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COMMITTEE FOR  
EDUCATION FUNDING

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Tuesday, March 30, 2021

## I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **President's two budget announcements this week** – We're expecting two budget announcements this week. The first is tomorrow, when the President will release his big Build Back Better infrastructure plan that reportedly includes funding for school infrastructure as well as investments in early childhood education, free community college, child care, and other education components (see the [CEF Update of March 23](#) for more information on the contents). We're hearing that Senate Democrats are exploring whether Congress could revise the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 budget resolution that included the reconciliation instructions that were used to create and pass the American Rescue Plan, and then pass the revised budget resolution and use new reconciliation instructions to pass an infrastructure package. That would leave the FY 2022 budget resolution available for a third reconciliation bill. Revising and passing the same budget resolution to create a new set of reconciliation instructions is a novel idea; we'll keep you informed about how likely Democratic leaders are to pursue this approach and how likely it would be to work.

The second budget announcement is on Thursday, when the Administration is expected to release information on the President's FY 2022 discretionary topline budget request by agency. The usual detailed program-by-program budget and its mandatory and revenue proposals won't be released until later this spring. We'll send out information about whatever education funding details we can glean as soon as possible, but we likely won't be able to update [CEF's summary education funding table](#) until the full budget is released.

- **Education earmarks from 2010 (the last time there were earmarks)** – Since the House has decided to allow limited appropriations earmarks – now called Community Project Funding – in the FY 2022 appropriations bills, I thought it would be helpful to see the type and scope of education earmarks in the FY 2010 Labor-HHS-Education bill, which was the last time there were earmarks included. The projects are listed in the [Committee report for the bill](#) and include the following for the Department of Education:
  - \$51.7 million for elementary and secondary education programs, listed on numbered pages 215-219
  - \$2.6 million for vocational rehabilitation projects on page 229 (this year's bill will not include vocational rehabilitation earmarks)
  - \$68.2 million for post-secondary education projects within the Fund for Improvement of Postsecondary Education on pages 243-248.

There are two education accounts eligible for community project funding requests: Innovation and Improvement for elementary and secondary education and the Fund for Improvement in

Postsecondary Improvement. In the Department of Labor, the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) demonstration program is eligible for earmark requests. The deadline for requests for both Community Project Funding and programmatic funding in this bill has been extended until April 28. The Chair's "Dear Colleague" guidance on all requests is [here](#).

- **Video and slides from last week's CEF Hill Briefing on The Impact of COVID-19 on Education Jobs** – Thanks to CEF's Research Committee for putting together a great Zoom briefing for congressional education staffers and CEF members last week with a really informative discussion of the state of education job losses so far – their disparate impact, and what we might expect going forward. If you missed it, the video is on CEF's "Events" webpage, along with the panelists' slides. (Links to additional resources were included in the CEF Update on 3/25/21.) The Research Committee is starting to work on a second Hill briefing to be held in mid-May on the historic underfunding of education and long-term needs, with the goal of informing congressional decisions in the FY 2022 appropriations cycle. If you'd like to be involved in planning this and other research briefings, let me know and I will add you to CEF's Research Committee.

## II. Advocacy

- **Reminder: CEF is collecting examples of how COVID education funding is being used** – CEF is collecting examples of how schools, districts, colleges, and other entities are using COVID-relief funding – the \$282 billion for Department of Education programs and additional funding for other education-related programs. We'll share the collected information about how the federal relief funding is being used as part of CEF's advocacy to increase federal investments for long-term, ongoing education programs. Please share examples that show how the federal COVID-relief dollars have been or will be used. We have a [short questionnaire where you can provide specifics](#), or you can email information directly to me.

## III. Events

- **CEF's upcoming schedule -**
  - **Friday, April 2 and April 9** – No CEF meeting during congressional recess.
  - **Thursday, April 15** – 5-6 p.m. ET – CEF [Zoom happy hour](#) (federal taxes aren't due until May 17 so you can spare an hour for fun)!
  - **Friday, April 16** - 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
  - **Thursday, April 22** – 3-4 p.m. ET – Twitter chat on the President's education budget. Details to come.
  - **Friday, April 23** - 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.
  - **Friday, April 30** - 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Owen Reilly, Rep. Joe Morelle (D-NY)