

June 2017 Federal Update

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Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.

The President's Budget Request

U.S. Department of Education

Main Themes of the President's FY18 Budget Request:

- Creating new education options through school choice
- Maintaining support for the nation's most vulnerable students
- Simplifying funding for postsecondary education
- Building evidence around education innovation
- Streamlining existing programs

Program Specifics

Program

ESSA Title II-A State Grants

Teacher Quality Partnership Grants

School Leader Recruitment and Support

Perkins Loans

Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

Federal Work-Study

Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED—[currently accepting applications!](#))

Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants

TEACH grants

Pell Grants

Institute for Education Sciences

Rural Education Achievement Program

Special Education Personnel Preparation

Proposed Change, FY17 to FY18

Eliminated

Eliminated

Eliminated

Eliminated

Eliminated effective 7/18

Cut by \$489.7 million

Cut by \$58.1 million

Cut by \$30 million

Flat funded (in essence; the accounting is complicated)

Flat funded (in essence; rescinds Pell surplus)

Flat funded

Flat funded

Flat funded

Links to Full Details

From the Office of Management and Budget:

- [FY18 Budget Request main page](#)
- [FY18 Budget Request – by agency](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education FY18 Budget Request](#) (PDF)

From the U.S. Department of Education:

- [FY18 Budget Request main page](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [Summary and Background Information](#)
- [Budget Justifications for U.S. Congress](#) (**recommended resource** with detailed information, data, and rationales)

Congressional Response

From Chairman Blunt (R-MO) speaking to Secretary DeVos at the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee Hearing on the Appropriations Committee:

“This is a difficult budget request to defend. I think it’s likely that the kinds of cuts that are proposed in this budget will not occur, so we need to fully understand your priorities and why they are your priorities.”

[Full Article](#) from the Washington Post

Videos on the House Hearing

Here are some video clips of Secretary DeVos defending the President's Budget Request to the Labor-H Subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqJgb8y5drA>
Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCHBW9LhdPE&t=67s>
Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DtNSQmZy7B4>
Rep. Katherine Clark (D-MA)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-iWFmca2oA>
Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI)

FY17 Reconciliation

FY17 Reconciliation

Recall that the FY17 Budget Resolution (which is non-binding but sets the topline appropriations number and the topline for each of the 12 subcommittees) included what is called “reconciliation instructions” to enact savings or revenue changes, specifically on making changes to the healthcare law.

- *The House passed a bill last month and send it to the Senate.*
- *Senate is currently taking up its own version.*

At Risk for Education: Medicaid funding which supports many activities in schools

FY18 Budget Resolution

FY18 Budget Resolution: In Peril (?)

No FY18 Budget Resolution at this time in either the House or Senate

What does that mean?

- No topline number, and no toplines for any of the subcommittee bills
 - Appropriations process is moving fast in the House, marking up bills without topline numbers – without a plan/guidance.
- Reconciliation instructions are not yet released – every committee will be required to enact savings via mandatory spending and potentially include work on tax reform.

FY18 Budget Reconciliation Instructions

The Budget Committee in the House intends to give reconciliation instructions to all committees to take action towards deficit reduction in the FY18 Budget Resolution.

Which Means:

The Education and the Workforce Committee must make changes to mandatory spending programs under its jurisdiction, such as student federal financial aid (including TEACH grants), the public service loan forgiveness program, and parts of child nutrition programs (Ed & the Workforce shares this with the Agriculture Committee).

Appropriations

U.S. Senate

Current Status:

- Subcommittees are holding hearings.
- No draft bills out for any subcommittee.
- No subcommittee markups scheduled.

NOTE: This is typical of the first year of a new administration.

Want to follow the action?

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/>

U.S. House of Representatives

The appropriations process moving forward RAPIDLY *even though* there is no topline spending number and no topline numbers for any of the subcommittee bills.

Labor-H could get a far smaller allocation as it will most likely be the last bill to move since it is considered the most controversial of the 12 bills.

One bill has moved through full committee, and by the end of the week of June 30, one more will have moved through full committee and a total of 8 through subcommittee.

