



June 11, 2021

Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S-146A, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Room S-128, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs DeLauro and Leahy and Ranking Members Granger and Shelby:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing the full spectrum of U.S. higher education, we write to request your support for the critical programs serving students, institutions, and researchers under your authority.

As our nation looks to turn the corner and begin the process of rebuilding our economy after the pandemic, it is critical that existing federal investments to strengthen our workforce, advance scientific research and develop new technologies, enhance the capacities of postsecondary institutions, and promote the greatest possible opportunity for students and their families are expanded in the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations process.

Below, we have identified funding levels across a range of federal programs to accomplish these goals. These requests are based on the existing needs identified across U.S. higher education and represent an opportunity to not merely repair the damage caused by the pandemic, but to provide real educational and economic opportunity to all.

Financial Aid and Student Services

Pell Grants: As the cornerstone of federal financial aid, it is critical that Congress make the necessary investments to restore the purchasing power of the program. For that reason, the Pell Grant maximum award should be doubled to \$13,000, with automatic annual increases tied to the Consumer Price Index to keep funding on pace with inflation. Doubling Pell would restore much of the purchasing power the grant had in FY 1975,

when the maximum Pell award covered 78 percent of the cost of attendance at a four-year public college. It now covers just 28 percent.

We also strongly encourage you to keep all Pell Grant reserve funding within the program and not rescind it to fund other programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill. Spending the reserve funds outside of Pell, rather than investing them back into the program, puts the future stability of Pell Grants in jeopardy. The economic impact of the pandemic has yet to be fully realized as students and families make difficult decisions about whether or not to pursue higher education, and ensuring that Pell Grants are stable will help ease the recovery.

The Administration supports doubling the Pell Grant and has requested a \$400 discretionary increase through appropriations, combined with a \$1,475 increase through the American Families Plan, for a total maximum award of \$8,370.

For the other financial aid programs, we would request:

- **Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants:** A total of \$1.06 billion, an increase of \$181 million above FY 2021 appropriations. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **Federal Work Study:** A total of \$1.48 billion, an increase of \$290 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **TRIO Programs:** A total of \$1.316 billion, an increase of \$219.4 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase these programs by \$200.8 million for FY 2022.
- **GEAR UP:** A total of \$435 million, an increase of \$67 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$40 million for FY 2022.
- **Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need:** A total of \$35 million, an increase of \$11.5 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **Child Care Access Means Parents in School:** A total of \$200 million, an increase of \$150 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$40 million for FY 2022.
- **Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Grants:** A total of \$65 million should be provided in FY 2022. While this program has not been funded since FY 2011, it has not been repealed, and it provides a strong incentive for states to increase their efforts to support need-based financial aid. This program was not addressed in the Administration's budget request.

Institutional Support, Career and Technical Education, and Other Programs

The programs listed below provide critical support for institutions serving historically underserved populations (including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other minority serving institutions), career and workforce training programs, and specialized academic studies as well as initiatives to improve completion and performance.

For these programs, we request:

- **Strengthening Institutions (Title III Part A):** A total of \$209 million, an increase of \$100 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **Strengthening Tribal College and Universities (Title III Part A, Sec. 316):** A total of \$53.1 million, an increase of \$15 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Title III Part B, Sec. 323):** A total of \$402.6 million, an increase of \$65 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions (Title III Part B, Sec. 326):** A total of \$125 million, an increase of \$38 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$15 million for FY 2022.
- **Strengthening Predominantly Black Institutions (Title III Part A, Sec. 318):** A total of \$25 million, an increase of \$11 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$9 million for FY 2022.
- **Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (Title V Part A):** A total of \$250 million, an increase of \$101.3 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$88 million for FY 2022.
- **Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (Title V, Part B):** A total of \$50 million, an increase of \$36.2 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$15 million for FY 2022.
- **Master's Degree Programs at HBCUs and PBIs (Title VII, Sec. 723):** A total of \$25 million, an increase of \$14 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$10 million for FY 2022.

- **Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program:** A total of \$20 million, an increase of \$6.6 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$5 million for FY 2022.
- **Howard University:** A total of \$275 million, an increase of \$24 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$10 million for FY 2022.
- **HBCU Capital Financing Loan Subsidies:** A total of \$50 million, an increase of \$1.5 million above FY 2021. The Administration proposes to reduce the subsidies provided by \$28.5 million for FY 2022.
- **Adult Basic and Literacy Education State Grants:** A total of \$750 million, an increase of \$75 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **Career, Technical, and Adult Education State Grants:** A total of \$1.535 billion, an increase of \$200 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$128 million for FY 2022.
- **Teacher Quality Partnerships (TQP):** A total of \$132.1 million, an increase of \$80 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **Teacher Quality Enhancement, Augustus Hawkins Centers of Excellence at MSIs:** A total of \$60 million, which would represent new funding for this program. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.

