



FY2020 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 241 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 199 U.S. member campuses enroll 4.2 million undergraduates and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1.1 million degrees, employ 1.1 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$42.4 billion in university-based research.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (6.1 - 6.3)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$16.997 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$14.135B; FY2019 = \$16.050B; FY2018 = \$14.864B)

To ensure the national security of the United States, it is critical that our military remain on the leading edge of scientific and technological capabilities. Therefore, APLU recommends funding of \$16.997 billion in FY2020 for the DoD Science and Technology (S&T) accounts, a four percent increase over FY2019, just slightly above inflationary growth. The National Academies report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, affirms that 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 warfare technologies. We must maintain a strong investment in our defense science and research efforts if we intend to stay ahead in our defense capabilities.

BASIC RESEARCH (6.1)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$2.774 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$2.320B; FY2019 = \$2.619B; FY2018 = \$2.343B)

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, consistent with the [Innovation Imperative](#), for each of the following basic research program elements:

FY 20 Program Element	Item	FY 19 Enacted	FY 20 Request
601102A	Defense Research Sciences	\$315,912	\$334,551
601103A	University Research Initiatives	\$65,283	\$69,135
601104A	University and Industry Research Centers	\$114,115	\$120,848
601103N	University Research Initiatives	\$161,443	\$170,958
601153N	Defense Research Sciences	\$499,208	\$528,661
601102F	Defense Research Sciences	\$383,322	\$405,938
601103F	University Research Initiatives	\$164,991	\$174,725
601108F	Higher Energy Laser Research Initiatives	\$13,056	\$13,826
601000BR	DTRA Basic Research Initiatives	\$37,023	\$39,207
601110D8Z	Basic Research Initiatives	\$56,702	\$60,047
601120D8Z	National Defense Education Program	\$135,919	\$143,938

*Dollars in thousand

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.

For these two programs, we request an increase of four percent real growth, per the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAA&S) report *Restoring the Foundation* and [Innovation Imperative](#). The report recommends annual real growth of four percent with an ultimate goal of closing our nation's basic research shortfall over the past 27 years, compared to the prior 27 years.

FY 20 Program Element	Item	FY 19 Enacted	FY 20 Request
603680D8z	Defense-Wide Manufacturing Science and Technology Program	\$174,887	\$185,205
	Undistributed Medical Research/Peer-Reviewed/Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRPs)	\$1,470,300	\$1,557,048

*Dollars in thousands

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY (DARPA)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$3.634 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$3.556B; FY2019 = \$3.432B; FY2018 = \$2.824B)

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 \$3.634 billion in FY2020, again following the recommendation of a four percent real growth path for scientific research agencies suggested in the AAA&S *Restoring the Foundation* report and [Innovation Imperative](#).