

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

Founded in 1887, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A·P·L·U) is an association of over 230 public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state public university systems.

APLU member campuses enroll more than 4.4 million undergraduate and 1.3 million graduate students, employ more than 1.3 million faculty members, and conduct academic research totaling more than \$41 billion annually.

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)

## FY2015 Appropriations Priorities DEFENSE

*APLU is part of the broad business, university and science community concerned about cuts and stagnating federal funding in DOD research at a time when other nations are increasing their research investments. We believe the FY2015 Defense Appropriations bill must work to close this innovation deficit with reasonable increases in key accounts.*

*These investments will develop the ideas, the people, and the innovations that strengthen our national security, ensuring that the U.S. maintains its role as global leader. Additionally, the growth supported by this innovation will help the nation address its fiscal challenges.*

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD) RESEARCH

APLU urges following a 20/20 benchmark level for investments in Defense Science and Technology (S&T) and 6.1 basic research—with the principle that investments in Defense S&T should constitute 20% of the total Defense RDT&E budget, and investments in 6.1 basic research should comprise 20% of the total Defense S&T budget (6.1-6.3). Below we recommend a path toward achieving this goal.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (6.1 - 6.3)

##### **APLU Request: \$12.39 billion**

(FY2015 PBR = \$11.52B; FY14 = \$12.18B; FY13 = \$12.15B)

It is critical for our national security that our military stay on the leading edge of technology and scientific capabilities, which is why APLU recommends funding of \$12.39 billion in FY2015 for the DoD Science and Technology (S&T) account, covering 6.1 to 6.3 research and development. This amount would comprise 19.5 percent of the requested RDT&E account. We cannot pull back on our defense science and research efforts if we intend to stay ahead in our defense capabilities.

#### BASIC RESEARCH (6.1)

##### **APLU Request: \$2.23 billion**

(FY2015 PBR = \$2.017B; FY2014 = \$2.167B; FY2013 = \$2.13B)

Former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has noted the DoD's need to be "...at the technological edge of the future. ... we even have to leap forward. If we're going to deal with the kind of challenges we're going to face, we've got to be smart enough, innovative enough, creative enough to be able to leap forward." With significant sequestration cuts impacting the DoD's research accounts in FY2013, there is a national security need to regain ground in defense basic research and not fall behind any further. APLU strongly urges \$2.23 billion for FY2015 for 6.1 research, which would translate to 18 percent of our recommended FY2015 DoD S&T level.

#### DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY (DARPA)

##### **APLU Request: \$2.914 billion**

(FY2015 PBR = \$2.914B; FY2014 = \$2.778B; FY2013 = \$2.817B)

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 (eg, the Internet, GPS). APLU urges Congress to fund this game-changing research agency at the Administration's request of \$2.914 billion.