Includes agency lapses.
 SWPF Reappropriation	10,210,630	SWPF	

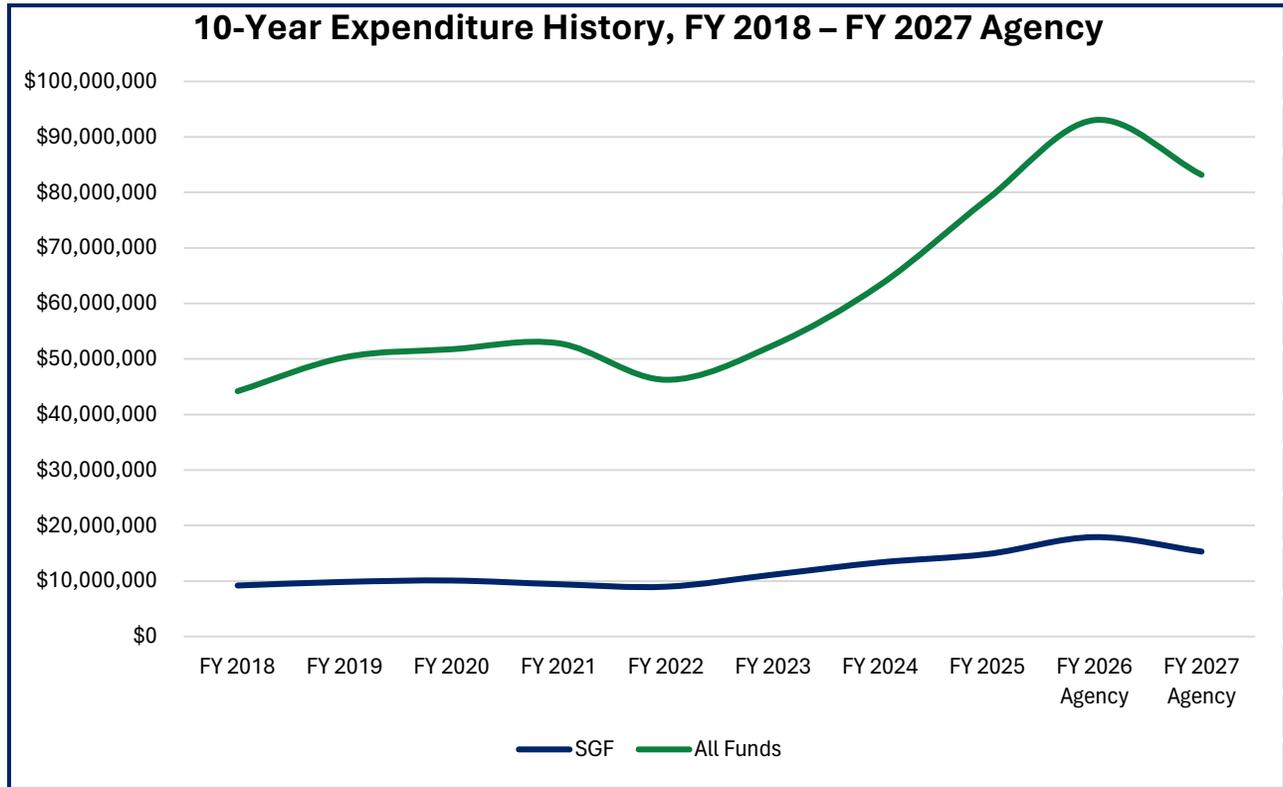
FY 2027

Item	Amount	Source	Note
SGF One-Time Adjustments	\$ (3,000,000)	SGF	FY 2026 funding that does not repeat for FY 2027.
SWPF One-Time Adjustments	(2,750,000)	SWPF	FY 2026 funding that does not repeat for FY 2027.
 Conservation - Add 1.0 FTE and Convert 2.0 FTE from SWPF to SGF	349,615	SGF	Convert Division Director and Assitant Director to SGF, and add 1.0 FTE for grassland preservation.
 Food Safety and Lodging	150,000	SGF	SGF funding for Food Safety and Lodging to hold fees down.
 SWPF - Dam Inspections and Rehabilitation Cost Share	2,650,000	SWPF	SWPF funding for rehabilitation of approximately 20 high hazard dams every two years.
 SWPF - Aid to Conservation Districts	1,747,294	SWPF	SWPF to fully match state aid to Conservation Districts.
 SWPF - Irrigation Technology	950,000	SWPF	SWPF for state matching requirements for federal aid.
 SWPF - Water Resources Cost Share - Livestock Watering	500,000	SWPF	SWPF to upgrade between 10-20 stockwater systems per year.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

