

Illinois Extension Acronyms and Common Terms



1862 Institutions

Original 57 land-grant institutions created by Morrill Act of 1862.

1890s and Tuskegee University

Historically black land-grant universities established under the Second Morrill Act of 1890.

1890 Institutions

Addition of 19 historically black land-grant institutions established under the Second Morrill Act of 1890.

1994 Institutions

Addition of 36 tribal land-grant institutions under the Equity in Education Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.

4-H

Head, Heart, Hands, and Health: The “four-square education” of Extension’s flagship youth development program
(one of the six program areas)

AAB

Agriculture and Agribusiness
(one of the six program areas)

ACES

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

ADA

Americans with Disabilities Act: The federal law that requires Extension and other federally funded entities to make accommodations for people with disabilities.

ADR

Assistant Director for Regions

AES

Agricultural Experiment Station

AFRI

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: The competitive grants program administered by NIFA to support research, extension, and education grants. AFRI replaced the National Research Initiative (NRI) grants program.

ANCRA

Abuse and Neglect Child Reporting Act: Extension staff and volunteers are required to take the child protection training as part of their employment and volunteer agreements.

APLU

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities: A non-profit association of public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state university systems [formerly National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)].

AREERA

Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act: The federal system to submit plans of work and annual reports for Extension and Agricultural Experiment Stations to account for Hatch (research) and Smith Lever (Extension) funds received from USDA.

CAP

Council of Academic Professionals

CARET

Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching: A national grassroots organization of volunteers created in 1982 by the Board on Agriculture Assembly of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). CARET seeks to enhance national support and understanding of the land-grant university system’s food and agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs that enhance the quality of life for all people.

CDs

County Directors

CED

Community and Economic Development
(one of the six program areas)

CES

Cooperative Extension System: The national publicly funded non-formal educational system that links the educational and research resources and activities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture; land-grant universities in every state, territory and the District of Columbia; and about 3,150 county administrative units. The mission of this federal, state and local partnership is to enable people to improve their lives and communities through learning partnerships that put knowledge to work. The shorthand title is “Extension.”

COGER

Council on Governmental and External Relations

DEIA

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access

ECOP

Extension Committee on Organization and Policy: The representative governing body of the national Extension System; its membership is composed largely of the state Extension Directors.

EDEN

Extension Disaster Education Network: An interdisciplinary national Extension group that shares information on disaster preparedness and recovery.

EEO

Equal Employment Opportunity: The equal employment opportunity statement is required on Extension documents. The EEO statement: University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

EFNEP

Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program: A federally funded program that teaches low-income families with young children and low-income youth how to improve their dietary practices and become more effective managers of available resources.

EPC

Extension Program Coordinator

ERC

Office of External Relations and Communications

ESAC

Extension State Advisory Council: An advisory group to the Associate Dean and Director of Extension and the Extension Leadership Team.

ESCOPE

Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy

ESP

Epsilon Sigma Phi: The Extension Service’s honorary fraternity.

Extension Foundation

Online constellation of people, resources and tools that support Cooperative Extension System nationwide [formerly eXtension].

FCS

Family Consumer Science
(one of the six program areas)

Federal Base

A critical element of the state/federal partnership, these funds are matched by state funds to maintain a strong, responsive infrastructure at the state level for agricultural research, extension, and teaching.

FMLA

Family Medical Leave Act

FSEAC

Field Staff Executive Advisory Committee

FTE

Full-Time Equivalent

FYI

Director’s Monthly Communication Newsletter

HBCUs

Historically Black Colleges and Universities. See 1890 Institutions.

IDOA

Illinois Department of Agriculture

IEAA

Illinois Extension Agricultural Association

IEAFCS

Illinois Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

IEPYE

Illinois Extension Professionals for Youth Education

IHD

Integrated Health Disparities
(one of the six program areas)

IL-ACDEP

Illinois Association for Community Development Extension Professionals

INEP

Illinois Nutrition Education Programs

ISPP

Illini Science Policy Program

JCEP

Joint Council of Extension Professionals:
A partnership of seven professional organizations [Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP), Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP), National Association of Extension Agriculture Agents (NACAA), National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP), National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP), National Association of Extension Program & Staff Development Professionals (NAEPSDP), National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)].

