Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Appropriations Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2024 was marked by a prolonged and convoluted appropriations process, defying expectations at every turn. Since October 2023, Congress grappled with four continuing resolutions, each providing temporary funding extensions to allow for further negotiations on the appropriations bills. Following Speaker Johnson’s "laddered" approach, the 12 appropriation bills were split into two groups, ostensibly to avoid voting on a single omnibus spending package and allow separate consideration by members of Congress.

The House and Senate passed the first FY24 “minibus,” which included six appropriations bills covering Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Energy-Water, Interior-Environment, Military Construction-VA, and Transportation-HUD. The legislation was signed into law by President Biden on March 9, 2024. Subsequently, on March 23 President Biden signed into law the second and final FY24 minibus—encompassing the remaining six appropriations bills, notably including Labor-HHS-Education—just hours after the funding deadline. With all 12 appropriation bills signed into law, the federal government is funded through September 30, 2024.

The legislation failed to include top community college legislative priorities such as tax-free Pell. Considering the massive program cuts and eliminations proposed last year, we are viewing flat funding as a victory this fiscal year. However, there are very few funding increases among our top appropriations priorities. Overall, the bill includes $79.1 billion, representing a marginal 0.2% cut, in funding for the Department of Education.

Moreover, the legislation incorporated 153 Community Project Funding and Congressionally Directed Spending projects for community colleges, amounting to $189.3 million. This marks the third consecutive year of inclusion since being restored in the FY 2022 spending bill. ACCT has published a comprehensive list of all community college projects that were included in the final legislation, available here. Below is a summary of provisions of interest to community colleges.

**Department of Education:**

- **Pell Grant** maximum award was flat funded at $7,395.
- Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (FSEOG) flat funded at $910 million.
- **Federal Work Study** flat funded at $1.23 billion.
- $112 million for Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) ($10 million cut from FY23).
- $228.8 million for Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) ($1.1 million above FY23).
- $400.9 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) ($4.9 million above FY23).
• $22.4 million for Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs) ($112,000 above FY23).
• $18.6 million for Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) ($93,000 above FY23).
• $24.5 million for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions ($122,000 above FY23).
• $11.46 million for Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions ($57,000 million above FY23)
• $51.8 million for Tribal Colleges ($258,000 million above FY23).
• Basic Needs Grants flat funded at $10 million.
  • Third time this grant is funded through appropriations.
  • At least 25% must go to Community Colleges, HBCUs, HSIs, MSIs.
  • Grant priority for institutions with 25%+ Pell Enrollment.
• Postsecondary Student Success Grants flat funded at $45 million.
  • Third time this grant is funded through appropriations.
• Rural Postsecondary Economic Development Grant Program flat funded at $45 million.
• Career and Technical Education (CTE) State Grants received a $10 million increase to $1.43 billion.
• Adult Education State Grants flat funded at $729 million.
• Federal TRIO programs flat funded at $1.2 billion.
• GEAR UP flat funded at $388 million.
• Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program flat funded at $75 million.

**Department of Labor:**

• Strengthening Community College Training Grants flat funded at $65 million.
• Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) state grants flat funded at $2.92 billion.
• Registered Apprenticeships program flat funded at $285 million.