

United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Program Aid No. 2132

AgDiscovery 2013:

Investing in the Future of American Agriculture



Apply at www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery



ARE YOU...

- a middle or high school student looking for a unique summer internship with an opportunity to live and study on a college campus?
- a high school student looking to improve your resume for college?
- a teacher looking for opportunities to expand your students' view of agriculture?
- a parent looking for learning opportunities for your teen?

Look no further... the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers you an opportunity of a lifetime.

WHAT IS AGDISCOVERY?

AgDiscovery is an outreach program to help teenagers learn about careers in plant and animal science, wildlife management, and agribusiness. The program allows students to live on a college campus and learn about agriculture from university professors, scientists, and administrative professionals who work for the U.S. Government in a variety of fields. They study the life cycles and habits of insects (entomologists); research micro-organisms, such as bacteria and viruses (biotechnologists); examine cells and tissues under a microscope to identify diseases (plant pathologists); work to conserve and manage wild animals and their habitats (wildlife biologists); carry out animal health programs (veterinarians); provide education on the humane care and treatment of animals (veterinarians and animal care inspectors); and manage the business aspects of protecting plants and animals (agribusiness).

This 2- to 4-week summer boarding program for 2013 targets middle and high school students¹ who are interested in learning more about plants, animals, and agribusiness. Students chosen to participate in AgDiscovery will gain experience through hands-on labs, workshops, and field trips. Students will also participate in character- and team-building activities and a variety of workshops.

¹ Students between the ages of 12 and 16 are eligible to participate in the AgDiscovery program at Alcorn State University. For all other participating universities, the eligible ages for participation are 14 through 17 years old.

AgDiscovery

WHO SPONSORS AGDISCOVERY?

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) partners with various universities and colleges to deliver the AgDiscovery program at locations throughout the country. Many of the Federal Government's professional plant scientists, biotechnologists, veterinarians, and wildlife biologists work for APHIS. The agency funds AgDiscovery each year, and partner universities host program participants on their local campuses.

In 2013, there are 17 universities participating in AgDiscovery: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, South Carolina State University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Kentucky State University, Tuskegee University, Alcorn State University, University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Fort Valley State University, University of Arizona, Delaware State University, University of Maryland at College Park, Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, Virginia State University, Lincoln University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Each university's AgDiscovery program focuses on a specific area of interest to our Nation's agriculture, such as plant health, entomology, veterinary science, animal care, biotechnology, and agribusiness.

AgDiscovery is a unique opportunity for students to gain a first-hand look at the many career paths open to them in the agricultural sciences. For those interested in an agricultural career, AgDiscovery is a great way to get started. Read on to learn more about this year's program, including dates, locations, cost information, and how to apply.





FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY JUNE 9–22, 2013

Students will live on the Tallahassee campus and work with a variety of animal species. In addition, students are exposed to opportunities in animal science to help them better understand and refine their career paths. Funding is provided by APHIS' Animal Care program.

Contacts: Dr. Ray Mobley, (850) 445-7423, ray.mobley@famu.edu; Dr.

Contacts: Dr. Ray Mobley, (850) 445-7423, ray.mobley@famu.edu; Dr. Glen Wright, (850) 599-3546, glen.wright@famu.edu; Carmen Lyttle-N'guessan, (850) 412-5363, carmen.lyttlenguessa@famu.edu

www.famu.edu/herds

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) was founded as the State Normal College for Colored Students and, on October 3, 1887, began classes with 15 students and 2 instructors. Today, "FAMU," as it has become affectionately known, is the premiere school among historically black colleges and universities. Prominently located on the highest hill in Florida's capital city of Tallahassee, FAMU remains the only historically black university in the 11-member State University System of Florida.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY *JUNE 23–JULY 7, 2013*

Learn the business aspects of protecting plants and animals while exploring careers in agribusiness. Students will also gain exposure to other career paths in the agricultural sciences, such as veterinary medicine, plant pathology and physiology, chemistry, marketing, public affairs, and computer science. The 2-week program, held on the South Carolina State University (SC State) campus, features a series of interactive activities, presentations, and educational





field visits. Funding is provided by APHIS' Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services.

