



I. Policy Intelligence and Education News

- **House passes revised CR through December 11; vote pending in the Senate** – On Tuesday night, the House overwhelmingly passed a [revised continuing resolution \(CEF\) \(H.R. 8337\)](#) that extends government funding through December 11 because current funding expires at the end of this fiscal year on September 30. The Senate could vote on the bill as soon as today, but it's possible that process could drag out until Wednesday's deadline if Senators want to offer amendments or if Democrats protest the process due to their unhappiness over Republicans' plans to consider a Supreme Court nomination before the inauguration in January. Republicans had objected to the original House CR filed on Monday because it did not contain extra relief for farmers; the revised version includes that agricultural relief as well as nearly \$8 billion to expand the pandemic EBT program that provides nutrition funding for families with children who would have received reduced-price meals at schools. Other than this provision, appropriations for education-related programs are frozen at fiscal year (FY) 2020 levels through December 11. There is a section-by-section summary [here](#).
 - **What's next for FY 2021 appropriations?** – Assuming this CR is signed into law, government funding will continue until Congress reconvenes in a lame-duck session after the election. What happens then depends on whether Senate and White House control will shift to Democrats next year. If so, on the one hand Republicans will want to get the best deal for their priorities this fall, and will push to finish full-year funding bills – like in one or two omnibus appropriations packages. For the Senate, which has not yet produced a single FY 2021 appropriations bill, that means the bills would not go through the Appropriations Committee markup process, although it's possible that Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee chair Roy Blunt (R-MO) would produce his draft bill and report anyway. Under this scenario, regular (i.e., non-emergency, pandemic-relief) education funding isn't likely to get much more than the modest 1.7 percent increase provided in the House-passed bill (see CEF's funding table for program levels). However, if full control switches to Democrats as a result of the election, Democrats could push to pass another CR until February or March, and leave it up to a new Congress and President to finalize FY 2021 funding bills with revised Subcommittee allocations. The Budget Control Act's statutory spending caps on defense and non-defense discretionary spending for FY 2021 remain in place (the caps essentially freeze both categories of funding at the FY 2020 levels), so to provide a significant overall boost Congress would need to vote to raise the caps (which is an unlikely fight to pick at the beginning of a new Congress and Administration) or provide extra money outside the caps, either by designating the funding as emergency funding, by allowing a new cap adjustment, or through some other budgetarily creative way.

- **Recent reports by CEF members** – As always, CEF members are doing interesting work. Some recent reports of interest:
 - **National Association for College Admission Counseling:** “[National Roadmap for Change: Reimagining US Higher Education as a Public Good](#)”
 - **AASA, NAESP, and NASSP:** the [National COVID-19 School Response Dashboard](#)
 - **Learning Policy Institute:** “[COVID-19 and State Education Budgets: The Story Behind the Numbers](#)”
- **CEF Job Board** – Don’t forget to check the Job Board on the member-only page of the CEF website for openings (or send us yours to add to the Job Board). One recent listing.
 - American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education – [Senior Director, Federal Relations and Policy](#)

II. Advocacy

- **Successful Twitter chat on education funding on Tuesday** – Thanks to all who joined CEF’s #HearOurEdStories Twitter chat (CEF is @edfunding on Twitter) on Tuesday afternoon to highlight the importance of education funding as Congress is preparing to extend government funding for the next few months at a freeze of current funding levels. About 50 different organizations and people participated, including 17 CEF member organizations/institutions and 5 individual CEF members. The chat generated examples of where states are cutting education funding, the impact on students and teaching, and the need for greater pandemic relief for a number of education-related needs in addition to greater support for on-going education programs. CEF’s Twitter following grew by 31 just that day – and there were some fun gifs involved! Please follow CEF on Twitter @edfunding.
- **Yesterday’s CEF briefing on “How Money Matters in Education”** – CEF’s Research Committee organized a really informative and useful Zoom briefing yesterday attended by more than 80 CEF members and congressional staffers. The panelists – three from CEF member organizations! – had great data on the impact of increased education funding on academic success for K-12 students, background on the impact of federal education relief during and after the 2008 recession, and what might be in store for state education funding as this recession continues. We plan to Tweet out excerpts of the presentations as part of our ongoing social media advocacy. If you missed the briefing, you can watch it on [CEF’s YouTube page](#) and the link will soon be on CEF’s website.

III. Events

- **CEF’s upcoming schedule** –
 - **Tomorrow - Friday, Sept. 25** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speakers: Amanda Beaumont and Bryce McKibben, Senate HELP Committee.
 - **Friday, Oct. 2** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom quarterly committee meeting](#). This is your chance to participate in planning the activities and initiatives for the rest of this year and to provide input for next year’s budget and agenda.

- **Friday, Oct. 9** – 9:30-11:00 a.m. ET, [Zoom Friday meeting](#). Guest speaker: Jessica Bowen, Rep. Susan Bonamici (D-OR).
- **Oct TBD** – Pre-election briefing. Details coming soon.
- **Friday, Oct. 16** – Congressional recess - No Friday CEF meeting.