JOE

Journal of Extension

Land-Grant System

A term used to describe the set of U.S. state and territorial institutions of higher learning which receive federal support for integrated programs of agricultural teaching, research, and extension for agriculture, food, and environmental systems. Five historic Acts of Congress undergird this national system and the resultant state/federal partnership for conducting these activities:

- **The Justin Morrill Land-Grant Act of 1862**, which provided federal support in the form of a grant of federal lands to any state or territory which agreed to establish a public institution for the teaching of agriculture and the mechanical arts, and promote liberal and practical education. These are referred to as the “1862 land-grant institutions.”
- **The Justin Morrill Land-Grant Act of 1890** required each state to show that race was not an admissions criterion, or else to designate a separate land-grant institution for persons of color. Among the 70 colleges and universities which eventually evolved from the Morrill Acts are several of today’s historically Black colleges and universities. Though the 1890 Act did not require the provision of federal land, it granted colleges under that act the same legal standing as the 1862 Act colleges; hence the term “land-grant college” properly applies to both groups, and “1890 land-grants” refers to these institutions specifically.
- **The Hatch Act of 1887** authorized federal support for agricultural research at the state and territorial levels, and the establishment of an Agricultural Experiment Station associated with each land-grant university. Hatch funds are administered by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- **The Smith-Lever Act of 1914** authorized federal support at the state and territorial levels for extension services, and established a Cooperative Extension Service associated with each land-grant university. Smith-Lever funds are administered by the CSREES of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Cooperative Extension System serves both rural and urban populations throughout the nation.
- **The Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994** authorized land-grant status to 29 tribal colleges. These are known as the “1994 land-grant institutions.”

LEAD21

An annual program to develop leaders in land-grant institutions and their strategic partners who link research, academics, and extension to lead more effectively in an increasingly complex environment, either in their current position or as they aspire to other positions.

LEP

Limited English Proficiency.

LFSSF

Local Food Systems and Small Farms

LGE

Local Government Education

LGUs

Land-grant universities

NACAA

National Association of County Agricultural Agents

NACDEP

National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals

NAE4-HYDP

National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals

NAEPSDP

National Association of Extension Program & Staff Development Professionals

NCANR

North Central Agriculture and Natural Resources

NCCEA

North Central Cooperative Extension Association

NCR

North Central Region: includes the following 12 states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

NEAFCS

National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

NELD North Central

National Extension Leadership Development: An Extension Leadership development program of the North Central Region.

NLRS

Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

NIFA

National Institute of Food and Agriculture: The USDA agency that supports research, education, and extension programs in the land-grant university system. It replaced the former Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) in 2008.

NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service

NREE

Natural Resources, Environment, and Energy (one of the six program areas)

NUEL

National Urban Extension Leaders: A national collective of national extension educators and leaders from 23 states who address the needs of urban centers, residents, and communities. This is done through the land-grant system and universities across the country.

PEARS

The Program Evaluation and Reporting System is the main data system for reporting Extension outreach, impacts, and Civil Rights participant demographic data.

PILD

Public Issues Leadership Development Conference in Washington D.C.

PLC

Program Leadership Committee: An ECOP committee that responds to critical issues, facilitates interdisciplinary Extension programs and coordinates task forces that develop new initiatives.

PODC

Personnel and Organizational Development Committee: An ECOP committee that promotes employee competence, recommends improved methods of delivering Extension programs and encourages multi-state professional improvement.

POW

Plan of Work

Program Council

A group comprised of program planning team chairs, program leaders, department heads/chairs, district directors, the Extension Director, Ag Communications Director and other communications staff who focus on extension program planning, program delivery, and faculty and staff in-service training.

PSEP

Pesticide Safety Education Program

RAC

Regional Advisory Committee

The Smith-Lever Act of 1914

Authorized federal support at the state and territorial levels for extension services and established a Cooperative Extension Service associated with each U.S. land-grant college. Smith-Lever funds are administered by the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Cooperative Extension System serves both rural and urban populations throughout the nation, transferring research-based information to individuals, families, businesses, and communities.

SNAP

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: A federally funded program which offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities. SNAP is the largest program in the domestic hunger safety net.

SNAP-Ed

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education: Teaches people using or eligible for SNAP about good nutrition and how to make their food dollars stretch further. SNAP-Ed participants also learn to be physically active.

SPC

Strategic Planning Council: An ECOP committee that leads visioning and planning for Extension.

STEM/STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. STEAM includes Arts.

USDA

U.S. Department of Agriculture

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