



Fiscal Year 2023 Federal Omnibus Package: Executive Summary

On December 23rd, Congress passed and President Biden is expected to sign into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (H.R. 2617), the same day current federal funding was set to expire. The Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) omnibus sets funding levels for federal agencies and programs through September 30, 2023. The bill passed the Senate on a 68-29 vote, with support from Colorado Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper, and passed the House on a 225-201-1 vote, with Colorado Representatives Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, Jason Crow, and Ed Perlmutter voting in favor of passage. The 4,155-page bill can be read in full [here](#).

The bill provides \$1.7 trillion in discretionary funding across the twelve FY23 appropriations bills, including \$772.5 billion for non-defense discretionary programs and \$858 billion in defense funding. The legislation provides \$200 billion in funding over FY22 levels, an increase of 13 percent. The FY23 omnibus increases funding for the majority of federal departments and accounts, many of which exceed the President's request. In addition to funding the government, the omnibus includes several bills introduced in the 117th Congress, \$45 billion in aid for Ukraine and extenders for various health programs.

CU's national association partners released statements praising the omnibus bill for its funding increases to research, development, and health accounts:

- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities [statement](#)
- Association of American Medical Colleges [statement](#)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science [statement](#)

For the second consecutive year, the federal budget includes Congressionally Directed Spending/Community Project Funding requests, previously known as earmarks. CU received funding for three projects championed by members of the Colorado congressional delegation, including:

- \$785,000 for a rural public health certificate student support program;
- \$480,585 for the CU Injury and Violence Prevention Center at CU Anschutz; and,
- \$2 million for JILA, a joint research institute between CU Boulder and the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST).

Additionally, CU supported \$1.3 million for a Fort Lewis College nursing workforce education degree program, which is dedicated to increasing the number of native nurses and forms a partnership with the CU Anschutz College of Nursing. CU also supported a \$669,000 request for the Children's Hospital of Colorado Bilingual Incentive and Pathway Programs and \$1.5 million for the Cherry Creek School District Mental Health Day Treatment Facility, which is partnered with CU Medicine and the Children's Hospital of Colorado. CU's requests were successful thanks to the support of Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper and Congressman Crow, who carried the CU Anschutz- projects, and Congressman Neguse, who championed the CU Boulder project. Also, the CU-led effort to support a University Consortia for Space Technology within the U.S. Space Force was funded at \$20 million, which represents a \$10 million increase over last year's funding level.

Following are budget highlights for education, research, and health agencies of interest to CU. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Government Relations, Outreach and Engagement.

I. Department of Education (ED)

- \$79.6 billion, an increase of \$3.2 billion over FY22 levels.
- \$24.6 billion for federal student aid programs, an increase of \$34 million over FY22 levels.
- A \$500 increase to the Pell Grant maximum award, raising the total maximum award from \$6,895 to \$7,395.
- \$910 million for the Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant program, an increase of \$15 million over FY22 levels.
- \$1.2 billion for Federal Work Study, an increase of \$20 million over FY22 levels.
- \$3.5 billion for higher education programs, an increase of \$532 million over FY22 levels. Within this \$3.5 billion is \$1.02 billion to assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), representing an increase of \$137 million over FY22 levels.
- \$1.2 billion for Federal TRIO programs.
- \$388 million for GEAR UP.
- \$50 million for a new HBCU, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCU), and MSI Research and Development Infrastructure Grants program.
- \$45 million for Postsecondary Student Success Grants.
- \$808 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), an increase of \$71 million over FY22 levels.
- \$84.7 million for Title VI international education programs, an increase of \$3.5 million over FY22 levels. Report language directs the Department to allocate this increase for domestic programs to the National Resource Centers program, which includes CU Boulder's Center for Asian Studies.

II. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- \$120.7 billion, an increase of \$9.9 billion over FY22 levels.
- National Institutes of Health (NIH): \$47.5 billion, an increase of \$2.5 billion over FY22 levels. Included in the baseline funding for NIH is \$7.3 billion for the National Cancer Institute (NCI), including \$216 million for the NCI component of the Cancer Moonshot; \$3.7 billion for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia research; \$75 million for expanded access and activities authorized in the ACT for ALS Act; an increase \$45 million for research related to opioids, stimulants and pain management and an increase of \$12.5 million for firearm and mortality prevention research; \$3.3 billion for HIV/AIDS research; \$270 million for Universal Flu Vaccine research; \$90 million for the INCLUDE Down syndrome research initiative; and \$76 million for the Office of Research on Women's Health, including \$10 million to establish the Office of Autoimmune Disease Research. The FY22 omnibus includes supplemental policy provisions that are included in the "Supplemental Policy Provisions" portion of the summary.
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): \$9.7 billion, an increase of \$852 million over FY22 levels. This includes \$879.8 million for the Title VII Health Professions and

Title VIII Nursing workforce development programs, an increase of \$80.6 million over FY22 levels. Included in the topline funding is \$47 million for Area Health Education Centers, a \$2 million increase, \$28.4 million for Centers of Excellence and \$2.3 million for the Faculty Loan Repayment Program. HRSA topline funding further included \$385 million for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education program and \$12.5 million for the Rural Residency Program.

