

**LSU AgCenter  
And  
City of West Monroe**

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Cooperative Agreement to Support and Administer Louisiana Cooperative  
Units Off Campus

**Background:**

The process of developing a well educated citizenry involves use of formal and informal approaches by dedicated professionals. Congress in 1914 signified the national interest in assuring that informal educational opportunities needed to emanate from the knowledge generating process of the Land Grant College system by passing the Smith-Lever Act. This Act created the Cooperative Extension Service system that links Land Grant campus faculty to those seeking information in off campus locales. This is achieved via a partnership of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Louisiana State University AgCenter and local government. Police Juries, Parish Commissions and School Boards are the critical third partner for effectively identifying, developing and delivering Cooperative Extension programs. Educational needs and delivery mechanisms clearly have dynamic aspects that challenge the federal, state and local partners to work effectively in order to meet community needs. This Cooperative Agreement between the LSU AgCenter and local government acknowledges the value to clientele of all partners having a uniform understanding for programming support.

**Partnership Philosophy:**

- The long standing presence of Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service (LCES) faculty in the parish has established invaluable ties to the local clientele, government, and industry.
- That educational programming is most valued when developed in concert with local and area needs as expressed through the advisory committee process.
- That LSU AgCenter faculty on campus and at research stations/regional centers are an essential supplement to the technical capabilities of local LCES faculty.
- LCES faculty have, at a minimum, a baccalaureate degree, and must complete graduate level coursework with the intention that they will work toward a master's degree. LCES also provides additional technical training opportunities in order to offer local clientele enhanced information and educational programs.
- LCES faculty in parish offices may develop and deliver specialized programming of importance to surrounding parishes.

- Federal, state and local financial support is necessary to meet the needs of the community as identified by advisory committees.

**The LSU AgCenter agrees:**

1. The LSU AgCenter working in the LCES format will deliver needs based, focused programs in four general categories: 1) Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2) 4-H Youth Development, 3) Family and Consumer Sciences, and 4) Community Economic Development.
2. That competent faculty and support personnel will be recruited and placed in parish offices on LSU AgCenter appointments by following LSU AgCenter Human Resources Office procedures.
3. Faculty are to be afforded training and professional improvement opportunities to assure the parish has the best technical resources available.
4. Faculty and unclassified staff in parish offices will be supervised and evaluated by the appropriate unit leader pursuant to the LSU AgCenter's employee policies and procedures.
5. To provide parish governmental units with oral and written reports from the parish AgCenter faculty on a mutually agreed to schedule but at least annually.
6. To consult with parish government units as to the programs to be offered in the parish.
7. Faculty in the parish will adhere to the Policy Statements and Presidential Memoranda issued by the LSU President's Office and AgCenter campus.
8. To evaluate the need for specialized office and program delivery equipment above that provided by the parish.
9. To establish mutually beneficial billing procedures for collection of financial support for faculty and staff from parish government units.

**The City of West Monroe Agrees:**

1. To provide financial support of \$8,225.00 for research based educational programming for the parish including but not limited to: 1) Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2) 4-H Youth Development, 3) Family and Consumer Sciences, and 4) Community Economic Development.

**Implementation:**

This Cooperative Agreement between the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service and the City of West Monroe is entered into in order to assure continued informal educational programming from the LSU AgCenter. It shall be in effect for five (5) years for the period **July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2031.**

**Approved:**

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City of West Monroe Mayor

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Date

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Regional Director  
LSU AgCenter

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Date