



FY2018 Appropriations Priorities

DEFENSE

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

APLU is a research, policy, and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities.

With a membership of 237 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems, and affiliated organizations, APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research, and expanding engagement.

Annually, its 195 U.S. member campuses enroll 4 million undergraduates and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1.1 million degrees, employ 1 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$40.7 billion in university-based research.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (6.1 - 6.3)

APLU FY2018 Request: \$14.571 billion

(FY2018 PBR = \$13.199B; FY2017 = 14.011B; FY2016 = \$13.251B)

It is critical for U.S. national security that our military stay on the leading edge of technology and scientific capabilities. To do so, APLU recommends funding of \$14.572 billion in FY2018 for the DoD Science and Technology (S&T) account, a four percent increase over the level included in the House-passed FY2017 Defense Appropriations bill. As stated in the National Academies report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, Defense S&T is essential to our national security and global military superiority. The S&T program supports research that leads to the development of new weapon systems, defense capabilities and war fare technologies. We must maintain a strong investment in our defense science and research efforts if we intend to stay ahead in our defense capabilities, prevent an [innovation deficit](#), and build a better America.

BASIC RESEARCH (6.1)

APLU FY2018 Request: \$2.367 billion

(FY2018 PBR = \$2.229B; FY2017 = \$2.276B; FY2016 = \$2.309B)

Within the S&T account, APLU urges robust funding of defense basic research (6.1). Discoveries from defense basic research have led to paradigm shifts in military capabilities that are supporting the men and women in the military today. In addition to advocating for strong funding for all defense basic research efforts, APLU encourages a four percent increase for each of the following basic research program elements:

**Dollars in thousand*

Program Element	FY 16 Enacted	FY 17 Enacted	FY18 PBR	FY 18 Request
Army RDT&E Defense Research Sciences	\$279,118	\$293,116	\$263,590	\$304,841
Army RDT&E University Research Initiatives	\$72,603	\$69,166	\$67,027	\$71,933
Army RDT&E University and Industry Research Centers	\$104,340	\$112,280	\$87,395	\$116,771
Navy RDT&E University Research Initiatives	\$146,196	\$121,714	\$118,130	\$126,583
Navy RDT&E Defense Research Sciences	\$506,553	\$422,748	\$458,333	\$439,658
Air Force RDT&E Defense Research Sciences	\$374,721	\$380,812	\$342,919	\$396,044
Air Force RDT&E University Research Initiatives	\$141,754	\$150,044	\$147,923	\$156,046
Air Force RDT&E Higher Energy Laser Research Initiatives	\$13,778	\$14,168	\$14,417	\$14,735
Defense-Wide RDT&E DTRA Basic Research Initiatives	\$38,436	\$35,436	\$37,201	\$36,853
Defense-Wide RDT&E Basic Research Initiatives	\$71,940	\$68,154	\$40,612	\$70,880
Defense-Wide RDT&E National Defense Education Program	\$54,355	\$79,345	\$74,298	\$82,519

APLU FY2018 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

APLU also encourages support of the applied program elements delineated below.

The Defense-Wide Manufacturing Science and Technology Program supports the Manufacturing USA network. The goal of the DoD investments in the Manufacturing USA network is to support regional hubs to accelerate technological innovation into commercial application and concurrently develop the educational competencies and production processes via shared public-private sectors. Manufacturing leadership is essential to sustaining the U.S. military's technical superiority and global dominance.

In addition, to maintain a strong military, we must have healthy families and soldiers. It is imperative for DoD to contribute to curing diseases that affect not only men and women in the military, but also the public since we have an all-volunteer force. The Undistributed Medical Research/Peer-Reviewed programs play a vital role in ensuring that the U.S. has the medical technologies necessary to enable military readiness and serve those who have been wounded on the battlefield.

**Dollars in thousands*

<u>Program Element</u>	<u>FY16 Enacted</u>	<u>FY17 Enacted</u>	<u>FY18 PBR</u>	<u>FY18 Request</u>
Defense-Wide Manufacturing Science and Technology Program	\$156,743	\$158,398	\$136,159	\$164,734
Undistributed Medical Research/Peer-Reviewed/Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRPs)	\$1,150,800	\$1,279,200	n/a	\$1,330,368

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY (DARPA)

APLU FY2018 Request: \$3.170 billion

(FY2018 PBR = \$3.170B; FY2017 = \$2.889B; FY2016 = \$2.891B; FY2015 = \$2.915B)

Over the years, DARPA has played an important role in funding high-risk, high-reward research which has led to many significant defense technologies, some of which have also evolved into remarkable civilian applications (e.g., the Internet, GPS). As Congress seeks to optimally allocate limited resources, cutting-edge national security research should remain a priority. APLU urges Congress to fund this game-changing research agency at \$3.170 billion in FY2018.