



I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Congressional outlook after Administration executive orders** – It's not clear what Congress will do next regarding a pandemic relief bill after the Administration announced four executive orders this weekend (see links below) designed to help those struggling to make housing and student loan payments and to provide some unemployed people with additional support. While there are questions about the legality and effectiveness of some of the orders, the one that expands student loan forgiveness another three months, until December 31, appears straightforward. However, these orders do not provide additional funding. There is no additional funding for education or for state and local relief (on average, 41% of a state's budget supports education). That fiscal relief is one of the two primary obstacles to agreement: the House-passed Heroes Act includes \$915 billion, the Senate's proposed HEALS Act contains none, and the Administration recently said it could support providing \$150 billion for state and local relief. Representatives and Senators have left Washington but could be called back on 24 hours' notice to vote if leaders reach a compromise on a new relief package, but the status and fate of negotiations at this point is unclear.

Links to Administration orders and memos:

- [Memorandum on Continued Student Loan Payment Relief During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Executive Order on Fighting the Spread of COVID-19 by Providing Assistance to Renters and Homeowners](#)
- [Memorandum on Deferring Payroll Tax Obligations in Light of the Ongoing COVID-19 Disaster](#)
- [Memorandum on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)

II. Advocacy

- **CEF chart showing education funding over the last 10 years** – The attached PNG is a chart showing that regular funding for the Department of Education is currently more than \$7 billion below the 2011 level in inflation-adjusted dollars. CEF [Tweeted this chart today](#); we encourage you to continue using social media to spread information about the need for Congress to greatly increase support for education in the next pandemic relief bill and in the regular FY 2021 funding bill.
 - **Sample Tweet that can be modified to mention a particular program:** Federal support for education is \$7 billion below the 2011 level in inflation-adjusted terms. Urge Congress to increase education funding as students, families, schools, colleges, and others in the education community face new costs to safely provide education. #5cents4edfunding

III. Events

- CEF's upcoming schedule–
 - **August 14 through Labor Day** – CEF meetings will take a break during the congressional recess!
 - **Friday, Sept. 11** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. [Zoom Friday meeting](#).
 - **Friday, Sept. 18** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. [Zoom Friday meeting](#).
 - **Wed., Sept. 23** – 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET, Zoom Research Briefing on How Money Matters in Education. Open to CEF members and congressional staffers. Panelist details coming soon.
 - **Friday, Sept. 25** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. Zoom Friday meeting.