Summary of Expenditures



Fiscal Year	SGF		All Funds		FTE	CPI-U* Change (%)
	Amount	Change (%)	Amount	Change (%)		
FY 2018	\$ 9,202,853	(3.0)	\$ 44,220,487	(2.2)	328.90	0.2
FY 2019	9,856,098	7.1	50,322,069	13.8	310.00	--
FY 2020	10,101,874	2.5	51,777,191	2.9	318.80	0.8
FY 2021	9,435,156	(6.6)	52,841,600	2.1	329.00	2.4
FY 2022	8,990,805	(4.7)	46,269,440	(12.4)	297.00	9.2
FY 2023	11,161,149	24.1	52,470,723	13.4	353.00	5.8
FY 2024	13,370,040	19.8	63,390,011	20.8	352.80	3.0
FY 2025	14,864,944	11.2	78,812,083	24.3	360.70	3.0
FY 2026 Agency	17,914,594	20.5	93,054,321	18.1	360.70	2.8
FY 2027 Agency	15,321,058	(14.5)	83,186,835	(10.6)	361.70	2.4

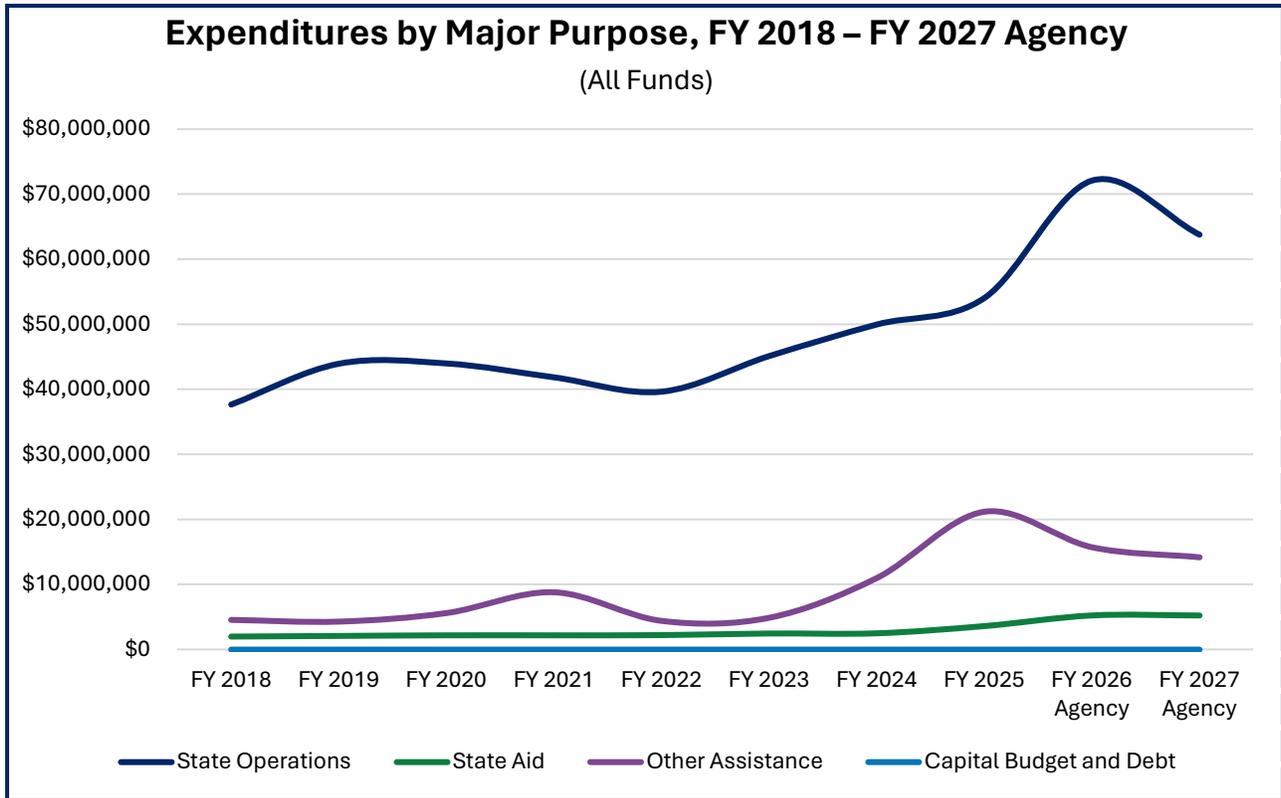
5-Year Change (FY 2023–2027)	\$ 4,159,909	37.3	\$ 30,716,112	58.5	8.70	11.6
10-Year Change (FY 2018–2027)	6,118,205	66.5	38,966,348	88.1	32.80	33.1
3-Year Average** (FY 2023–2025)	13,132,044	N/A	64,890,939	N/A	355.50	N/A

* Note : Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers estimate for FY 2026–2027 is from the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group.

** Note : Reflects the three most recent years of actuals data.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request



Expenditures by Category, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency
(All Funds)

