



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

## **Analysis of the Final FY 2019 Labor, Health Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill | September 28, 2018**

On September 28, President Trump signed into law a fiscal year (FY) 2019 funding package containing two of twelve appropriations bills, the Defense Appropriations bill and the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill. The bill had been passed earlier in the week by the House of Representatives. Of particular interest to the social science community, the Labor-HHS bill contains next year's final appropriation for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Education (ED), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), among other federal departments and agencies. The passage of the Labor-HHS bill marks the first time in more than 20 years that this bill, which tends to be one of the most divisive among Republicans and Democrats, will be signed into law on time.

The package also includes a continuing resolution (CR) that will keep the rest of the government operating until December 7 (the new fiscal year begins next week on October 1). Congress will return after the November midterm elections and attempt to complete its work on next year's spending bills. Notably, still pending is the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations bill, which is responsible for funding the National Science Foundation and the Census Bureau, among other programs; neither the House or Senate have taken up the bill outside of committee.

### **At a Glance...**

- **The final agreement provides the National Institutes of Health with \$38.084 billion in FY 2019**, an increase of \$2 billion or 5.4 percent over the FY 2018 enacted level.
- **The bill provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with a total of \$7.892 billion for FY 2019**, a decrease of \$113.4 million from FY 2018. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) again receives flat funding of \$160.4 million.
- **The agreement provides \$338 million for Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**, \$4 million above the FY 2018 enacted level.
- **The final bill accepts the Senate's proposed funding level of \$615 for Bureau of Labor Statistics**, an increase of \$3 million above both the FY 2018 enacted level.
- **Within the Department for Education, the final bill provides \$615.5 million to Institute of Education Sciences**, which is a 0.3 percent increase in funding compared to its FY 2018 appropriation.

Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) as Congress works to complete the remaining FY 2019 spending bills.

Summarized below are the final FY 2019 funding levels for the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Department of Education.

[Text of the final bill](#) and [explanatory statement](#) are available online.

## National Institutes of Health

The final conference report provides NIH with \$38.084 billion in FY 2019, an increase of \$2 billion or 5.4 percent over the FY 2018 enacted level. This is the amount included in the earlier Senate bill, which is about \$750 million higher than the House's proposal. The appropriation marks the fourth straight year of increases of \$2 billion or more for NIH, receiving a total of \$9 billion in increases since FY 2016, a 30 percent increase (for reference, the *entire budget* of the National Science Foundation is about \$7.7 billion). Each of NIH's institutes and centers will see increases above the FY 2018 levels (see chart below for details).

Consistent with the earlier House and Senate bills, the final agreement rejects the Trump Administration's attempts to create new NIH institutes by transferring offices and agencies from elsewhere in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to NIH, including a continued push to incorporate the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) into the NIH structure (see the AHRQ section for details).

Funding boosts also continue for NIH's major priority initiatives, including:

- \$2.34 billion, a \$425 million increase, to the National Institute on Aging for **Alzheimer's disease research**.
- \$429 million, a \$29 million increase, for the **Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neuro-technologies (BRAIN) initiative** within the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.
- \$376 million for the **All of Us Precision Medicine Initiative**, an increase of \$86 million.
- \$364.6 million for the **Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) program**, an increase of \$11 million.
- \$606.6 million for the **Common Fund** within the Office of the NIH Director to support short-term, high-impact projects, an increase of about \$18.5 million.

Below is a summary of relevant report language that could impact the research community. You can refer to COSSA's reporting on the individual [House](#) and [Senate](#) bills to review additional directives impacting NIH.

### Office of the Director

The final NIH spending bill calls on the NIH Director to transfer \$5 million to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) for "increased oversight of NIH's grant programs." Specifically, the OIG is asked to "examine NIH's oversight of its grantees' compliance with NIH policies, including NIH efforts to ensure integrity of its grant application evaluation and selection processes." The OIG is also directed to "examine the effectiveness of NIH's and grantee institutions' efforts to protect intellectual property derived from NIH-support research."

The conference report also directs the NIH director to conduct a portfolio analysis of the agency's current funding levels for mental health and substance use disorders, as well as details about the process by which NIH sets funding priorities for programs supporting mental health and substance use disorder research.

