



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

FY2020 Appropriations Priorities

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

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 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$41.576 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$34.368B; FY2019 = \$39.084B; FY2018 = \$37.084B)

APLU strongly advocates an NIH appropriation of \$41.576 billion for FY2020, including funds provided through the 21st Century Cures Act for targeted initiatives. This level is necessary to ensure America's global leadership in medical research and development of health treatments and life-saving cures. NIH, currently the world's premier biomedical research funding agency, competitively awards grants to scientists at APLU universities in all 50 states. Providing \$41.576 billion to NIH in FY2020 would build upon a very positive funding path in recent years for the agency and allow for meaningful growth to expand NIH's support for research in all disciplines.

A consistent, robust funding trajectory for NIH is important to safeguard our country's medical research capacity and keep the U.S. at the global forefront of this critical enterprise. The United States risks falling behind as countries like China, Singapore and others continue to grow their investments in biomedical and other scientific research. The 2018 Science and Engineering Indicators Report shows that competitor nations are rapidly improving their global position in science and technology. The [report](#) indicates that China is poised to become the global leader in S&T in the next few years.

NIH research is vital to improving the health of individuals and is key to maintaining our country's economic health as well. The United States must continue a sustained upward momentum in funding the NIH if we intend to remain competitive and at the global forefront of science, technology and innovation.

AGENCY FOR HEALTH RESEARCH AND QUALITY (AHRQ)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$460 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$256M*; FY2019 = \$338M; FY2018 = \$334M)

*Funds to consolidate the agency within NIH.

The research that AHRQ funds helps inform what treatments work best to combat disease and how to best deliver those treatments to patients who need them. Ultimately, this information improves health care and saves both patients and the government money. As an attempt to rebuild portfolios, including expanding research and training, APLU recommends a funding level of \$460 million in FY2020 for AHRQ.

APLU FY2020 LABOR-HHS-ED APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

This request is consistent with FY2010 funding levels adjusted for inflation. Additionally, with a quarter of the agency's program level budget supported by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund, a strong investment in the AHRQ appropriation will be essential to sustain the agency's core activities as the Trust Fund undergoes reauthorization this year.

HEALTH RESOURCES & SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) TITLE VII AND TITLE VIII HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

APLU FY2020 Request: \$690 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$200M; FY2019 = \$642M; FY2018 = \$641M)

The Title VII health professions programs and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs at HRSA aim to improve the supply, geographic distribution and diversity of the health workforce through education and training and financial aid. Title VII and Title VIII programs are the only federally-funded programs designed to meet the growing needs for health care professionals, improve the diversity of the health workforce, and ensure access to quality care for all populations. Adequate funding for Title VII and Title VIII programs is needed to address current provider shortages, as well as the current and future challenges of a rapidly growing and aging population. APLU requests \$690 million in FY2020 for HRSA's Title VII and Title VIII programs.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PELL GRANT PROGRAM

APLU FY2020 Request: Sums necessary to reach maximum Pell award of \$6,345

(FY2020 PBR = \$22.475B [\$6,195]; FY2019 = \$22.475B [\$6,195]; FY2018 = \$22.475B [\$6,095])

APLU supports the appropriations level necessary to reach the maximum Pell award of \$6,345 which is the present award level adjusted for inflation. APLU also urges that the Pell surplus only be used to fund the Pell program. The Pell surplus should remain intact to protect the long-term fiscal health of the program and to support changes to the program that could come within a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act or significant increases in the number of students utilizing the benefit.

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to financially disadvantaged students and is the foundation of low-income students' aid packages, to which other forms of aid (state and institutional) are added. The Pell Grant Program is the largest federal source of college aid to students and is essential to greater degree attainment among low-income students. Some 80 percent of 24-year olds from families in the top income-quartile hold a bachelor's degree, but just 10 percent of 24-years olds from families in the bottom quartile hold a college degree.

APLU strongly believes that all Americans, regardless of their family income, should be able to pursue a college degree if they so choose, and that family income should not be a barrier to an individual's ability to go to college. Pell Grants are critical to this aim.