Contact: Christopher C. Mathis, Jr., Ph.D., (803) 536-8974, cmathis@scsu.edu **www.scsu.edu**

Since 1896, SC State has maintained a legacy of excellence in education. It has been home to generations of scholars and leaders in business, military service, government, athletics, education, medicine, science, and engineering technology. Located in Orangeburg, SC State was founded as a land-grant college with a mission of providing education and service to the citizens of the State.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF JUNE 15–28, 2013

Students will work with plants and animals to discover the effects of insects and diseases on American agriculture. Students will also learn about the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) Regulatory Science program, which offers an undergraduate major in the development and writing of governmental regulations. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs. **Contact:** Willie Columbus, M.S., (870) 575-7252, columbusw@uapb.edu

www.uapb.edu

Unique career choices are available at UAPB. The university's Aquaculture/ Fisheries (AQFI) Center of Excellence, created in 1988, is recognized as a leader in aquaculture/fisheries teaching, research, and extension programs. UAPB is the only school in the University of Arkansas system to offer bachelor and master's degree programs in aquaculture/fisheries.





KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 9-22, 2013

Students will experience campus life while learning about animal science and veterinary medicine through a series of workshops, labs, and field trips. These activities are facilitated by university professionals, veterinarians, and professionals from various agricultural and animal science industries. Through the program, APHIS is able to stimulate and promote students' interest in and knowledge of agriculture-related fields of study.

Contacts: Mrs. JoAna McCoy, (502) 597-5584, joana.mccoy@kysu.edu; Dr. John Hollis, (502) 682-1402, john.hollis@aphis.usda.gov

www.kysu.edu

Kentucky State University (KSU) was chartered in May 1886 as the State Normal School for Colored Persons, only the second State-supported institution of higher learning in Kentucky. Founded in 1887, KSU is a historically black college that is strengthened by both its liberal arts and 1890 landgrant missions. With a 511-acre campus, including a 205-acre agricultural research and demonstration farm, KSU is the smallest of Kentucky's public universities. The university's enrollment is approximately 2,700 students, taught by 155 full-time instructional faculty members who provide education and training through bachelor's and master's degree programs in numerous fields of study.

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 9-22, 2013

Students will learn about career opportunities associated with animal and plant health, focusing on areas such as environmental sciences, animal sciences, entomology, plant science, soil science, water quality, and related disciplines. The program also has a strong leadership component designed to empower students to achieve as they work toward their future careers. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs.

Contact: Dr. Olga Bolden-Tiller, (334) 727-8403, obtiller@mytu.tuskegee.edu www.tuskegee.edu/agritrek/agdiscovery_overview.aspx

Tuskegee University, founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, is a national, independent, and State-related institution of higher learning in Alabama that services a diverse, coeducational student body of more than 3,000. Tuskegee's College of Agricultural, Environment, and Nutrition Sciences (CAENS) offers an education that prepares future professionals and leaders in the life sciences through coursework along with research and outreach activities. CAENS programs are influenced by the college's inherited legacy of George Washington Carver and his many contributions to teaching, research, and outreach in agriculture.

ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 16-28, 2013

Enter the amazing world of animal science/veterinary medicine at the AgDiscovery summer camp at Alcorn State University in Lorman, MS. For 2 weeks, students will interact with peers from across the country to learn animal husbandry and veterinary science principles and techniques, using a variety of live animals. Funding is provided by the National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of the APHIS Veterinary Services unit.

Contact: Dr. Cassandra Vaughn, (601) 877-6541, cfvaughn@alcorn.edu **www.alcorn.edu**

For 141 years, Alcorn State University has been an educator of leaders. The university's low student-to-faculty ratio (16:1) is an important reason for its graduates' success. At Alcorn, students form close, collaborative relationships with faculty mentors. Alumni include Alex Haley, Michael Clarke Duncan, Medgar Evers, Donald Driver, Steve McNair, and others.





UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

JULY 7-20, 2013

Students will learn about career and educational opportunities in the fields of animal and plant health, including agricultural sciences, veterinary sciences, animal and plant disease eradication, plant pathology, entomology, wildlife services, investigative enforcement, and activities of APHIS' Center for Plant Health, Science, and Technology. Students will experience many aspects of agribusiness and college campus life through various field and lab activities. Funding is provided by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program.

Contacts: Charles Kinoshita, Ph.D., (808) 956-6997, kinoshitac@ctahr. hawaii.edu; Carol Russell, (808) 838-2780, carol.e.russell@aphis.usda.gov www.hawaii.edu

Founded in 1907, the University of Hawaii at Mānoa (UH Mānoa) is the flagship campus of the University of Hawaii System. Students and faculty come from across the Nation and the world to take advantage of UH Mānoa's diversity and excellence in academics, unique research opportunities, athletics, community involvement, and breathtaking natural beauty. UH Mānoa is grounded in the traditional values of the Native Hawaiian culture, helping students find their individual academic passions in life and, ultimately, pursue their callings.



FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 17-28, 2013

Students will have great exposure to DNA technology through hands-on experiences in agricultural biotechnology while experiencing university campus life. Participants will learn about educational and job opportunities in animal and plant health-related fields on campus or through field trips. The program is funded by the National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of the APHIS Veterinary Services unit.

Contacts: Dr. Cristopher A. Young, (770) 922-7860, cristopher.a.young@aphis.usda.gov; Dr. Nirmal Joshee, (478) 825-6373, josheen@fvsu.eduwww.fvsu.edu

Fort Valley State University (FVSU), located in Fort Valley, GA, is the only 1890 land-grant university in the 35-member State University System of Georgia. FVSU is a comprehensive institution with over 3,800 students and a 1,365-acre campus (the second largest public university campus in Georgia). The university offers bachelor's degrees in more than 50 majors—education, business administration, and agriculture are particularly popular—as well as master's degrees in animal science, biotechnology, education, and counseling. The university provides instruction, research, and public and extension services for all segments of the population to achieve their personal, educational, and professional goals.





Learn about career opportunities and possibilities in animal and plant health, including agricultural sciences, veterinary sciences, animal and plant disease eradication, plant pathology, and entomology. Students experience many aspects of agribusiness and college campus life through various field and lab activities. The 2-week program is cosponsored by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine and Veterinary Services units.

Contacts: Dr. Kurt Nolte, (928) 726-3904, knolte@cals.arizona.edu; Tess A. Williams, (602) 431-3208, tessie.a.williams@aphis.usda.gov

http://ag.arizona.edu/

The University of Arizona (UA) is a premier, public research university. Established in 1885 as the first university in Arizona and the State's landgrant university, UA is building a better Arizona through access, quality, and discovery. As the primary land-grant component of the university, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences administers a variety of programs at its regional Agricultural Centers and engages in cooperative extension efforts with Federal, State, and county governments and agencies. These efforts enhance agriculture, the environment, natural resources, family and youth well-being, and the development of local communities.

DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY

JULY 7-20, 2013

Learn about the business aspects of protecting plants and animals while exploring careers in agribusiness. Students live on the Delaware State University (DSU) campus in Dover and learn about a variety of administrative professions from university professors and agriculture employees. This program is funded by APHIS' Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services.

Contacts: Dr. Dyremple B. Marsh, (302) 857-6400, dmarsh@desu.edu; Mr. Harry Thayer, (302) 857-6434, hthayer@desu.edu

www.desu.edu

DSU, founded in 1891 as the State College for Colored Students, takes pride in its heritage as one of the country's first land-grant educational institutions, rooted early on in agriculture and education. DSU's current population includes a 76-percent African-American enrollment and an increasing number of Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian, and other international students.







