



FY17 OMNIBUS PACKAGE INCREASES RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING

OVERVIEW

On May 5, 2017, President Trump signed into law the FY17 Consolidated Omnibus Appropriations bill ([H.R. 244](#)), which incorporates 11 out of 12 FY17 appropriations bills (Military Construction-Veterans Affairs was enacted earlier). The [package](#), which passed the House on May 3 and the Senate on May 4, includes funding increases for several research and higher education programs, including a \$2-billion increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and restoration of the year-round Pell Grant.

This document summarizes the FY17 funding for federal agencies and programs of interest to Stony Brook University.

RESEARCH

Department of Defense (DOD)

The omnibus provides \$516.1 billion in base Defense funding and \$61.8 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). The measure includes \$2.28 billion for basic research, a \$33 million, or 1.4 percent, reduction from FY16. The majority of the cuts to 6.1 target the Navy account. The bill provides funding for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) at \$2.94 billion, an increase of \$48 million or 1.7% over FY16. The omnibus also includes a \$50 million rescission listed as DARPA undistributed reduction.

Department of Energy (DOE)

The omnibus provides \$5.39 billion for the DOE Office of Science, an increase of \$42 million, or less than one percent, above FY16. The measure also **funds the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) at \$306 million, a \$15 million, or 5.2 percent, increase above FY16.**

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

The omnibus provides \$19.65 billion for NASA, a \$368 million increase above FY16. This figure includes \$5.76 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, a 3.15 percent, or \$175 million, increase over FY16. Earth Science would receive \$1.921 billion, Astrophysics \$750 million, the James Webb Space Telescope \$569.4 million, and Heliophysics \$678.5 million.



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The omnibus provides a modest increase of \$20 million for the Aeronautics Mission Directorate for a total of \$660 million. The Space Technology Mission Directorate is level-funded at \$686.5 million. The omnibus also includes \$40 million for the Space Grant Fellowship Program.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

The omnibus provides \$7.47 billion for NSF, an increase of \$8.7 million for the agency. The Research and Related Activities Directorate and the Education and Human Resources Directorate are level-funded at \$6.03 billion and \$880 million, respectively. The omnibus also includes \$209 million for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction, which is a \$9 million increase over FY16.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Overall funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) dips 1.6% to \$5.68 billion. However, the largest percentage increase goes to NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), whose budget rises 6.67% to \$514 million. This is a dramatic difference from Trump's FY 2018 proposal to cut OAR by 26%.

Other NOAA programs:

- Oceanic and Atmospheric Research: \$477.73 million (\$15 million increase)
- Sea Grant & Marine Aquaculture Program: \$72.5 million (\$500 thousand decrease)

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Department of Education (ED)

The omnibus funds the Pell Grant program at \$22.475 billion and maintains the discretionary portion of the maximum award at \$4,860 for the 2017-18 school year. The mandatory portion of the maximum award raises the award by \$105 to \$5,920.1.

In addition, the language **restores year-round Pell Grant awards**, which is estimated to provide approximately one million students an additional \$1,650. The bill rescinds \$1.3 billion from the Pell surplus, allotting a carryover of \$6.2 billion for FY18.



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Other ED programs:

- Federal Work Study (FWS) is funded at \$990 million, the same level as FY16
- Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) is funded at \$733 million, the same level as FY16
- Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) is funded at \$28 million, reflecting a \$1 million or 3.4 percent cut from FY16
- Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is funded at \$605 million, a \$13 million, or 2.1 percent decrease from FY16
- International Education and Foreign Language Studies (Title VI) is funded at \$72 million, the same level as FY16

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

The omnibus provides \$150 million for NEH, a \$2 million, or 1.4 percent, increase above the FY16 funding level.

HEALTH

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

The omnibus provides **funding for NIH at \$34.1 billion, an increase of \$2 billion, or 6.2 percent,** above the FY16 level. This figure includes \$352 million provided by the 21st Century Cures Act.

Key highlights

- \$1.39 billion for Alzheimer's disease research, an increase of \$400 million
- \$5.7 billion for the National Cancer Institute, an increase of \$475.8 million
- \$320 million for the Precision Medicine Initiative, an increase of \$120 million
- \$260 million for the BRAIN Initiative to map the human brain, an increase of \$110 million
- \$463 million to Combat Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria, an increase of \$50 million



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- **The bill does not include additional funding to implement ObamaCare (ACA) programs**, and continues prohibitions and limitations on use of federal funds related to ACA.
- Increases to every Institute and Center to continue investments in innovative research to advance fundamental knowledge and speed the development of new therapies, diagnostics, and preventive measures to improve the health of all Americans
- In addition to the \$2 billion increase for medical research, NIH will receive \$162 million for construction of the NIH Clinical Center's E-Wing.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) – The bill provides \$3 billion for CMS program management and operations, which is \$576 million below the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and \$1 billion below the previous Administration's budget request

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – The legislation prioritizes funding for critical disease prevention and biodefense activities. The agreement includes a total of program level of \$7.3 billion for the CDC – \$22 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. This includes \$6.3 billion in appropriated funds, as well as \$891 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The bill includes \$112 million – \$42 million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level – to expand efforts to combat prescription drug abuse.

Fighting Opioid Abuse – \$801 million, an increase of \$650 million or 430 percent

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (Prevent Block Grant) – \$160 million, level with FY2016. The previous Administration proposed to eliminate this program. The Prevent Block Grant provides flexible funding for states to implement prevention activities according to local health needs.