	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
State Operations						
Salaries and Wages	34.0 %	\$ 25,133,690	\$ 27,378,567	\$ 32,112,723	\$ 31,660,285	\$ 32,410,568
Contractual Services	40.3	22,065,512	24,108,478	26,282,818	37,468,516	28,621,797
Commodities	1.2	907,948	876,650	1,089,603	1,140,403	1,131,474
Capital Outlay	2.0	1,863,255	1,675,114	1,556,606	1,823,325	1,607,365
Operating Adjustments	--	-	-	(219,021)	-	-
Subtotal	77.5 %	\$ 49,970,405	\$ 54,038,809	\$ 60,822,729	\$ 72,092,529	\$ 63,771,204
State Aid and Assistance						
Aid to Locals	5.6 %	\$ 2,502,706	\$ 3,612,706	\$ 6,252,706	\$ 5,253,206	\$ 5,250,500
Other Assistance	16.9	10,974,580	21,160,568	18,923,766	15,708,586	14,165,131
Subtotal	22.5 %	\$ 13,477,286	\$ 24,773,274	\$ 25,176,472	\$ 20,961,792	\$ 19,415,631
Capital Budget and Debt						
Capital Improvements	-- %	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Debt Service Principal	--	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service Interest	--	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	-- %	\$ -				
Reappropriations	-- %	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,402,951	\$ -	\$ -
GRAND TOTAL	100.0 %	\$ 63,447,691	\$ 78,812,083	\$ 96,402,152	\$ 93,054,321	\$ 83,186,835

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

State Operations

Expenditures by Classification, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
(State Operations, All Funds)						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
Salaries and Wages						
Employee Pay	24.6 %	\$ 18,134,907	\$ 19,976,722	\$ 23,744,869	\$ 22,907,447	\$ 23,407,183
Employee Benefits	9.4	6,998,783	7,401,845	8,367,854	8,752,838	9,003,385
Shrinkage	--	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	34.0 %	\$ 25,133,690	\$ 27,378,567	\$ 32,112,723	\$ 31,660,285	\$ 32,410,568
Contractual Services						
Communication	0.7 %	\$ 644,981	\$ 619,007	\$ 569,720	\$ 625,343	\$ 613,552
Fees (Professional)	22.2	12,100,467	13,149,625	13,837,499	20,675,218	15,769,397
Fees (Other Services)	4.4	1,519,506	3,505,092	1,396,200	4,109,675	5,715,433
Freight and Express	0.1	34,254	31,407	41,936	44,717	44,417
Printing and Advertising	0.1	95,043	64,357	119,570	113,074	263,245
Rent and Leases	1.8	1,840,721	1,828,969	1,625,189	1,700,432	1,700,677
Repair and Servicing	1.1	1,057,553	968,986	961,473	1,028,385	955,895
Travel and Subsistence	0.9	732,223	669,286	877,189	839,573	842,066
Utilities	0.4	278,686	266,585	323,119	332,001	332,902
Other	8.6	3,762,078	3,005,164	6,530,923	8,000,098	2,384,213
Subtotal	40.3 %	\$ 22,065,512	\$ 24,108,478	\$ 26,282,818	\$ 37,468,516	\$ 28,621,797
Commodities						
Clothing	0.1 %	\$ 21,909	\$ 18,439	\$ 38,446	\$ 33,550	\$ 33,550
Equipment and Parts	0.1	21,719	34,919	29,160	51,590	51,190
Food	--	84	-	-	-	-
Fuel	--	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Parts	0.6	432,702	384,708	530,493	555,664	555,365
Supplies (Office)	0.1	37,991	37,504	43,428	44,562	44,562
Supplies (Professional)	0.3	263,375	231,796	234,607	261,646	253,546
Supplies (Research)	--	-	-	-	-	-
Other	0.2	130,168	169,284	213,469	193,391	193,261
Subtotal	1.2 %	\$ 907,948	\$ 876,650	\$ 1,089,603	\$ 1,140,403	\$ 1,131,474
Capital Outlay						
Books	-- %	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Computer Hardware	0.1	176,046	169,443	125,064	133,724	133,724
Computer Software	0.1	278,865	211,942	68,500	46,000	46,000
Equipment, Furniture	1.8	1,408,344	1,293,550	1,306,096	1,643,601	1,427,641
Information Processing	--	-	75	-	-	-
Telecommunications	--	-	104	-	-	-
Other	--	-	-	56,946	-	-
Subtotal	2.0 %	\$ 1,863,255	\$ 1,675,114	\$ 1,556,606	\$ 1,823,325	\$ 1,607,365
Operating Adjustments	-- %	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (219,021)	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL	77.5 %	\$ 49,970,405	\$ 54,038,809	\$ 60,822,729	\$ 72,092,529	\$ 63,771,204

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

State Aid

Expenditures by Classification, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
(State Aid, All Funds)						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
State Aid						
Federal Aid Payments	0.1 %	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	500	500
State Aid Payments	5.6	2,502,706	3,612,706	6,252,706	5,252,706	5,250,000
TOTAL	5.6 %	\$ 2,502,706	\$ 3,612,706	\$ 6,252,706	\$ 5,253,206	\$ 5,250,500

Other Assistance

Expenditures by Classification, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
(Other Assistance, All Funds)						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
Other Assistance						
Claims	-- %	\$ -	5,563	\$ -	\$ -	-
Federal Aid Payments	0.4	136,027	5,819,861	120,500	347,826	286,976
State Special Grants	1.0	840,469	697,835	(4,246,806)	950,000	950,000
Other	15.5	9,998,084	14,636,958	23,050,072	14,410,760	12,928,155
TOTAL	16.9 %	\$ 10,974,580	\$ 21,160,568	\$ 18,923,766	\$ 15,708,586	\$ 14,165,131