Learn about plants and animals, the importance of protecting America's food supply from insects and disease, the role of regulation in genetically engineered organisms, and the challenge of managing and resolving wildlife conflicts. The 3-week program at the University of Maryland's College Park campus provides an educational odyssey exploring food, culture, and the environment. Participants also receive 3 hours of university-level course credits through the Young Scholars Program. Funding is provided by several offices within APHIS.

Contacts: Dr. Leon Slaughter, (301) 405-2078, Islaugh@umd.edu; Ms. April Brohawn, (301) 314-7222, abrohawn@umd.edu

www.agnr.umd.edu

The University of Maryland at College Park is the flagship campus of the University System of Maryland and the State's original 1862 land-grant institution. It is one of only 62 members of the Association of American Universities, which is composed of the leading research universities in the United States and Canada. The University of Maryland is committed to achieving excellence as the State's primary center of research and graduate education and the institution of choice for undergraduate students of exceptional ability and promise. The university counts among its greatest strengths the diversity of its faculty, staff, and students.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

JULY 7-20, 2013

Students learn about the interconnection between wildlife biology and conservation, laboratory technology and diagnostics, animal science, and veterinary medicine. Every student will have hands-on experience on the farm, in wildlife environments, and in the laboratory. Activities will include field trips to several types of farms; lab exercises such as bacterial culture, egg candling and inoculations, animal necropsies, veterinary clinical procedures, and diagnostic testing; and field trips to conservation areas, zoological facilities, animal shelters, and research facilities. Students who have completed a general biology or animal science course will benefit the most from the program activities. Funding is provided by several APHIS programs.

Contacts: Rebecca Christoffel, Ph.D., (515) 294-7429, christof@ iastate.edu; Janet B. Payeur, D.V.M., M.P.H., Ph.D., (515) 337-7003, janet.b.payeur@aphis.usda.gov

http://agdiscovery.nrem.iastate.edu www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/lab_info_services

lowa State University (ISU) is an international, prestigious university with a friendly, welcoming personality. Nearly 30,000 students choose from over 100 majors, study with world-class scholars, and hone their leadership skills in more than 800 student organizations. ISU offers a great environment where students can enjoy reaching their potential and discovering their passions. The school's culturally diverse student body includes students from all 50 States and more than 110 countries.





NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY JUNE 17-28, 2013

Students learn about careers in plant science, including entomology (the study of insects), plant pathology (the study of plant diseases), botany (the study of plants), and agronomy (the science of soil management and production of field crops). Students live on campus in dorms, learning field and laboratory research techniques from university professors and practicing entomologists, botanists, and plant pathologists who work for the U.S. Government. The program is facilitated by The Science House at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and funded by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine unit.

Contacts: Samantha Barlow, (919) 515-6885, agdiscovery@science-house.org; Camille Morris, (919) 855-7340, camille.e.morris@aphis.usda.govwww.science-house.org

With more than 31,000 students and nearly 8,000 faculty and staff, NCSU is a comprehensive university known for its leadership in education and research, and it is globally recognized for its science, technology, engineering, and mathematics leadership. As one of the leading land-grant institutions in the Nation, NCSU is committed to playing an active and vital role in improving the quality of life for the citizens of North Carolina, the Nation, and the world. Consistently ranked among the Nation's top 50 public universities and ranked by Princeton Review as a best value for students, NCSU is a place where students can fit in—and dig in. NCSU students start work on their major as freshmen, whether it's conducting research alongside faculty or starting a challenging co-op or internship.