<https://appropriations.house.gov/>

Budget Control Act of 2011

The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) sets caps for each year, including separate caps for defense (which includes national security programs) and non-defense discretionary dollars. The BCA drops the caps each year.

The bills moving through the House appropriations committee exceed the caps on defense and thus would kick in a second form of sequestration – mandatory across the board cuts (with some protected programs) – unless the BCA is amended.

Can then amend the BCA? **YES**

What's the Plan?

Various options are being discussed, including that the House moves an omnibus by the end of July (remember, the Senate has not taken action yet).

The House moves several small bills (mini-buses) by the end of July or September.

Then the ball is in the Senate's court.

The omnibus or one of the mini-buses could include a policy rider to amend the BCA.

Also impacting these options and any timeline is the current work on the healthcare bill.

Continuing Resolution?

There is a very good chance that we will see a Continuing Resolution (CR) through either December or possibly through the end of FY18.

- Could see another budget deal developed to raise the caps, especially if December is the deadline of the CR. Parity would be a big part of the debate.
- With 2018 being an election year, and the mid-terms, the choice could be to move to a full-year CR.
- The healthcare bill also affects this timeline, and in some instances could push Congress towards a CR.
- Many programs would fair better under a CR than the expected cuts of FY18 without a budget deal.

Parity

IF there is a budget deal, the main state of play is expected to be around whether or not there is parity between raising the caps for the defense/national security discretionary and the caps for the non-defense discretionary funds – meaning whatever you do for one (say, raise the defense cap by \$50b), you do for the other (then raising the non-defense cap by \$50b).

There is little appetite at this time in the Republican conference to maintain parity between defense and non-defense discretionary cap adjustments.

Conversation With Appropriations Staff : Fiscal Year 2018

“FY18 is going to be bad. It’s going to hurt. If you want to save a program you need letters and lots of support. Get Members [of Congress] letting us know that they support saving a program.”

Using your **constituent voice** to engage your members of Congress will educate them (and their staff) on the importance of education funding overall, and for critical programs that support your work of training profession-ready educators for our nation’s classrooms.

To help you be at the table, rather than on the menu, please consult [AACTE’s Advocacy Center](#), where you’ll find downloadable guides, links to key policy contacts and information, and the link to sign up for the **AACTE Action Alerts**.

Why Engage and Advocate?

From Members of Congress:

“If it is not important enough for constituents to communicate to me about it, it’s not important enough for me to take action on it.”

OR

“We’re happy to help as it’s important to the programs in my state. I’m hearing about this.”

From Congressional Staff:

“Thanks for flagging this for me. We also heard from constituents. As you know, the Senator voted in support of the CRA.”

OR

“Thanks for updating me & for the resources. We’ve still not heard from constituents that this is a problem for them. Given other priorities, we will hold on action for now. ”

IMPORTANT BACKGROUND WORK FOR YOUR ADVOCACY

Please be sure to do the following as you engage in advocacy:

- Check your **faculty/staff handbooks** to be clear on the guidelines to advocating using your title and institutional affiliation.
- Connect with your **institution's government relations staff** to coordinate and collaborate in your efforts. You don't want to inadvertently cause problems with your institution's efforts and agenda.

Remember, you can always advocate as a private citizen, not using your title & affiliation.

Higher Education Action

Secretary DeVos

From a speech to the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities:

“Consider the Higher Education Act, or HEA. This 50-year-old law still governs and defines much of what you can — and cannot — do to educate the students you serve.”

“For me, and I suspect for most Americans, it doesn’t make a lot of sense to simply amend a 50-year-old law,” she continued. “Adding to a half-century patchwork will not lead to meaningful reform. Real change is needed.”

Read the article [here](#)

The Congress

Both Chairman Alexander (Senate HELP) and Chairwoman Foxx (House Ed & the Workforce) remain committed to reauthorizing the Higher Education Act this Congress.

- Timeline –possible to start as early as later this summer or after Fiscal Year deadline. Of course, this could slip.
- Could run into 2018, an election year, adding a different variety of political calculations into the mix.
- No draft bill(s) at this time.
- Could depend on reconciliation instructions for FY18.