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): \$9.2 billion, an increase of \$760 million over FY22 levels. Included in this funding is \$350 million in flexible funding for public health infrastructure and capacity.
- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H): \$1.5 billion, an increase of \$500 million over FY22 levels.
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ): \$373.5 million, an increase of \$23.1 million over FY22 levels.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): \$7.5 billion, an increase of \$970 million over FY22 levels.
- Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR): \$305 million for the Hospital Preparedness Program in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), an increase of \$9.5 million over FY22 levels.

III. Department of Commerce

- \$84.2 billion, an increase of \$6.1 billion over FY22 levels.
- National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST): \$1.65 billion, an increase of \$424 million over FY22 levels. This funding includes \$953 million for NIST's Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) and \$462.3 million for the construction of NIST research facilities, of which \$130 million is dedicated to address NIST's deferred maintenance needs.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): \$6.35 billion, an increase of \$474.8 million over FY22 levels. This includes \$224.2 million for climate research, an increase of \$24.2 million over FY22 levels, with a focus on climate resilience efforts, Western water issues, wildfires, and drought. Also included in the topline NOAA funding is \$1.25 billion for the National Weather Service operating expenses, an increase of \$72.9 million over FY22 levels. This figure includes an increase of \$92.1 over FY22 levels to procure future weather satellites and related systems. NOAA's Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes, the program that supports CU Boulder's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), are funded at \$104 million, a \$15 million increase, and NOAA's Climate Adaptation Partnerships, the program that supports CU Boulder's Western Water Assessment (WWA), are funded at \$16.3 million, a \$4.3 million increase.

IV. Department of Defense (DOD)

- \$797.7 billion, an increase of \$69.3 billion over FY22 levels.
- \$172.7 billion for military personnel, an increase of \$5.8 billion over FY22 levels. This increase will provide a 4.6 percent military pay raise as well as provide increases to military personnel to offset rising food and housing costs and \$12.1 million for a basic needs allowance.

- \$139.76 billion for DOD Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RTD&E), which includes Basic Research 6.1 accounts and applied research (6.2 and 6.3) accounts, an increase of \$20.5 billion over FY22 levels.
- \$4.06 billion of the RTD&E topline funding for Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) research programs.
- \$1.53 billion for Congressionally Directed Medical Research programs.
- \$311 million for the Defense Health Agency Restoral Fund, which helps fund many projects within the CU COMBAT Research Center.

V. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- Food and Drug Administration (FDA): \$3.5 billion, an increase of \$226 million over FY22 levels. Total funding for the FDA, including revenue from user fees, is \$6.6 billion. Within this total, the bill provides targeted increases to address the opioid crisis, medical supply chain issues, cybersecurity of medical devices, and increasing and strengthening in-person inspections of foreign drug manufacturers.
- \$4 billion for rural development programs, including over \$455 million for the expansion of broadband service, which includes an additional \$348 million for the ReConnect program.
- \$1.47 billion for rural water and waste program loans and over \$500 million in water and waste grants for clean and reliable drinking water systems and sanitary waste disposal systems.

VI. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

- \$216 million for VA Medical Services in addition to the \$70.3 billion provided as advanced appropriations for FY23 in the FY22 omnibus. The bill additionally includes \$74 billion in advance appropriations for FY24.
- \$4.3 billion for VA Medical Community Care in addition to \$24.2 billion provided as advance appropriations in the FY22 omnibus. The bill additionally includes \$33 billion in FY24 advance appropriations.
- \$916 million for VA medical and prosthetic research programs, an increase of \$34 million over FY22 levels. Relatedly, the bill includes policy provisions directing the VA to report to Congress on alternatives to animal models that were considered for research studies and why they were not chosen for specific research projects. Furthermore, the bill directs the VA to allocate at least \$10 million to support NCI-designated comprehensive cancer centers to improve veterans' access to clinical trials. The omnibus additionally includes the AAMC-endorsed VA Infrastructure Powers Exceptional Research (VIPER) Act of 2021, which seeks to improve the functionality and efficiency of the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research program.

VII. Department of Energy (DOE)

- \$8.1 billion for the DOE Office of Science (SC), an increase of \$625 million over FY22 levels. This includes \$135 million for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning capabilities across SC programs, and \$245 million for SC's coordinated and focused research program in quantum information science, of which \$120 million is for research and \$125 million is for

DOE's five National Quantum Information Science Research Centers, including the Quantum Systems Accelerator, in which CU Boulder participates.

- \$470 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy (ARPA-E), an increase of \$4 million over FY22 levels.
- \$3.5 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, an increase of \$260 million over FY22 levels.
- \$200 million for cybersecurity, energy security, and emergency response, an increase of \$14 million over FY22 levels.
- \$890 million for fossil energy and carbon management, an increase of \$65 million over FY22 levels, with a focus on advanced carbon reduction and mitigation in sectors that are difficult to decarbonize and assist in carbon capture and storage.
- \$60 million for the Reaching a New Energy Sciences Workforce (RENEW) and Funding for Accelerated, Inclusive Research (FAIR) programs to build research capacity and workforce development at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs).

