

December 23, 2015

TO: Deans of U.S. Dental Schools
 Directors of Advanced Dental Education Programs
 Directors of Allied Dental Education Programs
 ADEA Board of Directors
 ADEA Legislative Advisory Committee

FROM: Richard W. Valachovic, D.M.D., M.P.H., ADEA President and CEO
 Yvonne Knight, J.D., ADEA Chief Advocacy Officer

RE: Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016

On Dec. 18, 2015, President Obama signed into law the *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016*, [H.R. 2029](#). The bill appropriates \$1.1 trillion to fund the federal government in fiscal year (FY) 2016, through Sept. 30, 2016. ADEA requested and Congress appropriated \$527,016,000 for programs of interest to academic dentistry and dental and craniofacial research; Congress appropriated 97% of ADEA’s funding request. Below, ADEA has provided a summary of program funding for FY16.

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)

- Title VII—Oral Health Training and Dental Health Improvement Act

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President’s Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$33,928,000	\$33,928,000	\$35,873,000

Title VII of the *Public Service Health Act* provides authorization for training programs in the health professions, including dental programs. Title VII gets a well-deserved increase of approximately \$2 million. Also, included is language, requested by ADEA, which directs \$10 million to be allocated to both pediatric and general dentistry residencies. Thank you to everyone who came to Washington for ADEA’s Hill Day last April and the ADEA Leadership Institute Fellows who helped make the case to Congress for increased funding for Title VII.

- Centers of Excellence ([COE](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President’s Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$21,711,000	\$25,000,000	\$21,711,000

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Funding for COE has been flat in recent years, but it continues to be funded in tight budgetary times. Despite the President's request for increased funding, the amount provided in the final agreement is the same as the FY15 level.

- Health Careers Opportunity Program ([HCOP](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$14,189,000	\$14,000,000	\$14,189,000

The HCOP program has survived another attempt to substitute it with a different minority-pipeline program; the consensus was to continue HCOP in its present configuration.

- Faculty Loan Repayment Program ([FLR](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000

The Faculty Loan Repayment Program has been flat in recent years, no change in funding.

- Area Health Education Centers Program ([AHEC](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$30,250,000	\$0	\$30,250,000

The President's budget sought to end the AHEC program, but it continues to have congressional support.

- Ryan White Dental Programs—[Part F](#)

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$13,122,000	\$13,122,000	\$13,122,000

The Dental Reimbursement Program is the payee of last resort and only reimburses at approximately 26 cents on the dollar. ADEA has and will continue to demonstrate that this level of reimbursement is unsustainable.

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NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$30,559,000,000	\$31,311,000,000	\$32,100,000,000

Congress continues to value and support NIH; NIH's budget was increased by \$789 million over last year's funding (approximately a 3% increase).

- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research ([NIDCR](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$399,886,000	\$406,746,000	\$415,582,000

NIDCR shares in the overall increase for NIH with an increase of \$15.7 million (approximately 4% over last year). Again, we thank everyone who came to ADEA's Hill Day and the ADEA Leadership Institute Fellows who helped to make the case to Congress for more funding for NIDCR.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC)

- Division of Oral Health ([DOH](#))

FY15 Appropriation	FY16 President's Request	FY16 Final Appropriation
\$15,749,000	\$15,749,000	\$18,000,000

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Oral Health, uses funding to provide grants to states in support of community water fluoridation, school-based dental sealants, and other state and local programs that strengthen the dental health infrastructure. The Division of Oral Health received approximately \$2.2 million in additional funding.

OTHER FY 2016 FUNDING ITEMS OF INTEREST

- [Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education \(CHGME\)](#) program is funded at \$295 million, \$30 million above the FY15 level.
- [The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#) survived an attempt by Congress to have it eliminated. AHRQ received an appropriation of \$334 million for FY16, which is \$34 million less than the 2015 enacted level.

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- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Tobacco and Smoking Prevention](#) program received \$210 million, which is \$6.5 million less than the 2015 enacted level.
- [Pell Grants](#) is funded at \$22.5 billion, which is the same as the 2015 enacted level. When combined with mandatory funding, these discretionary funds will enable the maximum grant to increase to an estimated \$5,915, an increase of \$140 in the 2016-2017 school year.

TAX EXTENDERS AGREEMENT

In addition to appropriating monies to fund the federal government through Sept. 30, 2016, H.R. 2029 also contains a Tax Extenders Agreement, a section-by-section summary of which is provided [here](#). The measure retroactively renews most of the expired provisions that would allow businesses and individuals to claim tax [credits](#) when filing their 2015 tax returns and further extends taxes for varying periods.

A few provisions of interest in the tax extenders agreement are: the research and development tax credit and the IRA Charitable Rollover, both were made permanent; the above-the-line deduction for qualified tuition was extended until the end of 2016; and the American Opportunity Tax Credit was made permanent (the Internal Revenue Service website contains additional information on [tuition tax credits and deductions](#)).

Also, three taxes intended to fund the Affordable Care Act were affected: the so-called Cadillac Tax on high-cost health insurance plans will be delayed from 2018 to 2020, a 2.3% tax on medical devices will be put on hold through 2017, and a fee on health insurers would be paused for 2016.

ADEA is pleased with the FY16 funding for programs of interest to dental education and dental and craniofacial research. ADEA looks forward to continuing to advocate and dialogue with Congress on issues, programs and funding that will enhance and advance academic dentistry and dental and craniofacial research.

If we can be of further assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to let us know. Please contact Yvonne Knight, J.D., Chief Advocacy Officer, at KnightY@adea.org.