



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF RESEARCH

TO: Deans, Associate Deans for Research, Department Chairs, and Staff
 FROM: Jonathan Nurse, Director of Federal Relations
 DATE: March 23, 2018
 RE: Final Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations

Congress has reached the end of the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations process. The Senate just joined the House in approving final allocations for federal agencies and programs for the year. The bill now goes on to President Trump. The White House has indicated that the president will sign the measure by the end of the day.

Although final appropriations for FY 2018 will arrive nearly six months late, the [higher education community](#) is largely applauding the outcome as increases have been included for most federal research agencies and student financial aid programs. Congress rejected proposals offered by the administration last spring to cut many of these agencies and programs. As you will recall, in May 2017, the Trump administration proposed cuts to the National Science Foundation (-11%), National Institutes of Health (-21%), Department of Energy Office of Science (-17%), Environmental Protection Agency Office of Science (-36%), and to Federal Work Study (-49.5%) to name just a few. The budget request also proposed elimination of the Advanced Research Projects Agency at the Department of Energy (ARPA-E), National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants provided by the Department of Education.

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (2018 BBA), which was approved last month, laid the groundwork for increases to research and student aid agencies. The 2018 BBA provided two years (FY 2018 and 2019) of relief from sequestration by raising the associated caps on spending by \$300 billion. Congress recognized that the sequestered overall spending levels would necessitate untenable cuts to agencies and programs. **With the higher spending cap, Congress was able to provide FY 2018 increases of 16.1% for the Department of Energy Office of Science, 15.5% for ARPA-E, 8.8% for the National Institutes of Health, 3.9% for the National Science Foundation, and 3% for the Pell Grant maximum award.** The chart that follows provides funding levels for agencies and programs of particular interest to the FSU community.

Agency/Office/Program <i>Dollars in thousands, except Pell Grant maximum award</i>	FY17 Final	FY18 President's Budget Request (PBR)	FY18 Final	FY18 Change (from FY17)	FY19 President's Budget Request	FY19 PBR Change (from FY18)
Department of Defense* , RDT&E	72,301,587	82,691,636	88,308,133	22.1%	90,616,098	2.6%
DOD, 6.1 Basic Research	2,276,332	2,228,529	2,343,154	2.9%	2,269,206	-3.2%
DOD, 6.2 Applied Research	5,296,175	4,974,095	5,681,752	7.3%	5,100,359	-10.2%
DOD, 6.3 Advanced Technology Development	6,438,722	5,997,183	6,838,098	6.2%	6,292,102	-8%
DOD, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency	2,889	3,170	3,072	6.3%	3,438	12%
Department of Education , Pell Grant	22,475,352	22,432,600	22,475,352	0	22,475,352	0
DOEd., Pell Grant Maximum	5,920	5,920	6,095	3%	5,920	-2.8%
DOEd., Work Study	989,728	500,000	1,130,000	14.2%	500,000	-55%

Agency/Office/Program (cont'd) <i>Dollars in thousands, except Pell Grant maximum award</i>	FY17 Final	FY18 President's Budget Request (PBR)	FY18 Final	FY18 Change (from FY17)	FY19 President's Budget Request	FY19 PBR Change (from FY18)
DOEd., Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants	733,130	0	840,000	14.6%	0	-100%
DOEd., Institute of Education Science (IES)	605,267	616,839	613,462	1.4%	521,563	-15%
DOEd., IES Regional Educational Laboratories	54,423	54,320	55,423	1.8%	0	-100%
Department of Energy, Office of Science	5,392,000	4,472,516	6,259,903	16.1%	5,391,000	-13.9%
DOE, Advanced Research Projects Agency Energy	306,000	20,000	353,314	15.5%	0	-100%
Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Science	713,823	450,812	713,823	0	449,000	-37%
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Science	5,764,900	5,711,800	6,221,500	7.9%	5,895,000	-5.2%
National Endowment for the Humanities	149,848	42,307	152,848	2%	42,000	-72.5%
National Endowment for the Arts	149,849	29,000	152,849	2%	29,000	-81%
National Institutes of Health	34,084,000	26,920,000	37,084,000	8.8%	34,767,000	-6.2%
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	477,725	350,004	507,519	6.2%	321,651	-36.6%
National Science Foundation	7,472,215	6,652,888	7,767,356	3.9%	7,472,000	-3.8%
National Institute of Standards and Technology	952,000	725,000	1,198,500	25.9%	629,000	-47.5%
NIST Industrial Technology Services, Manufacturing Extension Partnership and Manufacturing USA	153,000	21,000	155,000	1.3%	5,000	-96.8%

In addition to better than expected research funding levels, the final FY 2018 spending bill affirms a provision obtained by the higher education advocacy community earlier in the cycle to prohibit a 10% cap on NIH facilities and administrative costs, as proposed by the administration. Such a cap would have crippled the ability of universities to conduct research, particularly if the policy was expanded beyond NIH to other agencies. The bill also temporarily halts the NIH implementation of an expanded clinical trials definition. The new NIH clinical trials definition included many fundamental research studies involving human participants. The expanded definition resulted in increased regulations for these studies. The spending bill directs NIH to seek input from the basic research community on reporting standards that are best suited for their research.

The recently approved two-year bipartisan budget framework should make the upcoming FY 2019 appropriations process a bit easier than the previous. However, final appropriations for FY 2019 will also likely arrive late as a result of the midterm elections. President Trump released his budget request for FY 2019 in February. His recommendations for research and education agencies are also provided in the chart above. As the chart shows, significant work with Congress lies ahead to counter new proposed cuts.

Additional details on the final FY 2018 spending bill, including links to more detailed program funding levels will be provided on the [FSU Federal Relations Blog](#) in the days ahead. Please let me know if you have questions about specific agencies and/or programs.