VIII. Department of the Interior

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): \$802.3 million for the EPA Office of Science and Technology.
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): \$207 million, a \$27 million increase over FY22 levels.
- United States Geological Survey (USGS): \$15.5 million for the Water Resources Research Institutes and \$28.21 million for Cooperative Research Units. USGS's Climate Adaptation Science Centers, the program that supports the North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center at CU Boulder, are funded at \$63 million, an \$11.1 million increase.
- Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP). \$9 million for JFSP, which is jointly funded by the Interior Department and U.S. Forest Service, an increase of \$1 million over FY22 levels. The legislation includes CU-supported guiding language, which directs JFSP to address research on wildfire prevention, response and resilience, as well as support a broad network of academic researchers.

IX. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- \$86.5 billion in discretionary resources, including \$83 billion for non-defense programs, \$3.5 billion for defense-related programs, and \$20 billion for major disaster response and recovery activities. When excluding offsetting collections and major disaster funding, DHS receives \$60.7 billion, an increase of \$3.2 billion over FY22 levels.

X. Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and other development programs

- \$17 million for study abroad programs under the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarships program.
- \$287.5 million for the Fulbright Program.

XI. Independent Agencies

- National Science Foundation (NSF): \$9.87 billion, an increase of \$1.03 billion over FY22 levels. This includes \$1.03 billion in supplemental emergency funding through FY24. Included in this funding are \$7.8 billion for NSF Research and Related Activities and \$1.37 billion for NSF education and workforce training programs. The \$365 million increase in education and workforce training programs will support approximately 2,300 additional research and education grants as well as 35,000 more scientists, technicians, teachers, and students compared to FY22. Other funding highlights include \$970 million for climate science and sustainability research through the U.S. Global Change Research Program and Clean Energy Technology; \$686 million for artificial intelligence research including workforce and education partnerships; \$235 million for quantum information science research; and \$187.23 million for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC).
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA): \$24.5 billion, an increase of \$1.34 billion over FY22 levels. This includes \$7.8 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, \$935 million for aeronautics research, \$1.2 billion for space technology, and \$143.5 million for STEM engagement education initiatives, including \$58 million for the National Space Grant Program, which supports the state-wide Colorado Space Grant Consortium administered by CU Boulder.

XII. Supplemental Policy Provisions

- NIH Policy: The omnibus requires within two years a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study on animal research supported or conducted by NIH to determine compliance with the requirements of the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.
- Medicare: The omnibus waives the impending 4 percent PAYGO cut to Medicare reimbursement; reduces the Physician Fee Schedule Medicare reimbursement cuts from 4 percent to 2.5 percent in 2023 and 1.25 percent in 2024; includes the "Advancing Telehealth Beyond COVID-19 ACT," which extends telehealth waivers currently allowed under the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) through December 31, 2024; includes 200 new Medicare graduate medical education (GME) slots, 100 of which are required for psychiatry; and extends the Hospital at Home program currently allowed under the COVID-19 PHE through December 31, 2024.
- PREVENT Pandemics Act: The omnibus includes the PREVENT Pandemics Act, which overhauls our nations capability to respond to futures pandemics by investing in the CDC, national strategic stockpile, as well as other response agencies such as BARDA and ASPR. Moreover, the bill requires the CDC director to be confirmed by Congress and invests in CDC's response to future pandemics.
- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H): The legislation authorizes ARPA-H within NIH but mandates that its headquarters may not be located on any parts of the NIH campus. Additionally, the bill further requires ARPA-H to have offices and facilities in no less than three geographic areas. Program managers will be appointed by the director for 3-year terms with the ability for one consecutive reappointment. Additionally, the ARPA-H director is required to provide a strategic plan to Congressional authorizing committees not later than one year after enactment of the law.

- Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP): The omnibus extends CHIP through 2029 and provides support to states to help transition patients from the FMAP increased requirements. Of note, states will continue to receive enhanced Medicaid funding from April 1st through December 31, 2023.
- Mental Health: The bill includes language to address the mental health crisis in the U.S., with a focus on issues having a significant impact on children and substance use disorder. Additionally, the bill reauthorizes a program that allows HHS to award grants to states that partner with a community program, health center, or primary care to implement and evaluate integrated behavioral health models and authorizes incentive payments for practices that implement the Collaborative Care Model (CCM). The bill also reauthorizes multiple programs to strengthen the behavioral health workforce, including the Mental and Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training grant program.
- Clinical Trial Diversity: The budget legislation includes directives to the FDA and other health agencies to create action plans and public workshops as well as provide annual reports regarding the diversity of clinical trial participants.
- Maternal Health: The bill makes permanent the state option for 12 months post-partum Medicaid.