



FY2017 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 230 public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state public university systems.

APLU member campuses in the U.S. annually enroll 4 million undergraduate and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1 million degrees, employ 1 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$40.2 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

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

APLU Request: \$8 billion

(FY2017 PBR = \$7.964B (\$7.564B discretionary); FY2016 = \$7.463B; FY2015 = \$7.344B)
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. APLU supports an appropriation of \$8 billion for FY2017 for NSF. This funding would provide a six percent real growth increase in funding from FY2016 and support the development of new innovations and our national economic competitiveness.

As Congress seeks to optimally allocate limited resources, funding scientific research at agencies like the NSF should be top a priority. Robust NSF funding is necessary to ensure we prevent an [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. The call for action, [Innovation: An American Imperative](#), signed by ten major industry CEOs and more than 300 additional leading organizations from American industry, higher education, science and engineering, recommends at least four percent of real growth in annual funding for scientific research. Funding NSF at \$8 billion is consistent with this recommendation and will help ensure the U.S. remains a leader in scientific advancement.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)

Science Mission Directorate

APLU Request: \$5.908 billion

(FY2017 PBR = 5.6B (5.302B discretionary); FY2016 = \$5.589B; FY2015 = \$5.245B)
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 \$5.908 billion for NASA Science in FY2017, a five percent real growth increase over FY2016.

We also recommend the following levels for other important NASA directorates and programs:

Aeronautics Research Directorate

APLU Request: \$677 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$790M (634M discretionary); FY2016 = \$640M; FY2015 = \$651M)

Space Technology Directorate

APLU Request: \$796 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$827M (691M discretionary); FY2016 = \$686M; FY2015=\$596M)

National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

APLU Request: \$40 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$24M; FY2016 = \$40M; FY2015=\$40M)

APLU FY2017 CJS APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (continued)

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

APLU Request: \$520 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$520M; FY2016 = \$482M; FY2015 = \$433M)

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 \$520 million for OAR in FY2017.

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

APLU Request: \$80 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$69M; FY2016 = \$73M; FY2015 = \$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 FY2017.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST)

Manufacturing Extension Program (MEP)

APLU Request: \$142 million

(FY2017 PBR = \$142M; FY2016 = \$130M; FY2015 = \$130M)

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. In turn, this helps transform 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 FY2017 at \$142 million.