### Opioids Research

Policymakers continue to prioritize funding for research on opioid use, misuse and treatment. The final agreement includes \$500 million in dedicated funding for "research related to opioid addiction, development of opioid alternatives, pain management, and addiction treatment." The funding is provided equally to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and is meant to be on top of the \$774 million that NIH is expected to provide in base funding for opioids research through the institutes and centers.

	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 vs. FY 2018
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>	<b>37084</b>	<b>34588.4</b>	<b>38334.0</b>	<b>39084.0</b>	<b>39084.0</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
National Cancer Institute	5664.8	5626.3	6136.0	6147.1	6143.9	8.5%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	3383.2	3112.0	3423.6	3490.2	3488.3	3.1%
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	447.7	413.2	453.1	462.0	461.8	3.1%
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	1970.8	1965.4	1994.3	2030.9	2029.8	3.0%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	2145.1	1838.6	2228.8	2275.6	2274.4	6.0%
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	5260.2	4761.9	5368.0	5506.2	5523.3	5.0%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	2785.4	2572.7	2818.7	2874.3	2872.8	3.1%
<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1452.0	1339.6	1469.3	1507.3	1506.5	3.8%
National Eye Institute	772.3	711.0	781.5	797.0	796.5	3.1%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	751.1	693.2	760.1	775.1	774.7	3.1%
National Institute on Aging	2574.1	1988.2	3005.8	3084.8	3083.4	19.8%
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	586.7	545.5	593.7	605.4	605.1	3.1%
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	460.0	424.0	465.5	474.7	474.4	3.1%
National Institute of Nursing Research	158.0	145.8	159.9	163.1	163.0	3.2%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	509.6	469.1	515.7	525.9	525.6	3.1%
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1383.6	1137.4	1400.1	1420.6	1419.8	2.6%
National Institute of Mental Health	1711.8	1612.2	1790.2	1871.3	1870.3	9.3%
National Human Genome Research Institute	556.9	513.0	563.5	575.9	575.6	3.4%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	377.9	346.6	382.4	389.7	389.5	3.1%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	142.2	130.7	143.9	146.6	146.5	3.0%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	303.2	280.5	306.8	314.8	314.7	3.8%
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences	75.7	70.1	76.6	78.2	78.1	3.1%
National Library of Medicine	428.6	395.5	433.7	442.2	442.0	3.1%
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	742.4	685.1	751.2	806.8	806.4	8.6%
National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality	0.0	256.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	0.0	200.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research	0.0	95.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The final bill provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with a total of \$7.892 billion for FY 2019, a decrease of \$113.4 million from FY 2018. This total includes \$7.088 billion in discretionary funding and \$804.5 million in funding through the Prevention and Public Health Fund. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) again receives flat funding of \$160.4 million, which will likely continue to put a strain on the agency. The bill rejects the Administration’s request to consolidate the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as an institute within the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The agreement provides \$5 million for a new initiative within the HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI and Tuberculosis Prevention program to improve “surveillance, treatment, and education efforts around hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV infections” as they relate to the opioid epidemic. Within the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion portfolio, an additional \$2 million is included for research and education related to farm to school programs that promote healthy eating habits. The bill continues funding from FY 2018 of a \$476 million initiative within the Center for Injury Prevention and Control to “advance the understanding of the opioid overdose epidemic and scale up prevention activities.”

	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 vs. FY 2018
<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</b>	<b>8005.8</b>	<b>5660.8</b>	<b>7629.9</b>	<b>7818.8</b>	<b>7892.4</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>
HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention	1127.3	1117.3	1147.3	1132.3	1132.3	0.4%
Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion	1162.9	939.3	1205.4	1163.5	1187.8	2.1%
National Center for Health Statistics	160.4	155.0	160.4	161.4	160.4	0.0%
Environmental Health	205.8	157.0	201.4	206.8	209.4	1.7%
Injury Prevention and Control	648.6	266.3	690.6	648.6	648.6	0.0%
Occupational Safety and Health	335.2	0.0	339.2	335.3	336.3	0.3%
Global Health	488.6	408.8	488.6	488.6	488.6	0.0%
Public Health Preparedness and Response	1450.0	800.0	860.0	1470.0	1465.2	1.0%

## Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

The agreement provides \$338 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The amount is \$4 million above the FY 2018 enacted level and the level proposed by the House and Senate bills. As expected, the bill rejects the Administration’s proposal to transfer the Agency to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a new institute.