Research and Other Programs

Federal support for research and development is an essential component to maintaining the United States' leadership in the innovation economy, allowing us to compete and succeed in the global marketplace. The research performed on college campuses provides countless benefits to the economy of our nation, and the well-being of our citizens. We urge your committees to continue the investments made in FY 2021 and provide the following increases to important scientific research programs across multiple agencies in FY 2022:

Agriculture

- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Agriculture and Food Research Initiative:** A total of \$700 million, an increase of \$265 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Hatch Act (State Agricultural Experiment Stations):** A total of \$329 million, an increase of

\$70 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.

- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Smith Lever Funds 3b&c (Cooperative Extension Activities):** A total of \$340 million, an increase of \$25 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Evans-Allen Program (1890s Research and Education):** A total of \$93 million, an increase of \$20 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 1890 Institutions Extension Services:** A total of \$67 million, an increase of \$5 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry:** A total of \$46 million, an increase of \$10 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research Grants for 1994 Institutions:** A total of \$6 million, an increase of \$2 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Services at 1994 Institutions:** A total of \$10 million, an increase of \$1.5 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Payments Funding for 1994 Institutions:** A total of \$6 million, an increase of \$1.5 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship, and Institution Challenge Grant:** A total of \$10.5 million, an increase of \$1 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Education Grants for 1890 Institutions:** A total of \$28 million, an increase of \$2 million above FY 2021. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.

Commerce, Justice, Science

- **National Science Foundation:** A total of \$10.2 billion for NSF, an increase of \$1.72 billion above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for

FY 2022.

- **NASA - Science:** A total of \$9 billion, which is an increase of \$1.7 billion above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$630 million for FY 2022.
- **NASA - Aeronautics:** A total of \$915 million, an increase of \$86.3 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.
- **NASA - Space Technology:** A total of \$1.5 billion, an increase of \$400 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$300 million for FY 2022.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:** A total of \$722 million, an increase of \$151.4 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.

Defense

- **Department of Defense Science and Technology (Sec. 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3):** A total of \$17.88 billion, an increase of \$1.01 billion over FY 2021. The Administration proposes to cut funding in these accounts by \$2.188 billion for FY 2022.

Energy and Water Development

- **Department of Energy Office of Science:** A total of \$7.7 billion, an increase of \$674 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$374 million for FY 2022.
- **Department of Energy ARPA-E:** A total of \$500 million, an increase of \$73 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.

Interior-Environment

- **National Endowment for the Humanities:** A total of \$201 million, an increase of \$33.5 million above FY 2021. The Administration's budget request would increase this program by \$10 million for FY 2022. Our request aligns with the Administration's budget request for the National Endowment for the Arts which has been funded at the same level as the National Endowment for the Humanities since 2008.

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education

- **National Institutes of Health:** We support a request of \$52 Billion, which is

\$2.5 billion above current NIH base funding. This matches the Administration's request. In addition, we ask that appropriators support the NIH base budget at \$46.1 billion and do not fund new programs at the expense of the NIH base budget. We look forward to learning more about the request for an additional \$6.5 billion, allocated over three years, for the creation of a proposed rapid-response initiative, ARPA-H.

- **Title VI and Fulbright:** A total of \$151.4 million in funding for International Education and Foreign Language Studies, an increase of \$73.2 million above FY 2021. This includes \$134.3 million for Higher Education Act-Title VI and \$17.1 million for Fulbright-Hays programs. This program was level-funded in the Administration's budget request.
- **Institute of Education Sciences:** A total of \$737.5 million, an increase of \$95 million above FY 2021. This matches the Administration's budget request for FY 2022.

Department of State

- **Educational and Cultural Exchanges Programs:** At least \$50 million for EducationUSA, a Department of State network of over 430 international student advising centers in more than 175 countries and territories, an increase of \$37 million above FY 2021.

As you consider programmatic funding levels for FY 2022 appropriations, we urge you to reaffirm Congress's historic, bipartisan commitment to postsecondary education and scientific research. We look forward to working with you to advance programmatic funding that meets the needs of our students and nation as a whole.

Sincerely,



Ted Mitchell
President

On behalf of:

Achieving the Dream
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Association of University Professors

American College Personnel Association
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association of American Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Pennsylvania
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Rhode Island
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Research Libraries
Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources
Common App
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
EDUCAUSE
Higher Education Consultants Association
Higher Education Loan Coalition
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
Independent Colleges of Indiana
Independent Colleges of Washington
Maryland Independent College and University Association
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Colleges and Employers
National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities
Phi Beta Kappa Society
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities
Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities