

Agricultural Commodity Commissions

RCW 15.24, 15.26, 15.28, 15.44, 15.65, 15.66, 15.74, 15.88, 15.89, 16.67, 15.115

The agricultural commodity commissions provide for the orderly, fair, efficient, and unhampered marketing of agricultural and forest commodities produced in Washington State. The commissions represent producers or handlers of a specific commodity produced in Washington State.

Agricultural commodity commissions operate under a separate statute or under the provisions of a marketing order, which is adopted by the Director of Agriculture. The marketing order provides for the goals and objectives of the commodity commission. The producers or handlers of an agricultural commodity must approve the marketing order by referendum. Each agricultural commodity commission is composed of industry representatives who are elected or appointed to the commission. Depending on the statute or marketing order, an agricultural commodity commission may develop and engage in research that benefits the planting, production, harvesting, handling, processing, or marketing of the specified agricultural commodity; promote an agricultural commodity or expand markets through advertising and promotional campaigns; provide for labeling practices, consumer education programs, and dissemination of information to the industry; or take measures to prevent unfair trade practices.

One commodity commission, the Hardwoods Commission, operates independently of the state Department of Agriculture. The Commission markets and promotes hardwood products, and engages in educational and research endeavors.

Each commodity commission's activities are funded almost entirely through assessments paid by the producers or handlers of the commodity produced. The commissions are supported by local funds that are not budgeted or appropriated. Each commission reports its fiscal activity to the Governor and Legislature and is subject to state audit.

Agency Local Funds

Statement of Local Fund Balances

	7/1/13	6/30/15	2015-17	2015-17	6/30/17
	Fund Balance	Estimated Fund Balance	Estimated Revenues	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Fund Balance
Non-Budgeted Funds					
Alfalfa Seed Commission	165,983	134,329	100,000	140,000	94,329
Apple Commission	3,305,081	4,000,000	9,100,000	8,600,000	4,500,000
Asparagus Commission*					
Beef Commission	216,002	147,905	2,262,666	2,307,578	102,993
Beer Commission	425,459	495,000	2,100,000	1,900,000	695,000
Blueberry Commission*					
Bulb Commission	27,828	24,220	9,000	8,752	24,468
Cranberry Commission	16,500	17,000	33,000	30,000	17,000
Canola/Rapeseed Commission	50,227	74,903	120,000	74,000	120,903
Dairy Products Commission	3,839,118	3,166,636	13,625,600	14,523,098	2,269,138
Dry Pea and Lentil Commission	1,213,392	1,052,018	1,550,952	1,873,700	729,270
Fruit Commission	6,010,896	5,000,000	21,000,000	20,500,000	5,500,000
Grain Commission	9,852,071	7,200,000	9,000,000	11,600,000	4,600,000
Hop Commission (Calendar Year)	379,577	367,929	1,364,000	1,299,076	432,853
Mint Commission	254,746	277,956	460,000	600,000	137,956
Potato Commission	4,840,400	4,400,000	6,700,000	7,100,000	4,000,000
Puget Sound Salmon Commission	80,283	85,000	60,000	60,000	85,000
Red Raspberry Commission	513,422	539,642	620,000	620,000	539,642
Seed Potato Commission	33,461	25,500	80,000	85,000	20,500
Strawberry Commission	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Tree Fruit Research Commission	3,540,281	4,000,000	16,000,000	16,000,000	4,000,000
Turfgrass Seed Commission	167,945	169,870	120,000	120,000	169,870
Wine Commission	2,021,705	970,000	17,857,000	17,850,000	977,000
Total Non-Budgeted Funds	36,994,377	32,187,908	102,202,218	105,331,204	29,055,922

* Commission did not provide information.