



New York University

**OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – Appropriations Update:
FY10 Higher Education & Research Funding**

December 14, 2009

This weekend Congress passed a comprehensive Omnibus spending package (H.R. 3288) that essentially completes the fiscal year (FY) 2010 appropriations cycle. The Defense spending bill, expected to be considered in the coming days, remains the only outstanding appropriations measure to date. The package includes funding for the federal scientific research agencies, higher education and student aid programs. President Obama is expected to sign the measure into law in the coming days.

As a reminder, the Omnibus spending bill is separate from the House-passed Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA), legislation to redirect all new federal loans starting fall 2010 to the government-based Direct Loan (DL) Program. Details are still being negotiated in the Senate, with final passage targeted for January 2010.

Here is a summary of the agencies and programs prioritized by NYU and the higher education research community:

Pell Grants and Other Student Aid Programs

For Pell Grants, the Omnibus spending measure sets the maximum FY10 grant at \$5,550, an increase of \$200 over FY09. The package includes \$17.5 billion for the Pell Grant program which would cover a maximum grant of \$4,860. The remaining \$690 is provided by mandatory funds that were included in student aid bills, including the Recovery Act, signed into law during the previous two years.

Most other higher education programs would be flat-funded at current FY09 levels:

- Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants at \$757.4 million,
- Federal Work Study at \$980.4 million,
- Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership at \$63.8 million,
- Javits Graduate Fellowship program at \$9.6 million, and
- Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need at \$31 million.

The TRIO programs would see an increase of \$5 million to \$853 million, and GEAR UP would rise by \$10 million to \$323 million. Funding for international education programs would increase to \$126 million in FY10, up from \$119 million in FY09.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

The Omnibus spending bill includes \$31.087 billion for the NIH – which is \$692 million more than the current FY09 level and \$250 million above the Administration’s FY10 request. (These numbers do not include the \$10.4 billion that NIH received under the Recovery Act for FY09-FY10.)

National Science Foundation (NSF)

The Omnibus spending bill includes \$6.926 billion for the NSF – which is \$436 million more than the current FY09 level and \$119 million below the Administration’s request of \$7.045 billion.

Within that total, the bill includes \$5.617 billion for Research and Related Activities, \$872 million for Education and Human Resources, and \$117 million for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction. (Neither the FY09 funding nor the FY10 amount includes the \$3 billion that NSF received under the Recovery Act for FY09-FY10.) The committee summary says, “The bill supports the President’s commitment to double funding for basic scientific research in key agencies over 10 years.”

Department of Energy Office of Science

The appropriations bill that funds the DOE’s Office of Science, the Energy & Water Appropriations measure, was signed into law in late October. The bill included \$4.904 billion for the Office of Science – which is \$131 million more than the FY09 level and \$38 million below the Administration’s request of \$4.942 billion. (This does not include the \$1.6 billion that the Office of Science received under the Recovery Act for FY09-FY10).

Health Professions

The Omnibus Spending bill includes \$254 million for Title VII health professions program – which is \$32 million above the current FY09 level and \$11 million below the Administration’s request of \$265 million. The bill includes increases for every Title VII program except the faculty loan repayment program, for which funding remains flat. The omnibus also includes \$2.8 million for the workforce information and analysis program, which has not received funding since FY 2005.

For Title VIII Nursing Education Programs, the Omnibus bill includes \$244 million – which is a \$73 million increase over the current FY09 level and \$19 million below the Administration’s request of \$263 million.

NASA

The Omnibus spending bill includes \$18.724 billion for NASA – which is \$942 million above the current FY09 level and consistent with the Administration’s FY10 request. (The FY09 and FY10 funding levels do not include the \$1 billion that NASA received under the Recovery Act for FY09-FY10.)

Global Climate Change Research

Given the Administration’s heightened interest in climate change research, the Omnibus spending bill identifies \$310 million in climate change research and education at NSF and \$1.32 billion for the development of space-based climate change measurements at NASA.

To see a table of agency and program priorities of the higher education research community, please view this [chart](#). If you have any questions, please contact Steve Heuer, Director, Federal Affairs at 202-719-8929 or at steve.heuer@nyu.edu