



COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FUNDING

Monday, August 9, 2021

Thanks to those sponsoring CEF's 2021 Gala!

Straight "A"s: American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

Star Student: Just added: Council for Opportunity in Education (COE); American Council on Education (ACE); American Library Association (ALA); National Education Association.

Dean's List: National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU); AASA, the School Superintendents Association/Consortium for School Networking/National School Boards Association.

Honor Roll: Just added: National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

(NASFAA); Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU); Bose Public Affairs Group; National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS); National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP); National Association of Secondary School Principals/National Association of Elementary School Principals/American Federation of School Administrators.

I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **Senate budget resolution calls for huge new education investments** – This morning Senate Democrats released the text and summary material (see links below) for their fiscal year (FY) 2022 budget resolution that contains nearly three quarters of a trillion dollars over ten years for new education and health investments intended to cover “robust” amounts of the President’s education proposals from the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan. The resolution instructs 12 Senate Committees and 13 House Committees to report legislation by September 15 that could add \$3.5 trillion in new spending and tax cut that would be paid for in full with new tax revenue – but not from families earning less than \$400,000, small businesses, or family farms – health care savings, and new economic growth. The education committees receive the largest instructions for new spending: the Senate HELP Committee is allowed to spend \$726 billion, and the House Education and Labor Committee may spend \$779.5 billion (the two committees do not have identical policy portfolios outside of education). The Senate plans to pass the budget resolution this week, after it completes work on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (aka, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, or BID). The House would then likely be called back in session to pass the budget resolution as is, triggering the procedural protections for the resulting reconciliation bill in the fall.
- **How much investment in education will these reconciliation instructions cover?** – A budget resolution with reconciliation instructions does not spell out what the subsequent reconciliation bill contains, just provides committees with the freedom to produce bills with up to a certain amount of new cost or with savings of a minimum amount. The HELP Committee instruction of \$726 billion in

new spending over ten years does not allow for funding all the President's requested items in its jurisdiction at the full funding level requested. Using the Office of Management and Budget's estimates for the cost of the President's budget (see [Table S.6](#)), the President's request includes \$8458 billion over ten years for major education-related items:

- \$165 billion for universal pre-K and Head Start educator pay,
- \$225 billion for child care,
- \$272 billion for a number of higher education proposals, including \$109 billion for free community college and \$84 billion for Pell grants,
- \$87 billion for education infrastructure,
- \$87 billion for workforce development and
- \$9 billion for educator training.

Senate Democrats list the following as what could be included in the Senate HELP Committee's \$726 billion of the reconciliation bill, but the Committee could change the component parts based on what it thinks will pass:

- Universal Pre-K for 3 and 4-year-olds
- Child care for working families
- Tuition-free community college
- Investments in HBCUs, MSIs, HSIs, TCUs, and ANNHIs
- Increase the maximum Pell grant award
- School infrastructure, student success grants, and educator investments
- Investments in primary care, including Community Health Centers, the National Health Service Corps, the Nurse Corps, and Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education
- Health equity (maternal, behavioral, and racial equity health investments)
- Pandemic preparedness
- Workforce development and job training
- Labor enforcement and penalties
- Civilian Climate Corps funding
- Research infrastructure, including for HBCUs, MSIs, HSIs, TCUs, and ANNHIs

- **What happens next?** – Assuming that the Senate and House pass the budget resolution on party-line votes, the instructed committees will immediately start working to finalize legislation that meets their reconciliation instructions. If there is something you are supporting, now is the time to contact the authorizing committees to make your case for including it in the upcoming reconciliation bill! However, reconciliation bills have to pass the Senate's "Byrd Rule," which prohibits the inclusion of non-budgetary provisions, among other items. That rule has been interpreted to exclude appropriations, so funding would likely be drafted as mandatory and not discretionary spending (as was done for the American Rescue Plan, the FY 2021 reconciliation bill enacted this spring). The Byrd Rule also makes it harder to amend existing programs in ways that don't affect spending but do affect how they run, and sometimes makes it hard to set up new programs, since some of the required oversight and good governance provisions might not pass the Byrd Rule. That is why reconciliation bills often – but not always – add funding to existing programs rather than setting up new ones. Any Senator can raise a point of order that a provision violates the Byrd Rule, and if the Senate parliamentarian agrees, it takes 60 votes to overturn her ruling – something that is likely impossible to get in this Congress.
- **Links and attachments to budget resolution text and summaries –**

- [**Budget resolution legislative text**](#)
- **Dear Colleague from Senator Schumer (attached)** – describes overall approach and goals
- [**Senate Democratic summary**](#) of the resolution and reconciliation instructions for each Senate committee

II. Events

- **CEF gala on September 28 outdoors at Due South-Dockside** – CEF's Gala this year will be a hybrid in-person/livestreamed event outdoors along Washington's waterfront on Tuesday, September 28. For those who want to attend in person, we are selling tickets and sponsorships for a networking reception with appetizers and drinks at Due South [Dockside](#) (see below for details).
 - **Due South-Dockside** – Dockside is an outdoor venue with a [canopied section of the wide dock along the Anacostia River](#) that is reached via stairs or a gradual ramp along the right of Due South (301 Water Street, SE, Washington, DC). It is 4 short blocks (0.3 miles) from the Navy Yard metro station and there are parking garages nearby, along with scarce street parking.
 - **Award ceremony with Senator Markey will also be live-streamed for free** -- After the reception, starting at 6:30pm we'll livestream the award ceremony and speeches available to anyone online for free. One of the honorees selected by CEF membership, [Senator Ed Markey \(D-MA\), will be attending and accepting CEF's William H. Natcher Distinguished Service Award](#); we are waiting to hear back from the other two honorees. We'll provide the free link for the livestream closer to the date.
 - **Tickets and sponsorships** - Individual tickets are for sale for \$100 on [CEF's website](#) or by emailing RSVP@CEF.org to be sent an invoice (please include the names of those attending, their organization, email, and number of tickets you want). Gala sponsorship information is online [here](#). The venue's capacity is limited to 150 and two-thirds of the tickets have already been sold, so if you want to attend, please don't delay in getting your tickets!
- **CEF's upcoming schedule** -
 - **New: Thursday, August 12. 4:30-6:30pm** - CEF Happy Hour outdoors at The Admiral – 1 Dupont Circle, NW.
 - **August Fridays** – no CEF Friday meetings during August/congressional recess. We'll keep you informed via email about any education funding-related action.
 - **Friday, September 10** – 9:30-10:45 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker TBD.