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

Expenditures by Program

Expenditures by Program, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
(All Funds)						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
Administration	11.2 %	\$ 8,528,473	\$ 7,286,477	\$ 9,069,425	\$ 10,417,718	\$ 8,095,129
Agri-Business Services	22.4	17,437,878	17,547,778	20,144,558	20,851,019	20,900,410
Agriculture Marketing	4.0	2,594,841	9,266,628	6,841,074	3,715,133	2,638,338
Animal Health	4.3	3,992,296	4,034,255	4,248,984	3,958,876	3,917,347
Conservation	36.5	17,026,875	26,379,975	27,143,808	33,988,491	32,347,978
Water Resources	21.6	13,867,328	14,296,970	18,551,352	20,123,084	15,287,633
Reappropriations	--	-	-	10,402,951	-	-
TOTAL	100.0 %	\$ 63,447,691	\$ 78,812,083	\$ 96,402,152	\$ 93,054,321	\$ 83,186,835

FTE Positions by Program, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
Administration	10.4 %	34.0	37.6	38.0	37.6	37.6
Agri-Business Services	55.1	193.0	198.8	194.2	198.8	198.8
Agriculture Marketing	2.3	10.0	8.5	9.0	8.5	8.5
Animal Health	5.7	21.8	20.5	20.8	20.5	20.5
Conservation	2.5	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	10.0
Water Resources	23.9	84.1	86.4	84.1	86.4	86.4
TOTAL	100.0 %	352.8	360.7	355.0	360.7	361.7

Expenditures by Fund

Expenditures by Fund, FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency						
	FY 2026 Agency % of Total	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Approved	FY 2026 Agency	FY 2027 Agency
State General Fund	19.3 %	\$ 13,370,040	\$ 14,864,944	\$ 17,914,594	\$ 17,914,594	\$ 15,321,058
EDIF	1.1	1,030,378	1,033,037	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
State Water Plan Fund	38.3	16,313,937	26,248,410	35,663,295	35,663,295	28,854,101
Fee Funds	13.7	9,328,751	10,319,183	11,716,715	12,755,902	13,578,406
Federal Funds	16.4	15,248,581	17,979,416	20,999,639	15,291,651	14,248,775
All Other Funds	11.2	8,098,324	8,367,093	9,107,909	10,428,879	10,184,495
TOTAL	100.0 %	\$ 63,390,011	\$ 78,812,083	\$ 96,402,152	\$ 93,054,321	\$ 83,186,835

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

Fee Fund Analysis

Executive Reorganization Order #32 was signed by Governor Sebelius on January 14, 2004. This reorganization order transferred the responsibilities for licensing and inspecting retail food stores, food service establishments located in retail food stores, mobile ice cream vendors, food vending machines, food vending machine companies, and food vending machine dealers from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the Kansas Department of Agriculture effective October 1, 2004. Then on April 24, 2008, Governor Sebelius signed SB 584, which transferred the responsibilities for licensing and inspecting restaurants, schools, senior meal sites, caterers, mobile food units, and lodging facilities from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to the Kansas Department of Agriculture effective October 1, 2008. Legislation enacted by the 2003 Legislature called for the establishment of the Division of Food Safety within the Kansas Department of Agriculture and the appointment of a director for the new division. To engage in the business of selling or producing food in Kansas, or operating a lodging facility, a business must apply for the proper license and pay the license and application fee assigned to that license. An application fee is assessed for new businesses and for existing businesses when a license expires because of a failure to renew. All licenses in the Division of Food Safety expire on March 31, each year. Transferring authority allows the agency to assess late charges to restaurants, retail food stores, lodging facilities, mobile ice cream vendors, food vending machines, food vending machine companies, and food vending machine dealers that are required to register but do not pay renewal fees in a timely manner. Current fees credited to the Food Safety Fee Fund can be found in [KAR 4-28](#).

Food Safety Fund				
FY 2024 – FY 2027 Agency				
	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
	Actual	Actual	Agency	Agency
Beginning Balance	\$ 3,586,213	\$ 4,094,480	\$ 5,490,144	\$ 4,257,114
Revenue				
Inspections	\$ -	\$ 149,493	\$ 165,263	\$ 123,549
Licenses	5,306,468	5,267,251	5,092,930	4,907,548
Fines and Penalties	22,126	18,856	17,700	20,100
Operating Transfer Out	(1,153,334)	-	(1,153,334)	(1,153,334)
Encumbrances	17,604	-	-	-
Subtotal – Revenue	\$ 4,192,864	\$ 5,435,600	\$ 4,122,559	\$ 3,897,863
Total Amount Available	\$ 7,779,077	\$ 9,530,080	\$ 9,612,703	\$ 8,154,977
Expenditures				
Salaries and Wages	\$ 2,969,333	\$ 3,300,581	\$ 4,448,803	\$ 4,493,768
Contractual Services	519,630	569,226	688,552	615,387
Commodities	92,884	73,684	73,500	73,500
Capital Outlay	102,750	96,445	144,734	152,000
Subtotal – Expenditures	\$ 3,684,597	\$ 4,039,936	\$ 5,355,589	\$ 5,334,655
Ending Balance	\$ 4,094,480	\$ 5,490,144	\$ 4,257,114	\$ 2,820,322