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

JUNE 16-29, 2013

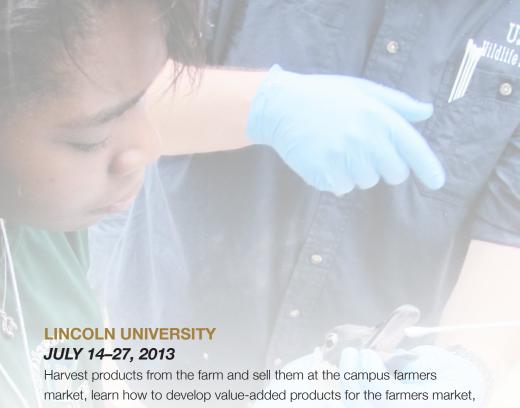
Students gain hands-on experience in the disciplines of veterinary science and food safety by working with small ruminants and farmed fish, observing on-farm processing, and learning field and laboratory research techniques. Field trips and guest speakers provide exposure to agricultural production and research, as well as a variety of related professions. Students will reside in a university dormitory. This program is facilitated by the Virginia State University (VSU) School of Agriculture, with collaboration from USDA partners and industry representatives.

Contacts: Antonio McLaren, (804) 524-6872, amclaren@vsu.edu; Roz Stein, (804) 524-1533, rstein@vsu.edu

www.vsu.edu

Founded in 1882, VSU holds the distinction of being the Nation's first fully State-supported historically black college or university. With a mission emphasizing the integration of academic instruction, research, and public service, VSU welcomes students of any race, religion, or ethnic heritage. The VSU School of Agriculture has strong programs in small ruminants, food safety, and high-value crops. VSU also owns and operates a 416-acre farm and agricultural research center.





Harvest products from the farm and sell them at the campus farmers market, learn how to develop value-added products for the farmers market, and examine urban farming opportunities, aquaculture, and livestock care. Part of your stay will be in air-conditioned log cabins that are nestled in the woods at the university-owned Busby Farm; the remainder will be in a dormitory on the main campus. Funding is provided by the APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine program.

Contact: David Kiesling, M.S., (573) 681-5357, kieslingd@lincolnu.edu **www.lincolnu.edu**

The main campus of Lincoln University, the oldest of the 1890 land-grant schools, includes 169 acres and is located on a hilly prominence with a panoramic view of Jefferson City, MO. The institution serves approximately 3,300 students, both undergraduate and graduate. Lincoln students can choose from an array of undergraduate majors, including agriculture, environmental science, agribusiness, biology, chemistry, criminal justice, medical technology, physics, and wellness. Those continuing their education can earn master's degrees in business administration, history and sociology, environmental science, and several fields of education.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

JULY 14-27, 2013

Students learn about careers in animal management, plant biotechnology, plant microbiology, water quality, nutrient management, horticulture, and natural resource sciences. They have experiential learning opportunities through state-of-the-art research, education, and farm facilities, as well as field trips to conservation areas and research centers. Students reside on the university campus located in Princess Anne, MD, and work with university faculty and other agriculture professionals. In addition to APHIS, funding for the program is provided by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Contacts: Dr. George S. Shorter, (410) 651-6193, gsshorter@umes.edu; Dr. Bessie M. Green, (410) 651-6200, bmgreen@umes.edu

www.umes.edu

The University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), the State's historically black, 1890 land-grant university, is a teaching, research, and doctoral institution that nurtures and launches leaders in a student-centered environment. For the sixth consecutive year, UMES, founded in 1886, was ranked in the top tier of the Nation's best black colleges and universities in 2012 by U.S. News & World Report. True to its land-grant heritage, UMES offers a number of bachelor's and master's degree programs, including programs in agribusiness, urban forestry, and general agriculture (with concentrations in plant and soil science, animal and poultry science, agriculture education, and agricultural studies).



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN JUNE 30-JULY 27, 2013

Learn about career possibilities in the plant, animal, and veterinary sciences and learn how USDA protects America's food supply. Over a period of 4 weeks, students will live on the university's campus and have hands-on experiences in animal and plant laboratories under the supervision of plant and animal scientists and veterinarians from the university and USDA. Field trips allow students to experience the vast aspects of the U.S. food and agriculture system. The program is facilitated in partnership with the university's Research Apprentice Program and funded by APHIS.

Contact: Dr. Jesse Thompson, (217) 333-3380, jthomps5@illinois.edu **academics.aces.illinois.edu/diversity**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is a world-class, comprehensive research university, established in 1862 as the land-grant institution in Illinois. The university's College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) is recognized as a leader in many science fields, particularly in the disciplines of agricultural and biological engineering and the crop, animal, and nutritional sciences. ACES serves a key role in providing programs and instruction aimed at educating the next generation of future managers and scientists.





HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Students selected for the 2013 AgDiscovery summer session will pay only the cost of their transportation to get from home to the college campus for the start of the session and back again at the end of the session. (Note: Students are also responsible for arranging their transportation at the start and end of the session; AgDiscovery does not provide a shuttle or other such transportation services at those times.) The cost of tuition, room and board, and lab supplies for the 2- to 4-week program will be covered by various offices within APHIS.

HOW DO I APPLY?

For the program at Alcorn State University, students between the ages of 12 and 16 are eligible to apply for admission to AgDiscovery. For all other participating universities, the eligible ages for AgDiscovery program admission are 14 through 17 years old. (Note: You must be at least the minimum eligible age and no older than the maximum eligible age for your selected program as of May 31, 2013.)

A complete application package **must be received no later than March 23, 2013.** Applications can be submitted as follows:

- A fillable PDF application can be obtained at www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery and forwarded via email, along with the required two-page essay, to agdiscovery@aphis.usda.gov. Reference letters must be submitted separately.
- Hard copy applications must be received no later than March 23.
 APHIS will not accept application packages that are incomplete or received after March 23. Also, additions to incomplete applications will not be accepted after the March 23 deadline.

Here's what to put in your application package:

• A two-page essay entitled "Why I Want To Attend the AgDiscovery Program at ______ (indicate the participating university you would like to attend) and What I Want To Learn." In the essay, include information on your interests and hobbies and explain what you want to do when you grow up. Be sure to include your full name, age, home address, home telephone number, and email address.

- Three character references—letters from people not related to you
 who know you well. At least one of the three references must come
 from a teacher or counselor. References must be submitted in a
 sealed envelope with your application package.
- A completed application form. If you did not receive one with this leaflet, you can print the form from the Web. Go to www.aphis.usda.gov and click on the AgDiscovery Program hotlink.

Mail your completed package to:

Ms. Beatrice Jacobs

USDA-APHIS Office of the Administrator
Office of Civil Rights, Diversity, and Inclusion
4700 River Road, Unit 92
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234

On or prior to April 30, 2013, APHIS will notify you if you have been selected for this summer's AgDiscovery program. Meanwhile, if you'd like to learn more about APHIS or this year's participating universities, visit these Web sites:













www.desu.edu



NC STATE UNIVERSITY

www.ncsu.edu



http://agdiscovery.nrem.iastate.edu



www.scsu.edu



www.arizona.edu



www.tuskegee.edu/caens





www.vsu.edu



www.fvsu.edu



www.iiricoiriu.eau



www.umes.edu



www.illinois.aces.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information about the AgDiscovery program, contact:

Ms. Terry Henson or Ms. Beatrice Jacobs

USDA-APHIS Office of the Administrator Office of Civil Rights, Diversity, and Inclusion 4700 River Road, Unit 92

Riverdale, MD 20737-1234

Phone: (301) 851-4200 Fax: (301) 734-3698

Email: terry.a.henson@aphis.usda.gov beatrice.f.jacobs@aphis.usda.gov

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT AGDISCOVERY APPLICATIONS

Applicants can only apply to **one** AgDiscovery program each year. The programs are categorized in the four disciplines below. Following the 2013 AgDiscovery program, applicants will no longer be eligible to repeat participation within a discipline. For example, if a student participates in any program within the animal discipline, he or she will only be eligible to participate in programs within the remaining disciplines in 2014 and beyond.

Agribusiness	Animal	Plant	Combination
Delaware	Kentucky	North Carolina	Maryland – College Park
	Florida	Lincoln	Arkansas Pine Bluff
	Alcorn	Arizona	Tuskegee
	Virginia		Hawaii
	Fort Valley		Iowa
	Maryland – Eastern Shore		Illinois
			South Carolina



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