



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Washington Watch Live

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TOPICS

- HEERF
- DACA Regulations
- Infrastructure Bill
- Build Back Better Act
- FY 2022 Appropriations
- Vaccine Requirements

HEERF

- No Definitive Word from Dept. of Education (ED) on Extensions
 - Early communications suggested 1-year, no-cost extensions would be broadly granted
 - Mixed messages to campuses on when requests will be accepted
 - A few extensions already given
 - AACC urging ED to clarify situation ASAP
- Administration Eager for Institutions to Spend Money Expeditiously
- AACC Wants to Hear Your Questions
- Make Sure to Tell Your Legislators, “Thank You”

DACA REGULATIONS

- Administration Issued Proposed DACA Regulations on Sept. 28
 - Regulations largely codify DACA as originally created
 - Work authorization separated from deportation protection
 - Regulations intended to respond to current and anticipated legal proceedings
 - Regulatory process does not address substantive reasons court has cited for ending the program
- Higher Education Groups Drafting Comments
 - AACC to make draft comments available to campuses before Nov. 29 deadline

INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Signed Into Law
 - Approx. \$1.2 trillion bill
 - Not much in bill of direct benefit to community colleges
 - No dedicated CC infrastructure funding (\$12 billion) as originally proposed
 - Colleges' main role will likely be training workers for jobs created
 - Several workforce studies mandated, but workforce training \$ largely found in BBB Act
 - \$65 Billion for Broadband Deployment and Adoption
 - Grants to states and other entities (potentially including CCs) to help spread deployment and adoption
 - Extension of EBB program to help individuals afford broadband service

BUILD BACK BETTER ACT (H.R. 5376)

- BBB Act Encompasses “Social Infrastructure” Programs Originally Proposed in Pres. Biden’s American Jobs and Families Plans
- Negotiations Continue Between Democratic Party Factions on Final Contents, Support
- Full House Vote Possible This Week
 - If passed, bill goes to Senate, where not all Democrats have pledged support
- \$40 Billion for Higher Education and Workforce (excludes TAACCCT, other programs)
 - Massive reduction from Ed/Labor bill
- AACC STRONGLY SUPPORTS!

AMERICA'S COLLEGE PROMISE – FACTORS LEADING TO EXCLUSION

- Slashing of Original BBB Plan (and as Approved by House Comms.)
- Program's Size and "Non-Scalability"
- Relatively Complex Program
- Differential Impact on States; Required State Contributions
- Many BBB Priorities Created Complex Advocacy Environment
- Four-Year Institution Opposition

BBB: KEY PROVISIONS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- \$550 Increase in Pell Grant Maximum Award for 4 Years (For Profit Students Excluded)
- Title IV Eligibility For DACA, TPS and DED Students
- \$500 Million for Completion and Retention Grants
- \$6.1 Billion for Community College Job Training Programs
 - New Community College And Industry Partnership Grants
 - \$5 billion overall, \$4.9 billion for competitive grants
 - Administered by ED
 - Similar in nature to TAACCCT
 - TAACCCT: \$1.2 Billion reauthorization over 4 years (\$300 million per year).
 - New 15% spending requirement for student supportive services

KEY BBB PROVISIONS (CONT'D)

- **Industry or Sector Partnership Grants - \$4.6 Billion**
 - New DOL competitive grant program to partnerships and workforce boards
 - Likely CC involvement
- **Additional Funds For Existing Workforce Programs**
 - WIOA Dislocated Worker - \$2 billion
 - WIOA Adults - \$1 billion
 - WIOA Youth – \$1.5 billion
 - Apprenticeship Grants - \$1 billion
 - Perkins CTE and Adult Basic Education - \$700 million each

KEY BBB PROVISIONS (CONT'D)

- Institutional Aid: \$6 Billion for HBCUs, TCUs and MSIs
 - Supplements existing mandatory funding streams
 - New student financial aid component authorized
- Reauthorization and Funding for Health Professions Opportunity Grants (HPOG)
- Broader Proposed Transformation of Child Care (Family Subsidies, Direct Program Funding, Increased Salaries) May Positively Benefit CCs in Many Respects
- Other Possible Opportunities
 - Direct care workforce grants
 - Climate change jobs programs

KEY BBB PROVISIONS (CONT'D)

- **Pell Grants Made Tax Free for Four Years**
 - Portion of Pell Grants not used for tuition and fees is currently taxable
 - Legislation makes entire grant amount non-taxable
- **AOTC “Pell Offset” Eliminated**
 - Students who otherwise qualify for \$2,500 American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC) would not have eligibility reduced by any Pell Grant amounts received – major boon to CC students

FY 2022 APPROPRIATIONS

- Continuing Resolution Through 12/3, May Be Extended Into 2022
- House Has Passed Extremely Generous Labor-HHS-ED Bill
- Senate Democrats Have Released Draft With High Funding Levels
 - Highlights include Pell Grant maximum, institutional aid, CCAMPIS, Strengthening CC Training Grants (House)
- Senate Republicans Have Yet to Weigh In and Levels Will be Reduced
- Some Chance of JOBS Act Negotiated Language Being Included

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION VACCINE REQUIREMENTS

- Two Different Mandates That May Affect Community Colleges
- Federal Contractors (Fewer Colleges)
 - Institutions with federal government contracts of at least \$250,000 will need to require vaccinations for employees working on the contract and those they may interact with
 - No testing option
 - Prospective requirement, though some agencies working them into existing contracts
 - Grants are NOT contracts

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION VACCINE REQUIREMENTS

- OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard (More Colleges)
 - Mandates that all employers with at least 100 employees require employees to be vaccinated or undergo weekly COVID testing
 - Employers not required to cover testing costs
 - Applies to community colleges in the 28 states and territories that have an OSHA-approved state plan
 - These states have 30 days after ETS released to update their state plans (clock started Nov. 4)
 - Colleges in other states not impacted
 - Legal challenges to mandate ongoing, may change timeline or eradicate requirement altogether
 - Being prepared is generally advised

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

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Reimagine is the theme for the 2022 Workforce Development Institute taking place in Jacksonville, FL January 26-29. Register today.



The premier event for community college leaders is happening April 30-May 3, 2022. Join us in New York, NY! Submit a proposal or register today.

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