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

FY 2026 Analysis

Summary of Agency Budget Request, FY 2026						
	SGF	SWPF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
Approved, FY 2026						
1. 2025 SB 125, without Reappropriations	\$ 17,722,273	\$ 25,452,665	\$ 42,824,263	\$ 85,999,201	355.0	
Reappropriations						
2. State General Fund	\$ 195,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 195,250	--	
3. State Water Plan Fund	-	10,210,630	-	10,210,630	--	
4. SGF Reappropriation 1.5 Percent Lapse	(2,929)	-	-	(2,929)	--	
Subtotal – Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 17,914,594	\$ 35,663,295	\$ 42,824,263	\$ 96,402,152	355.0	
Supplemental Requests						
No Supplemental Requests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	--	
Other Changes						
5. NRCS Contribution Grant - Streambank/Water Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,174,533	\$ 2,174,533	--	
6. Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant	-	-	(2,103,922)	(2,103,922)	--	
7. Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement	-	-	(3,566,356)	(3,566,356)	--	
8. All Other Adjustments	-	-	147,914	147,914	5.7	
Subtotal – Other Changes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,347,831)	\$ (3,347,831)	5.7	
TOTAL – Agebct Revised Estimate	\$ 17,914,594	\$ 35,663,295	\$ 39,476,432	\$ 93,054,321	360.7	

Approved Budget

1. 2025 SB 125

The 2025 Legislature passed, and the Governor enacted, one bill appropriating and adjusting funding for state agencies. A total of \$86.0 million, including \$17.7 million SGF and \$25.5 million from the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF), was approved for the Department of Agriculture in FY 2026.

Reappropriations

2. SGF Reappropriation

The agency reappropriated \$195,250 in unspent SGF funds from FY 2025 to FY 2026.

3. SWPF Reappropriations

The agency reappropriated \$10.2 million in unspent SWPF funds from FY 2025 to FY 2026. This includes:

- **Interstate Water Issues:** \$649,176. This funding is used to enforce the Arkansas River Compact with Colorado and the Republican River Compact with Nebraska and Colorado.
- **Water Use Study:** \$340,937. This funding is used for maintenance and enhancement of the online water use application.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

- **Basin Water Resources Management:** \$3.0 million. This funding is used for contracts with landowners, engineering firms, and well drillers for pilot streamflow augmentation projects and other conservation/stream restoration efforts in the Rattlesnake Creek to help mitigate the impairment of Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Funding is also used for water resource management, groundwater modeling, database maintenance and enhancement, and enhanced compliance and enforcement of water rights.
- **Irrigation Technology:** \$381,480. This funding is used for irrigation system and stockwater system assessments and technology upgrades at all five groundwater management districts, and for a contract for engineering consulting.
- **Soil Health Initiative:** \$26,845. This funding is used for education for farmers, ranchers, and local Conservation District staff. This education includes field days for demonstrations on cover crops, crop rotation, and rotational grazing strategies. Funding also assists first-time landowners, supervisors, and district managers to participate in the No-Till on the Plains Conference.
- **Water Resource Cost-Share:** \$285,746. This funding is used for cost-share contracts with landowners to install best management practices and are administered by Conservation Districts. It also funds technical assistance agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD), and Conservation Districts.
- **Nonpoint Source Pollution Assistance:** \$240,809. This funding is administered by Conservation Districts and funds cost-share contracts with landowners to install best management practices. Large funding agreements are also done for technical assistance with NRCS, KACD, and Conservation Districts.
- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program:** \$3.7 million. This funding is for water right retirements and Rattlesnake Creek Compensated Allocation Management Program (CAMP) Water Right Leasing Projects through the Division of Water Resources.
- **Watershed Dam Construction:** \$16,313. This funding is used for watershed dam projects and high hazard potential dams.
- **Water Quality Buffer Initiative:** \$635,432. This funding is used to retire water rights.
- **Riparian and Wetland Program:** \$174,727. This funding is administered by Conservation Districts to support cost-share contracts with landowners to install Riparian and Wetland projects. It also funds contracts with Kansas State University Forestry Service to install buffers along streambank projects, and contracts with Ducks Unlimited for wetland creation and playa conservation.
- **Streambank Stabilization:** \$226,101. This funding is used for contracts with engineering firms for streambank projects and streambank stabilization projects.
- **Kansas Reservoir Protection Initiative:** \$531,720. This funding is used for cost-share contracts administered through Conservation Districts with landowners to install best management practices for soil health. This line was transferred to the Department of Agriculture last year in recognition that the agency already performs most of the contracts through Conservation Districts. Previously, this line was funded in the budget of the Kansas Water Office.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

4. SGF Reappropriations 1.5 Percent Lapse

The 2025 Legislature approved a 1.5 percent SGF lapse within state operations in FY 2026. For this agency, this totals a decrease of \$2,929 SGF in FY 2026.

