



# FY2016 Appropriations Priorities

## COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

### ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Founded in 1887, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) is an association of more than 238 public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state public university systems.

APLU member campuses annually enroll 4.8 million undergraduate and 1.3 million graduate students, award 1.2 million degrees, and conduct \$41.4 billion in university-based research. Collectively, they demonstrate the power and the good of public universities.

As the nation's oldest higher education association, APLU is dedicated to excellence in learning, discovery and engagement. For more information, visit [www.aplu.org](http://www.aplu.org)

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### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

#### APLU Request: \$7.7 billion

(FY2016 PBR = \$7.724B; FY2015 = \$7.344B; FY2014 = \$7.172B)

The NSF funds merit-based research across disciplines and supports science, math and engineering education across the country, including at APLU universities in all 50 states. As Congress seeks to optimally allocate limited resources, funding scientific research should be a priority. Robust NSF funding is necessary to ensure we close the innovation deficit and build a better America as science and technological advances are the foundation of our nation's economic growth and aid in our national defense.

APLU supports a request of \$7.7 billion for FY2016 for the National Science Foundation (NSF), an agency key to the development of new innovations and our national economic competitiveness.

### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)

#### Science Mission Directorate

##### APLU Request: \$5.49 billion

(FY2016 PBR = \$5.259B; FY2015 = \$5.245B; FY2014 = \$5.151B)

The NASA Science Mission Directorate is an essential part of meeting the growing challenges to fully understand global changes to the Earth and answer fundamental questions regarding the universe through space exploration. NASA Science includes Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, the James Webb Space Telescope and Heliophysics. APLU recommends funding of \$5.49 billion for NASA Science in FY2016. We also recommend the following levels for other important NASA directorates and programs:

#### Aeronautics Research Directorate

##### APLU Request: \$651M

(FY2016 PBR = \$571M; FY2015=\$651M; FY2014 = \$566M)

#### Space Technology Directorate

##### APLU Request: \$725 million

(FY2016 PBR = \$725M; FY2015=\$596M; FY2014 = \$576M)

#### National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

##### APLU Request: \$40 million

(FY2016 PBR = \$24M; FY2015=\$40M; FY2014 = \$40M)

## **APLU FY2016 CJS APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (continued)**

### **NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)**

#### **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)**

##### **APLU Request: \$485 million**

(FY2016 PBR = \$485M; FY2015 = \$433M; FY2014= \$416M)

The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) provides the research foundation for understanding the complex systems that support our planet. NOAA funds crucial science related to our oceans and atmosphere that provides decision makers with critically important data and services which enhance the nation's economy, security, and environment. APLU supports \$485 million for NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) in FY2016.

### **NOAA National Sea Grant College Program (including Marine Aquaculture Program)**

##### **APLU Request: \$80 million**

(FY2016 PBR = \$68.5M; FY2015 = \$67.3M; FY2014= \$67.3M)

The National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant) is a nationwide network of 32 university-based programs that work with coastal communities. Sea Grant engages this network of the nation's top universities in conducting scientific research, education, training, and extension projects designed to foster science-based decisions about the use and conservation of our aquatic resources. The program addresses national priorities at the local level, while identifying citizens' needs to help guide state and national research agendas. APLU urges Congress to provide \$80 million for the National Sea Grant College Program in FY2016.

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST)**

#### **Manufacturing Extension Program (MEP)**

##### **APLU Request: \$141 million**

(FY2016 PBR = \$141M; FY2015 = \$130M; FY2014 = \$128M)

The Manufacturing Extension Program (MEP) focuses on increasing the competitiveness of the U.S. industrial base in every state by acting as a catalyst for strengthening American manufacturing helping transformation the sector into a more efficient and powerful engine of innovation. The MEP centers are non-profit, university or state-based organizations which provide manufacturers with an array of services that focus on growth, productivity, and efficiency. APLU urges Congress to fund the MEP program in FY2016 at \$141 million.