STAY TUNED

Educator Preparation Reform Act

Title II of the Higher Education Act : EPRA

The [Educator Preparation Reform Act](#) is a bill that has been re-introduced in multiple congresses and reauthorizes Title II of the Higher Education Act.

While not yet re-introduced in the 115th Congress, it will be. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) will lead again in the Senate. With the departure of Congressman Mike Honda (D-CA), a House sponsor is in the works.

We will be in touch via the [*AACTE Action Alerts*](#) for you to engage with your elected officials to cosponsor this measure once it is re-introduced. **STAY TUNED!**

Implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act

Department's ESSA Webpage

To stay updated on the latest that is released from the U.S. Department of Education, it is recommended to monitor the Department's [resources webpage](#), which contains a vast amount of information on the steps being undertaken by the Department as well as what is being shared with the states.

Consolidated State Plan

States will submit their Consolidated State Plans **by either April 3 or September 18, 2017**. Included in the CSP:

How it will spend Title II-A money (see our [ESEA Policy Page](#))

The state will need to define various terms in their state plan including:

- Effective teacher
- Inexperienced teacher
- Out-of-field teacher

The state will need to describe in its consolidated plan aspects related to educator prep, including the state's system to ensure adequate preparation of new educators, as well as how the state plans to ensure equitable distribution of teachers.

Response to First Wave of State Plans

Peer Review process has been undertaken on the submitted plans. The following states needed to produce additional information:

- New Mexico:
<https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/nmprelimdetermltr.pdf>
- Delaware:
<https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/deprelimdetermltr.pdf>
- Nevada:
<https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/nvprelimdetermltr.pdf>

State Plan Resources

- Overall resource page for the state plans – one can review the plans submitted thus far by states:
<https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/index.html>
- Consolidated State Plan FAQ:
<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essastateplansfaq.pdf>
- State's notice of intent to submit (which date):
<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essastplannotice.html>

It's a K-12 bill, Why Bother?

Title II of ESSA is full of opportunity for educator preparation – as long as you are at the table. Otherwise someone else is trying to create these programs and possibly without the quality that your programs offer. (*authorized at \$2.3 billion*)

It has more money than Title II of the Higher Education Act (\$43.1m)

**If you are not at the table than
most likely you are on the
menu.**

Your Actions and Engagement

June 2017 Key Advocacy Actions

[AACTE Advocacy Center](#) - New Advocacy Guides out in July!

STAY TUNED for Action Alerts on federal funding for key programs that support your work in educator preparation and for cosponsorship requests – expected in **July**.

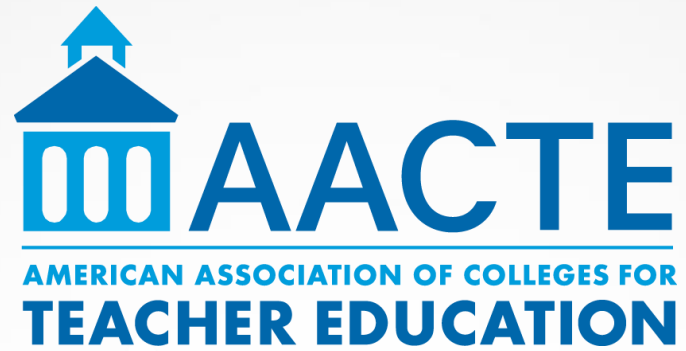
Sign up for AACTE Action Alerts if you have not at the Advocacy Center!

AUGUST RECESS IS COMING – Have you requested a meeting with your Members of Congress??

Be sure to work with your institution's government relations staff to ask for a meeting or to invite him or her to visit your program this summer.

Resources

- [Advocacy Center](#)
- Advocacy Guides **SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED**
- AACTE Action Alerts
- Blogs – [Ed Prep Matters](#)
- Tweets - @AACTE, @Koolbeck
- Websites on [state](#) and [federal](#) policy
- Monthly Federal update [webinars](#)
 - 2 days of the week
 - 2 different times to accommodate time zones
- Webinars on advocacy campaigns & immediate action needs



Questions?

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