
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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December 10, 2021

2021 Wisconsin Act 92 [2021 Assembly Bill 314]

Promoting the Export of Wisconsin's Agricultural and Agribusiness Products

2021 Wisconsin Act 92 directs the Center for International Agribusiness Marketing (Center) within the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to establish and administer a program to promote the export of Wisconsin agricultural and agribusiness products.

Under the exports program, the Center must cooperate with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) to achieve the following three export objectives by June 30, 2026:

- An increase in the value of Wisconsin's milk and other dairy product exports of at least 25 percent over the value as of December 31, 2021.
- An increase in the value of Wisconsin's meat, including poultry and fish, and meat product exports of at least 25 percent over the value as of December 31, 2021.
- An increase in the value of Wisconsin's crop and crop product exports of at least 25 percent over the value as of December 31, 2021.

No later than December 31, 2021, DATCP and WEDC must jointly submit a plan to the Legislature describing how the department and the corporation will achieve the three export objectives, including a plan to grant at least 15 percent of the funds to be expended under the program by no later than December 31, 2022.

In order to provide funding for the Center to carry out the exports program, DATCP must, no later than the 30th day after DATCP and WEDC jointly submit their plan to the Legislature, request that the Joint Committee on Finance (JCF) provide supplemental funding for the exports program. This request must be in an amount not to exceed \$558,400.¹ DATCP must make the same request for the same amount no later than October 1, 2022. JCF may approve each of the additional funding requests without finding that an emergency exists, as is otherwise required for JCF to supplement an appropriation under current law. In addition, in its budget request for the 2023-25 fiscal biennium, DATCP must include a request for funding sufficient to allow the Center to satisfy its duties under the exports program in that biennium.

The Center must expend a total of \$5,000,000 under the exports program. The act specifies the amount to be expended on each of the three export objectives, but no more than \$1,000,000 may be expended under the exports program in any fiscal year.

¹ The 2021 biennial budget act, [2021 Wisconsin Act 58](#), established an unfunded appropriation to DATCP and an unfunded line in the appropriation schedule for "agricultural exports." [s. 20.115(3)(b), Stats.] That budget act also included an appropriation to JCF to provide supplemental funding to a variety of agencies. [s. 20.865(4)(a), Stats.] This appropriation included \$558,400 in each year of the 2021-23 fiscal biennium to be used for DATCP's initiative for agricultural exports. Further information on the JCF appropriation for agency supplements is available on pages 204 and 205 of [Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Summary of Provisions-2021 Act 58 \(Aug. 2021\)](#).

By June 30, 2024, the Center and WEDC must jointly submit a report to the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature that describes in detail all progress made toward achieving each export objective.

After June 30, 2026, the Legislative Audit Bureau must conduct an audit of the exports program and file a copy of the audit report by December 31, 2026.

Effective date: December 5, 2021

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