



UNIVERSITY
OF OREGON

Federal Budget Priorities

FY15

Universities and the federal government: A partnership for preparation and prosperity

Government supports higher education based on a theory: the theory of the relationship between the government and individuals, and the idea that economic and social mobility for individuals results in the betterment of society. It is the theory that impressed Abraham Lincoln, who took time out from the Civil War in 1862 to sign the Morrill Act, the legislation that created land-grant universities, and in 1863 to sign the Act of Incorporation that created the National Academy of Sciences. To this day, this national commitment undergirds the federal–higher–education partnership and makes our nation’s future more hopeful.

–Michael R. Gottfredson
Former President, University of Oregon

Request to Congress

The University of Oregon asks Congress to **keep federal student aid and federal research programs as national priorities** in FY15. The UO’s priorities are as follows:

1) Federal Pell Grant Program: Support the scheduled increase to a maximum award of \$5,830, an additional \$100 per maximum award.

Why Pell Grants matter to Oregonians: In 2012–13, more than \$23 million in Pell Grants were awarded to 5,394 UO students. Almost 38 percent of Oregon residents attending UO receive some Pell Grant support. Lower income students at Oregon’s largest universities benefited from \$100 million dollars in Pell Grants during the 2011–12 school year. Without that financial help, more than 22,000 students at Oregon State University, the UO, and Portland State would face a greater struggle to pay for college.

2) Federal research: Strengthen federal research agencies, particularly the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Energy (Office of Science), and the Institute of Education Sciences. For a complete set of funding priorities, see the chart on the second page of this document.

Why federal research matters to Oregonians: Oregon’s research universities have a rich history of innovation, discovery, and job creation borne out of federal research funding. According to economic impact studies, Oregon State University, the University of Oregon, Portland State University, and Oregon Health & Science University have a nearly \$10 billion impact per year on the state through all activities. Collectively, Oregon’s research institutions suffered a \$68 million reduction in federal research grants in 2013 as a result of sequestration. That is money that could have led to life-changing discoveries, innovation, and much-needed economic activity. In fall 2013, business organizations including the Portland Business Alliance and the chambers of commerce in Eugene, Springfield, and Albany endorsed principles for the reauthorization of America COMPETES.

3) Opportunities for Oregon: The UO thanks the Oregon delegation for its interest in **Earthquake Early Warning** (US Geological Survey), university partnerships with the **US Department of Energy’s National Energy Technology Laboratory–Albany, Oregon**, and **special education research** (US Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences), all areas of emphasis that directly benefit Oregonians’ safety, well-being, and welfare.

FY15 Funding Priorities

	FY10 Final	FY11 Final	FY12 Final	FY13 ⁴ CR	FY13 Final with sequester and rescission	FY14 Omnibus Bill	FY15 Administration Budget	FY15 Recommendation
Department of Education (L/HHS)								
Pell Grant								
Maximum grant (\$ in thousands; incl. mandatory and discretionary)	\$5,550	\$5,550	\$5,550	\$5,365	\$5,365	\$5,730	\$5,830	\$5,830
Discretionary funding	\$17,495	\$22,956	\$22,824	\$22,824	\$22,824	\$22,778	\$22,778	\$22,778
Student aid programs ¹	\$3,034	\$2,844	\$2,855	\$2,853	NA	\$2,848	\$2,848	\$2,924
Graduate education programs ²	\$41	\$39	\$31	\$31	NA	\$29	\$29	\$31
International education programs	\$126	\$76	\$74	\$74	NA	\$72	\$76	\$76
Institute of Education Sciences		\$102	\$594	\$597		\$577	\$637	\$637
National Institutes of Health (L/HHS)	\$31,243	\$30,406	\$30,861	\$30,938	\$29,151	\$29,926	\$30,220	\$32,000
National Science Foundation (CJS)	\$6,873	\$6,807	\$7,033	\$7,393	\$6,884	\$7,172	\$7,255	\$7,500
NASA (CJS)								
Science	\$4,497	\$4,945	\$5,073	\$5,144	\$4,795	\$5,151	\$4,972	\$5,254
Aeronautics	\$497	\$535	\$569	\$570	\$531	\$566	\$551	\$577
Space technology	\$275	–	\$574	\$642	\$599	\$576	\$706	\$706
Department of Agriculture (Ag)								
AFRI		NA	\$265	\$325	\$276	\$316	\$325	\$360
Department of Energy (Energy/Water)								
Office of Science	\$4,964	\$4,868	\$4,874	\$4,876	\$4,621	\$5,071	\$5,111	\$5,223
ARPA-E ³	–	\$180	\$275	\$265	\$251	\$280	\$325	\$325
Department of Defense 6.1 Basic Research (Defense)								
	\$1,815	\$1,947	\$2,010	\$2,130	\$2,103	\$2,167	\$2,018	\$2,230
National Endowment for the Humanities (Interior)								
	\$168	\$155	\$146	\$146	\$139	\$146	\$146	\$155

Note: The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Association of American Universities developed these recommendations for Congress.

\$ in millions, unless otherwise noted

¹ Includes Federal Work-Study, SEOG, GEAR UP, and Trio.

² Includes Javits Fellowship and GAANN. The FY12 conference agreement consolidated Javits into GAANN.

³ ARPA-E received \$400 million from ARRA in FY10.

⁴ Source: HR 933 FY13 Continuing Resolution. Does not include across-the-board rescissions required by the bill and sequestration cuts.

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