Other Changes

5. NRCS Contribution Grant – Streambank Water Quality

The agency's revised request includes an increase of \$2.2 million from the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund, for a total of \$2.6 million, in FY 2026. This represents an increase of 538.3 percent. The agency indicates that funding is used to hire special project positions to provide technical assistance to conservation districts and clerical assistance on NRCS federal contracts. Specifically, the agency states that funds are used to hire a Soil Health Specialist, three Easement Specialists, and four Soil Conservationists.

The agency indicates that this federal funding is also associated with the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement federal fund. Federal funding that was previously credited to the federal Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund will now be credited to the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund.

6. Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$2.1 million from the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant Fund, for a total of \$17,000, in FY 2026. This represents a decrease of 99.2 percent. The agency indicates that funding is used to create improved processing options for local and regional producers across the food supply chain.

The agency indicates that federal funding was paused at the beginning of the new presidential administration but was later released with amended parameters.

7. Technical Assistance Contribution

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$3.6 million from the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund, for a total of \$1.6 million, in FY 2026. This represents a decrease of 69.0 percent. The agency indicates that funding is used to increase the implementation of conservation practices and to improve soil health on private lands. This is achieved through cooperative efforts with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) – Division of Environment and the Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Funding is received from the NRCS and used to employ 25 Soil Conservation Technicians who help private-property owners implement conservation practices.

The agency indicates this federal funding is also associated with the federal NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund. Federal funding that was previously credited to the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund will now be credited to the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund.

8. All Other Adjustments

All other adjustments made by the agency total a net increase of \$147,914, from all funding sources, along with the addition of 5.7 FTE positions in FY 2026. The increase is mostly attributable to estimated increases in expenditures from other agency fee funds and is partially offset by estimated decreases in expenditures from other agency federal funds.

The agency's revised estimate includes an increase of \$523,718 from the Food Safety Fee Fund, for a total of \$5.4 million, in FY 2026. This represents an increase of 10.8 percent. The agency's revised

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

request also includes an increase of \$562,814 from the Water Appropriation Certification Fund, for a total of \$1.3 million, in FY 2026. This represents an increase of 78.0 percent.

The agency's revised estimate also includes an increased transfer of \$13,363 from the State Highway Fund of the Department of Transportation to the Water Structures – State Highway Fund of the Department of Agriculture, for a total of \$141,742 in FY 2026.

These increases, along with other estimated increases in fee fund expenditures, are partially offset by estimated reductions in federal funds, including grants received from the federal Food and Drug Administration and other NRCS grants.

The agency's revised FY 2026 request includes adding 4.6 FTE positions for Agri-Business Services and 2.3 FTE positions for Water Resources. These increases are partially offset by reductions in FTE totaling -0.4 for Administration, -0.3 for Animal Health, and -0.5 for Agriculture Marketing. Overall, these changes amount to a net increase of 5.7 FTE positions in FY 2026.

The agency indicates that as of the first pay period of FY 2026, it had 360.7 FTE positions. The agency explains this as having 5.7 more FTE positions filled than it did during the first pay period of FY 2025. Further, the agency indicates the FTEs are not new and notes that it had more positions filled in FY 2026 than in FY 2025 during the same pay periods.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

FY 2027 Analysis

Summary of Agency Budget Request, FY 2027					
	SGF	SWPF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions
Approved, FY 2026					
2025 SB 125	\$ 17,722,273	\$ 25,452,665	\$ 42,824,263	\$ 85,999,201	355.0
1. One-Time Adjustments	(3,000,000)	(2,750,000)	-	(5,750,000)	--
Subtotal – Approved with Adjustments	\$ 14,722,273	\$ 22,702,665	\$ 42,824,263	\$ 80,249,201	355.0
Enhancement Requests					
2. Conservation - Add 1.0 FTE and Convert 2.0 FTE from SWPF to SGF	\$ 349,615	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 349,615	1.0
3. Food Safety and Lodging	150,000	-	-	150,000	--
4. SWPF - Dam Inspections and Rehabilitation Cost Share	-	2,650,000	-	2,650,000	--
5. SWPF - Aid to Conservation Districts	-	1,747,294	-	1,747,294	--
6. SWPF - Irrigation Technology	-	950,000	-	950,000	--
7. SWPF - Water Resources Cost Share Program - Livestock Watering	-	500,000	-	500,000	--
Subtotal – Enhancements	\$ 499,615	\$ 5,847,294	\$ -	\$ 6,346,909	1.0
Other Changes					
8. FY 2027 Health Insurance Rate Change	\$ 103,210	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103,210	--
9. FY 2027 KPERS Rate Change	(4,040)	-	-	(4,040)	--
10. SWPF - CREP	-	304,142	-	304,142	--
11. NRCS Contribution Grant - Streambank/Water Quality	-	-	2,174,533	2,174,533	--
12. Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant	-	-	(2,103,922)	(2,103,922)	--
13. Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement	-	-	(3,566,356)	(3,566,356)	--
14. All Other Adjustments	-	-	(316,842)	(316,842)	5.7
Subtotal – Other Changes	\$ 99,170	\$ 304,142	\$ (3,812,587)	\$ (3,409,275)	5.7
TOTAL – Agency Request	\$ 15,321,058	\$ 28,854,101	\$ 39,011,676	\$ 83,186,835	361.7

Approved Budget

1. One-Time Adjustments

The approved budget includes expenditures in FY 2026 that are not included in the agency allocation for FY 2027. These expenditures are not included for FY 2027 as to better provide a point of comparison. For this agency, these adjustments include the following:

- BVLOS Operations Test Range:** The agency’s SGF allocation was reduced by \$3.0 million for FY 2027. The 2025 Legislature appropriated \$3.0 million SGF to acquire technology and necessary approvals to operate and maintain a beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations for an agriculture-focused, Federal Aviation Administration-approved

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

unmanned aircraft systems test range in FY 2026. Those expenditures were considered to be one-time and were not included in the agency’s SGF allocation for FY 2027.