The bill includes an additional \$2 million for grants within the Patient Safety portfolio to address diagnostic errors, which may include “the establishment of Research Centers of Diagnostic Excellence to develop systems and new technology solutions to improve diagnostic safety and quality.” It also includes \$2 million to establish a program to “explore the effectiveness of data computing analytics to identify trends in chronic disease management and support the development of protocols for intervention and utilization of health care navigators to carry out those intervention strategies.”

	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 vs. FY 2018
<b>Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</b>	<b>334.0</b>	<b>256.0</b>	<b>334.0</b>	<b>334.0</b>	<b>338.0</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Patient Safety	70.3	69.8	70.3	70.3	72.3	2.8%
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination	94.3	50.1	94.3	94.3	96.3	2.1%
Health Information Technology	16.5	0.0	16.5	16.5	16.5	0.0%
U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	11.6	7.4	11.6	11.6	11.6	0.0%
Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys	66.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	6.0%

## Bureau of Labor Statistics

The final bill accepts the Senate’s proposed funding level of \$615 for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), an increase of \$3 million above both the FY 2018 enacted level and the House’s proposal. Of the increase, \$2 million would be used for Employment and Unemployment Statistics within the Bureau’s Labor Force Statistics portfolio, and \$1 million would go to Prices and Cost of Living statistics.

	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 vs. FY 2018
<b>Bureau of Labor Statistics</b>	<b>612.0</b>	<b>609.4</b>	<b>612.0</b>	<b>615.0</b>	<b>615.0</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
Labor Force Statistics	274.0	274.0	273.0	277.0	276.0	0.7%
Prices and Cost of Living	209.0	207.2	210.0	209.0	210.0	0.5%
Compensation and Working Conditions	83.5	80.9	83.0	83.5	83.5	0.0%
Productivity and Technology	10.5	10.6	10.8	10.5	10.5	0.0%
Executive Direction and Staff Services	35.0	36.6	35.2	35.0	35.0	0.0%

## Department of Education

Within the Department of Education, the final bill provides \$615.5 million for the **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**, which represents a 0.3 percent increase in funding for IES compared to its FY 2018 level and 18 percent above the FY 2019 funding request from the Administration. The final number for IES is identical to the Senate’s proposal. Nearly every account within IES would be held flat with its FY 2018 funding level, including Research, Development, and Dissemination; Regional Education Laboratories; the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES); Research in Special Education; Statewide Data Systems; and Special Education Studies and Evaluations. The Assessment account within IES, which is responsible for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, would receive a modest 1.3 percent increase in the final bill. Notably, the final funding amount for NCES, the lone statistical agency within the Department of Education, is nearly 3 percent below the amount requested by the Administration and flat with its FY 2018 appropriation.

For the **International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs**, the final bill includes a total of \$65.1 million in funding for Domestic Programs (also known as Title VI) and \$7.1 million for Overseas Programs (also known as Fulbright-Hays). The final appropriation for Title VI and Fulbright-Hays is identical to the amount proposed by the House and Senate and is good news as both programs were proposed for elimination in the President’s FY 2019 budget request.

Lastly, the final bill includes flat funding of \$23 million for the **Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need** program for FY 2019, another program slated for elimination in the Administration’s budget request.

	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 House	FY 2019 Senate	FY 2019 Enacted	FY 2019 vs. FY 2018
<b>Institute of Education Sciences</b>	<b>613.5</b>	<b>521.6</b>	<b>613.5</b>	<b>615.5</b>	<b>615.5</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Research, Development, and Dissemination	192.7	187.5	192.7	192.7	192.7	0.0%
National Center for Education Statistics	109.5	112.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	0.0%
Regional Educational Laboratories	55.4	55.4	55.4	55.4	55.4	0.0%
Research in Special Education	56.0	54.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	0.0%
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	0.0%
Assessment	156.7	156.7	156.7	158.7	158.7	1.3%
Statewide Data Systems	32.3	0.0	32.3	32.3	32.3	0.0%
<b>International Education and Foreign Language Studies</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	65.1	0.0	65.1	65.1	65.1	0.0%
Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays)	7.1	0.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	0.0%
<b>Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

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