

**Federal Relations**

1764 Van Hise Hall  
1220 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706-1559  
(608) 263-3362  
(608) 262-3985 Fax  
email: [kandrews@uwsa.edu](mailto:kandrews@uwsa.edu)  
website: <http://www.wisconsin.edu>

March 22, 2018

TO: UW Board of Regents  
UW System Chancellors  
President Ray Cross

FROM: Kristine Andrews, Associate Vice President for Federal Relations

RE: **Federal Legislative Update -- Analysis of FY18 Omnibus Spending Bill**

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, congressional leaders reached a deal to pass the FY18 omnibus appropriations bill to fund the government through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The continuing resolution currently funding the government ends March 23<sup>rd</sup>, otherwise there will be a government shutdown or a short-term continuing resolution. The House voted to pass the bill on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the Senate is expected to take action soon.

The following reflects how the omnibus bill impacted the 2017 UW System's Federal Budget and Appropriations priorities:

**Effects on Student Aid**

- Maximum Pell Grant award increased \$175. The max 2018-2019 award will be \$6,095.
- TRIO and GEAR UP funding increased \$60 million and \$10.2 million respectively.
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants funding increased \$106.9 million- 14% increase to \$840 million.
- Federal Work Study aid funding increased \$140 million- 14% increase to \$1.13 billion.
- No Perkins Loan extension, which means the program will continue to phase out.

**Effects on Research Funding**

- National Institutes of Health funding increased \$3 billion- 8% increase to \$37.1 billion.
- National Science Foundation funding increased \$295 million- 4% increase to \$7.8 billion.
- Dept. of Energy's Office of Science funding increased \$868 million- 16% increase to \$6.26 billion.
- USDA's Ag and Food Research Initiative funding increased \$25 million- 7% increase to \$400 million.

**Effects on other Federal Funding**

- Economic Development Administration funding increased \$26 million- 9.4% increase to \$302 million.
- Non-Land-Grants funded flat at \$5 million.
- National Endowment for the Humanities funding increased \$3 million to \$152.85 million.

- Charter Schools funding increased by \$58 million to \$400 million, including \$7.5 million to expand charters in underserved, high-poverty, rural areas.
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting provided an advance appropriation of \$465 million for FY 2020- the same level of advance funding provided in FY 17.
- National Institute of Standards and Technology funding increased \$247 million to \$1.2 billion, including \$140 million for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership.

#### **Next Steps**

- Notably, there is no fix to DACA. Federal courts issued temporary orders requiring the administration to continue the renewal process for those enrolled in DACA until further action.
- In February, President Trump released his FY 19 budget request. This week, Secretary DeVos testified before the House Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations on ED's FY2019 budget proposal, and she is expected to testify in the Senate in the coming weeks. Please use this link to find out more: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/>.
- UWSA Office of Federal Relations will continue to analyze the FY18 omnibus for opportunities for competitive funding for institutions.

cc: David Brukardt, Interim Vice President for University Relations  
David Boardman, Government Relations Specialist