- **Crop and Livestock Research (SWPF):** The agency’s SWPF allocation was reduced by \$1.0 million for Crop and Livestock Research for FY 2027. The 2025 Legislature approved a \$1.0 million SWPF enhancement for the Collaborative Sorghum Investment Program in FY 2026. Those expenditures were considered to be one-time and were not included in the agency’s SWPF allocation FY 2027.
- **Conservation District Aid (SWPF):** The agency’s SWPF allocation was reduced by \$1.8 million for Conservation District Aid for FY 2027. The 2025 legislature passed, and the Governor signed, SB 36, which allows for a 2-to-1 State match for county conservation districts up to \$50,000 beginning in FY 2026. Previously, statute capped matching funds to \$25,000. The 2025 Legislature later approved a \$1.8 million SWPF enhancement for aid to county conservation districts to fully match the State aid in FY 2026. Those expenditures were considered to be one-time and were not included in the agency’s SWPF allocation FY 2027.

Enhancement Requests

2. Conservation – Add 1.0 FTE and Convert 2.0 FTE from SWPF to SGF

The agency’s request includes a new \$349,615 SGF request and 1.0 FTE position for the agency’s Conservation Program for FY 2027. The agency’s request also includes supplanting salary and wage expenditures for 2.0 current FTE positions with SGF.

The agency indicates that the SWPF is used for salary and wage expenditures for the Division Director and the Assistant Division Director positions in the agency’s Conservation Division. \$251,953 SGF is requested to convert these positions to SGF funding from SWPF funding, which is how the positions are currently funded. The agency indicates this would allow salary and wage savings from the SWPF to be applied to water-related projects.

The agency’s request also includes \$97,662 SGF and 1.0 FTE position for the Conservation Division. The agency indicates this position would serve as the agency lead for grassland preservation and protection. The agency states that grasslands, when properly conserved and stewarded, support water quality and quantity, lessen wildlife severity threats, and enhance critical habitat for plant and wildlife species. Kansas grasslands also support the state’s largest agricultural sector, the beef industry. The agency further indicates the position would work with public and private partners to promote grassland health, combat woody encroachment, and identify and apply for private and federal grassland conservation opportunities.

3. Food Safety and Lodging

The agency’s request includes a new \$150,000 SGF request for the Food Safety and Lodging Program for FY 2027. The agency indicates the program is currently funded primarily through the Food Safety and Lodging Fund and that expenditures for FY 2027 will be mostly for salary and wages for 64.3 FTE positions.

The agency indicates that program expenditures have increased over the years, and receipts to the fund have not increased correspondingly. As a result, the agency will consider raising fees in the near future to cover costs if SGF funding is not approved for the program.

Fees associated with food safety can be found in [KAR 4-28](#) and fees associated with lodging can be found in [KAR 4-27](#).

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

4. SWPF – Dam Inspections and Rehabilitation Cost-Share

The agency's request includes \$2.7 million SWPF, for a total of \$5.7 million SWPF, for watershed dam construction for FY 2027. The agency indicates the increased funding would allow the state to assist with the rehabilitation of 20 high-hazard and significant-hazard dams every two years. Increased funding would also be used to assist with dam inspections, helping to identify dams at risk of causing harm to downstream life and property. The agency notes that the State of Kansas has the second most dams of any state in the country.

5. SWPF – Aid to Conservation Districts

The agency's request includes \$1.7 million SWPF, for a total of \$5.3 million, for Aid to Conservation Districts for FY 2027. The 2025 Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, SB 36, which allows for a 2-to-1 State match for county conservation districts up to \$50,000 beginning in FY 2026. Previously, statute capped matching funds to \$25,000.

The 2025 Legislature appropriated \$5.3 million SWPF for Aid to Conservation Districts in FY 2026 and allows the agency to fully match the increased cap on State matching funds for county conservation districts in FY 2026. The agency indicates the increased appropriation for FY 2027 would allow it to fully match county conservation districts once again. The agency further indicates a desire for increased funding to continue in the future so it will have funds available to fully match county conservation districts each fiscal year.

6. SWPF – Irrigation Technology

The agency's request includes \$950,000 SWPF, for a total of \$3.5 million SWPF, for Irrigation Technology for FY 2027. The agency indicates it is awaiting final confirmation that the High Plains Aquifer Regional Conservation Partnership Program will be approved by the NRCS. If that federal funding is approved, this additional SWPF would meet the State's matching requirements. Overall, the initiative would draw down \$25.0 million in federal partnership funds. The agency estimates total funding for the initiative will allow it to assist with upgrading 400 irrigation systems every two years. However, the agency notes that if federal funds are not approved, this request will be rescinded.

