

October 3, 2018

**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  
B. Timothy Leeth, CPA, ADEA Chief Advocacy Officer

**RE:** Final FY19 Appropriations for Dental Education and Training Programs

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For the first time since 1996, Congress enacted a Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) bill before the start of the new fiscal year. On Sept. 28, the President signed the bill into law. Programs of interest to dental education fared well—the summary tables below and accompanying discussion provide a deeper look at the Congress' directives.

**Note:** Within this document, we cite the “dental community request.” This denotes the joint appropriations request that is made each year by ADEA, the American Dental Association, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and the American Association for Dental Research.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### Health Resources and Services Administration

The final appropriation for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in FY19 is \$5.8 million above the FY18 level. The final bill contains a set aside of \$250,000 to implement an oral health awareness and education campaign across all the relevant HRSA divisions, including Health Centers Programs, Oral Health Workforce, Maternal and Child Health, Ryan White HIV/AIDS, and Rural Health. The campaign will focus on prevention of and education about oral disease, such as early childhood and other caries, periodontal disease and oral cancer.

Following is a discussion of individual programs of interest to academic dentistry.

**Oral Health Training—Title VII Programs**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
Oral Health Training	\$38,673,000	\$38,673,000	\$38,673,000
Pediatric Dental Residencies	(\$10,000,000)	(\$12,000,000)	(\$12,000,000)
General Dentistry Residencies	(\$10,000,000)	(\$12,000,000)	(\$12,000,000)
Dental Faculty Loan Repayment	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,673,000</b>	<b>\$40,673,000</b>	<b>\$40,673,000</b>

Numbers in parentheses indicate that they are set asides within the over all total and not added to the total.

For the second year in a row, the President did not request any funds for FY19 Oral Health Training Programs. Importantly, both House and Senate bills echoed the request by the dental community. The final bill includes a set-aside of \$12 million for Pediatric Dental Residencies and \$12 million for General Dentistry Residencies, as included in the dental community request. This represents an increase of \$2 million for each residency program above the FY18 funding level.

Also, within this appropriation, the final agreement includes \$2 million for the Dental Faculty Loan Repayment program under Title VII.

**Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
AHEC	\$38,250,000	\$38,250,000	\$39,250,000

Language is included that encourages HRSA to work with dental networks established by state dental societies to reduce the number of patients seeking treatment in hospital emergency departments for dental pain or disease. The conferees also praise the work of the program to address care shortages in rural and other underserved areas.

**Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
HCOP	\$14,189,000	\$14,189,000	\$14,189,000

HCOP is a pipeline program that assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have a desire to pursue a career in the health professions to develop the skills needed to enter and graduate from schools and programs in those professions or allied health professions. HCOP has been at risk in recent years, with 2019 being no exception. However, through the combined efforts of ADEA and our dental and health profession education partners, the conferees agreed to continue the funding of the program.

**Ryan White, Part F Dental Reimbursement**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
Ryan White	\$13,122,000	\$18,000,000	\$13,122,000

The Ryan White, Part F Dental Reimbursement Program is continued at the same level of funding as in FY18 (and recent years) in final FY19 appropriation. While the appropriation level is inadequate to meet the need and the rising cost of care for individuals living with HIV/AIDS, a Presidential request for funding took place in FY19, reflecting its merits and strong public health profile. The dental community, led by ADEA, requested an increase to demonstrate that dental schools are currently being reimbursed at approximately 26 cents on the dollar of uncompensated care provided to these patients.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
NIH	\$37,084,000,000	N/A (no request is made for overall NIH)	\$39,084,000,000

The President proposed cutting the NIH budget by 7%. However, Congress rejected that request, instead increasing NIH funding by \$2 billion in the final bill. Included in the increase are additional amounts for Alzheimer’s disease research, combating antibiotic-resistant bacteria, the “All of Us” research program (previously called the Precision Medicine Initiative), the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, and for regenerative medicine, as well as continued funding for the Cancer Moonshot Initiative.

**National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)**

Priority Program	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Dental Community Request	FY19 Appropriation
NIDCR	\$447,735,000	\$477,000,000	\$461,761,000

The House and Senate committees each recommend sizable funding increases for NIDCR above the FY18 appropriation. The final bill mirrors the Senate version, which was the higher of the two, and provides a 3% increase and comes closest to the dental community’s request. The NIDCR is asked to continue to broaden its work on temporomandibular disorders (TMD) and encourages the institute’s support for multidisciplinary research on the subject.

The report to accompany the bill also asks NIDCR to continue to work on biodevices, including those that are being developed to detect bone loss, and encourages work in imaging technologies and dental restorative materials.

**Other Items of Interest**

Provisions Related to the Opioid Crisis

Both the House and Senate bills included substantial funds to address prevention, treatment and response to opioid abuse. The following chart summarizes the appropriations in the final agreement between the two Houses for opioid programs within HHS:

Department of Health & Human Services	FY18 Appropriation	FY19 Appropriation
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	\$476,000,000	\$476,000,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		
Targeted State Opioid Response Grants	\$1,000,000,000	\$1,500,000,000
Opioid Treatment Programs/Regulatory Activities	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000
Medication-Assisted Treatment for Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction	\$84,000,000	\$89,000,000
Grants to Prevent Prescription Drug/Opioid Overdose Related Deaths	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000
National Institutes of Health <sup>1</sup>		
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	\$500,000,000	\$500,000,000
National Institute on Drug Abuse	\$500,000,000	\$500,000,000

<sup>1</sup> For FY19 these amounts are in addition to the NIH base budget for opioid research of \$774 million.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

For the **Pell Grant program**, the final agreement provides a modest increase in the maximum grant level to \$6,195, a \$100 increase over last year.

The new appropriations law contains \$350 million to cover the additional expense of loan forgiveness under the **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)** Program for borrowers who were initially enrolled in an ineligible repayment program. This Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness (TEPSLF) program was first authorized in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141).

If you require additional information, please contact Tim Leeth, ADEA Chief Advocacy Officer, at [leetht@adea.org](mailto:leetht@adea.org) or 202-289-7281.