



COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Valerie C. Williams, President
National Association of State
Directors of Special Education

Luis Maldonado, Vice President
American Association of State
Colleges and Universities

Emmanuel A. Guillory, Treasurer
National Association of Independent
Colleges and Universities

Myrna Mandlawitz, Past President
Council of Administrators of Special
Education

Frank Ballmann
National Association of State
Student Grant and Aid Programs

Kelly Broughan
Teach for America

Sarah Cohen
American Federation of Teachers

Peter DeYoe
Harvard University

Rob Edwards
National Association for Music
Education

Jon Fansmith
American Council on Education

Jim Gelb
California State University

Meredith Hills
Advance CTE

Zachary Scott
National Association of Secondary
School Principals

Jenny Smulson
Association of Jesuit Colleges and
Universities

Kelly Vaillancourt Strobach
National Association of School
Psychologists

Corey Williams
National Education Association

Sheryl Cohen, Executive Director
Committee for Education Funding

November 13, 2020

Dear Members of Congress:

As the 116th Congress returns for a lame duck session, we write on behalf of the more than 100 education organizations, institutions, and others that are members of the Committee for Education Funding (CEF) to urge you to significantly increase education funding in both an emergency relief bill to address COVID-related costs and in the final fiscal year (FY) 2021 Labor-HHS-Education funding bill. Students, schools, universities, and stakeholders along the education continuum need more support to ensure that teaching and learning can continue in a safe manner regardless of the format in which it is offered. We ask that you act quickly to help the nation's education system as it continues to face higher costs due to the pandemic and shortfalls in state and local revenue that jeopardize education support.

Even before the pandemic hit there was a need for greater federal investments, and that need has only grown. The regular FY 2020 funding for education is more than \$7 billion below the FY 2011 level in inflation-adjusted terms, and neither the House-passed FY 2021 appropriations bill nor the Senate Chairman's Mark increase funding above that real level of ten years ago. The nearly \$31 billion for education in the CARES Act has long been obligated, and it reflected just a down payment on meeting immediate educational needs this spring. Far more is needed quickly to make education whole.

Various members of the education community have made the case for immediate relief and support, including more than [\\$200 billion for K-12 education](#) plus at least \$4 billion for e-rate assistance, at least [\\$120 billion for higher education](#), additional support for [Career Technical Education](#), and [student loan relief policies](#), among others. CEF urges you to consider the importance of investments in education and the many needs of students, schools, colleges, universities, the teaching community, and the economy, and to move quickly to provide a dramatic increase in the next coronavirus relief measure and through FY 2021 appropriations.

1800 M Street NW, 500 South Tower, Washington, DC 20036
(202) 327-8125

www.cef.org Twitter and Instagram: @edfunding

CEF, the nation's oldest and largest education coalition, is a non-partisan and non-profit organization reflecting the education continuum. Our members are parents and students, teachers and school leaders, counselors, school board members, universities and school districts, associations, and others with the common goal of ensuring that education is adequately funded.

Sincerely,



Valerie C. Williams
President



Sheryl Cohen
Executive Director