APLU FY2020 LABOR-HHS-ED APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

GRADUATE EDUCATION: GRADUATE ASSISTANCE IN AREAS OF NATIONAL NEED (GAANN)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$48 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$0; FY2019 = \$23M; FY2018 = \$23M)

APLU urges Congress to support the funding level of \$48 million in FY2020 for the GAANN program. The request is the inflation adjusted number from the program's FY2010 level of \$41 million. The GAANN traineeships are vital programs that strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness via support of graduate students in critical fields of study such as STEM. GAANN helps ensure a strong pipeline of talented experts who will help meet the demands of our 21st century workforce. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, occupations that typically require post-baccalaureate study are projected to grow the fastest.

SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (SEOG)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$1.028 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$0; FY2019 = \$840M; FY2018 = \$840M)

The SEOG program provides up to an additional \$4,000 in grant assistance to Pell Grant recipients with unmet need, thus further aiding with the cost of college and enhancing access for the neediest students. The program supplements Pell as it provides additional aid to the neediest students and does so by leveraging additional investment by institutions in need-based aid. SEOG requires institutions to contribute at least 25 percent of the award funds, making it a strong leverage of the federal investment building on Pell Grants. APLU urges Congress to at a minimum provide funding in FY2020 of \$1.028 billion, which is the FY2005 level of \$779 million adjusted for inflation.

FEDERAL WORK STUDY

APLU FY2020 Request: \$1.434 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$500B; FY2019 = \$1.130B; FY2018 = \$1.130B)

The Federal Work Study program is a critical partnership between the federal government, institutions, and students. It provides students the opportunity to earn additional aid through part-time employment on campus and in the community. Federal Work Study is an essential part of a financial aid package and a strong alternative to additional loan debt. APLU advocates funding the program at a minimum level of \$1.434 billion which is the FY 2002 level of \$1.011 billion adjusted for inflation.

TRIO PROGRAMS

APLU FY2020 Request: \$1.120 billion

(FY2020 PBR = \$950B; FY2019 = \$1.06B; FY2018 = \$1.01B)

The TRIO programs help low-income, first generation, and disabled students prepare for, enter, and graduate from college. Given the growing achievement gap in educational attainment between low- and high- income students, TRIO programs play an increasingly critical role. TRIO programs serve nearly 800,000 students with over 2,800 programs nationally. APLU recommends funding TRIO programs at \$1.120 billion in FY2020.

APLU FY2020 LABOR-HHS-ED APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

GAINING EARLY AWARENESS & READINESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS (GEAR UP)

APLU FY2020 Request: \$395 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$0; FY2019 = \$360M; FY2018 = \$350M)

APLU urges Congress to support GEAR UP at a level of \$395 million in FY2020. The GEAR UP grant program substantially increases the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education by providing tutoring, mentoring, academic preparation, and college scholarships. GEAR UP facilitates critical partnerships between high-poverty middle and high schools, colleges, businesses, and community-based organizations.

APLU institutions receive TRIO and GEAR UP grants to partner with community organizations and schools to encourage and ensure access to higher education institutions and success in college. This is in keeping with our public mission and one of the reasons these programs are so important to APLU institutions.

TITLE VI: INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES

APLU FY2020 Request: \$106 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$0; FY2019 = \$72M; FY2018 = \$72M)

APLU supports funding International Education and Foreign Languages Studies at \$106 million in FY2020. These programs play a critical role in expanding the international competency skills for the nation's next generation workforce that will support American global leadership, economic competitiveness, and long-term security. Significant cuts over several years, and flat-funding over the past four, have resulted in a significant reduction in the number of National Resource Centers. These cuts have endangered the domestic pipeline of language and area experts capable of ensuring needed U.S. capacities in less commonly taught, but strategically important, languages and cultures. The reductions have also impeded the ability of universities to offer students global learning. To help combat recent concern over certain language and culture education programs at U.S. universities that are funded by other countries, we need much stronger and well-resourced Title VI programs. Because these programs serve national security as well as business workforce demands, APLU strongly urges this funding increase in FY2020 for Title VI International Education and Foreign Language Studies.

INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION SCIENCES

APLU FY2020 Request: \$670 million

(FY2020 PBR = \$521.6M; FY2019 = \$615M; FY2018 = \$613M)

APLU urges a funding level of \$670 million in FY2020 for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to build on scientific evidence-based approaches to education. We are particularly supportive of the IES Research, Development, and Dissemination and Research in Special Education accounts, as they fund cutting-edge research through the National Center for Education Research and the National Center for Special Education Research. APLU also supports grants for statewide longitudinal data systems as they have helped some states make important data linkages which shed light on educational outcomes and best practices.