7. SWPF – Water Resources Cost-Share Program – Livestock Watering

The agency's request includes \$500,000 SWPF, for a total of \$4.5 million SWPF, for Water Resources Cost-Share Program for FY 2027. The agency indicates that additional funding would go toward upgrading between 10 and 20 stockwater systems per year. Funding was made available for this purpose in FY 2025 and FY 2026.

The agency further indicates that, if funding is appropriated for this purpose, the State will be able to partner with the majority of feedlot and dairy operations in southwest Kansas over the next 10 years. Moneys appropriated for this purpose ultimately help those operations save water.

Other Changes

8. FY 2027 Health Insurance Rate Change

The agency's request includes \$103,210 SGF for a health insurance rate change for FY 2027. The increase is the result of changes to budget cost indices produced each year by the Department of Administration. Those indices are used by all state agencies, and employer contribution rates are estimated to increase accordingly.

The agency's request for group health insurance totals \$4.0 million, from all funding sources, for FY 2027. This represents an increase of 13.1 percent over the FY 2026 approved amount.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

9. FY 2027 KPERS Rate Change

The agency's request includes a reduction of \$4,040 SGF for a KPERS rate change for FY 2027. The decrease is the result of changes to budget cost indices produced each year by the Department of Administration. Those indices are used by all state agencies, and employer contribution rates are estimated to decrease accordingly.

The agency's request for KPERS employer contributions totals \$2.8 million, from all funding sources, for FY 2027. This represents a decrease of 0.8 percent from the FY 2026 approved amount.

10. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (SWPF)

The agency's request includes \$304,142 SWPF for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, for a total of \$1.6 million, for FY 2027. This represents an increase of 24.2 percent over the approved amount in FY 2026.

The agency indicates expenditures will go toward the retirement of water rights.

11. NRCS Contribution Grant – Streambank/Water Quality

The agency's request includes an increase of \$2.2 million from the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund, for a total of \$2.6 million, for FY 2027. This represents an increase of 538.3 percent over the approved amount in FY 2026. The agency indicates that funding is used to hire special project positions to provide technical assistance to conservation districts and clerical assistance on NRCS federal contracts. Specifically, the agency states that funds are used to hire a Soil Health Specialist, three Easement Specialists, and four Soil Conservationists.

The agency indicates that this federal funding is also associated with the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement federal fund. Federal funding that was previously credited to the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund will now be credited to the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality fund.

12. Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$2.1 million from the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program Grant Fund, for a total of \$17,000, for FY 2027. This represents a decrease of 99.2 percent from the approved amount in FY 2026. The agency indicates that funding will be used to create better processing options for local and regional producers across the food supply chain.

The agency indicates that federal funding was paused at the beginning of the new presidential administration and was later released with amended parameters.

13. Technical Assistance Contribution

The agency's revised request includes a decrease of \$3.6 million from the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund, for a total of \$1.6 million, for FY 2027. This represents a decrease of 69.0 percent from the approved amount in FY 2026. The agency indicates that funding is used to increase implementation of conservation practices and improve soil health on private lands. This will be achieved through cooperative efforts with the KDHE Division of Environment and the Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Funding will be received from the NRCS and will be used to employ 25 Soil Conservation Technicians to help private-property owners implement conservation practices.

The agency indicates this federal funding is also associated with the federal NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund. Federal funding that was previously credited to the Technical Assistance Contribution Agreement Fund will now be credited to the NRCS Grant – Streambank/Water Quality Fund.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Summary – Agency Request

14. All Other Adjustments

All other adjustments made by the agency total a net increase of \$316,842, from all funding sources, and the addition of 5.7 FTE positions for FY 2027. The increase is mostly attributable to estimated increases in expenditures from other agency fee funds and is partially offset by estimated decreases in expenditures from other agency federal funds.

The agency's request includes an increase of \$1.2 million from the General Fee Fund, for a total of \$5.5 million, for FY 2027. This represents an increase of 26.5 percent over the FY 2026 approved amount. The agency's revised request also includes an increase of \$507,201 from the Water Appropriation Certification Fund, for a total of \$1.2 million, for FY 2027. This represents an increase of 70.3 percent over the FY 2026 approved amount.

The agency's request also includes an increased transfer of \$14,575 from the State Highway Fund of the Department of Transportation to the Water Structures – State Highway Fund of the Department of Agriculture, for a total of \$142,954 for FY 2027.

These increases, along with other estimated increases in fee fund expenditures, are partially offset by estimated reductions in federal funds, including grants received from the federal Food and Drug Administration and other NRCS grants.

The agency's FY 2027 request includes adding 4.6 FTE positions for Agri-Business Services and 2.3 FTE positions for Water Resources. These increases are partially offset by reductions in FTE totaling -0.4 for Administration, -0.3 for Animal Health, and -0.5 for Agriculture Marketing. Overall, these changes amount to a net increase of 5.7 FTE positions for FY 2027.