APPROPRIATIONS
CHAIRMAN TOM COLE

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act provides a total discretionary allocation of $184.5 billion, which is $13.7 billion (7%) below the Fiscal Year 2025 enacted level. This bill supports President Trump's efforts to safeguard taxpayer dollars, eliminate out-of-touch progressive policies, and end the weaponization of government by eliminating or reducing more than 100 programs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Champions America First principles by:**
  - Providing $100 million for the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) initiative, which will allow the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to invest in prevention and innovation programs for rural communities, telehealth resources for chronic care, and nutrition services.
  - Renaming AmeriCorps as the America First Corps to reflect the agency's core mission of funding organizations that place Americans at the center of service initiatives.
  - Prioritizing America250 activities and projects through the National Days of Service program, and libraries across the United States.
  - Renaming Workforce Pell Grants as Trump Grants to reflect the President's commitment to growing the American workforce and expanding opportunities for American workers.

- **Supports the Trump Administration and mandate of the American people by:**
  - Eliminating the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, consistent with President Trump's Executive Order 14173, "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity."
  - Prioritizing substance abuse treatment, prevention, and long-term recovery, including the use of opioid overdose reversal medications, while prohibiting taxpayer funds from going to harm reduction activities that encourage continued use of illicit controlled substances; consistent with President Trump's Executive Order 14321, "Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets."
  - Maintaining the longstanding Hyde Amendment and ensuring no federal funding can be used for abortion on demand.
  - Supporting the Trump Administration's efforts to safeguard taxpayer dollars through responsible management of Federal student loans.
  - Prohibiting funding for schools that support antisemitic conduct or discriminate against religious student groups.
  - Maintaining the longstanding Dickey Amendment, which ensures that federal funds cannot be used to advocate or promote 2nd amendment limitations.

- Prohibiting the implementation of the Biden administration's independent contractor rule, liberating 64 million American women, seniors, and others balancing work with family responsibilities to participate in the freelance economy.

- **Bolsters U.S. national security and border protections by:**
  - Providing $48 billion in funding to support biomedical research, a necessary counter to China's growing threat in basic science research.
  - Strengthening America's biodefense and countering global health security threats by providing more than $3 billion for the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.
  - Prohibiting the purchase of supplies from China for the Strategic National Stockpile, which supports American manufacturers by expanding the domestic industrial base for these items.
  - Prioritizing the safety and well-being of unaccompanied children under custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement through improved sponsor vetting, interagency data sharing, welfare checks, and reporting requirements.
  - Eliminating funding for Transitional and Medical Services and the Refugee Support Services programs, which incentivized unchecked migration through cash handouts, medical assistance, and public welfare services.
  - Securing the nation's food security by rolling back the Biden Administration's burdensome one-size-fits-all regulations leading to the closure of small family farms.

- **Safeguards American taxpayer dollars and preserves core functions by:**
  - Streamlining duplicative behavioral health programs focused on criminal and juvenile justice programs and homelessness prevention.
  - Providing increased funding for youth and young adult suicide prevention, mental health treatment, and substance abuse prevention and treatment services.
  - Strengthening Tribal communities by supporting mental health and substance abuse treatment, elder care, and child and family services, while promoting accountability and self-sufficiency.
  - Defunding the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking (ICCPUD), which the Biden Administration improperly used to carry out activities related to adult alcohol consumption.
  - Eliminating the duplicative Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
  - Providing a closeout budget for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, consistent with Administration policy to reduce the federal footprint.
  - Focusing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on communicable diseases rather than social engineering.
    - Reducing funding by 19% and streamlining 35 duplicative and controversial programs while increasing funding to combat emerging and zoonotic infectious diseases.

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DETAILED FUNDING SUMMARY

Department of Labor

Provides a discretionary total of $9.6 billion to the Department of Labor, which is $4 billion (28%) below the FY25 enacted level.

- Eliminates five duplicative and overlapping job training programs, saving taxpayers $2.5 billion compared to FY25.
- Matches the OMB request with reduced funding for Labor's Wage and Hour Division (-$25 million) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (-$50 million).
- Consistent with President Trump's Executive Order 14173, "Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity," eliminates the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.
- Increases (+$25 million) funding for communities affected by natural disasters or economic dislocations.
- Eliminates funding for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs and the Women's Bureau.
- Supports the implementation of Executive Order 14278, "Preparing Americans for High-Paying Skilled Trade Jobs of the Future" by providing robust funding, $285 million, to support the Trump Administration's goal of surpassing one million new active apprentices.
- Provides $20 million for wastewater operators throughout rural America.
- Provides $25 million to grow the American cybersecurity workforce.

Department of Health and Human Services

Provides a discretionary total of $108 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services, which is $7 billion (6%) below the FY25 enacted level.

- Provides $515 million for rural health, including increased funding for America's rural hospitals, specifically targeting facilities at risk of imminent closure and increasing rural residency opportunities.
- Maintains $1.85 billion in funding for primary health care, which supports community health centers that provide affordable, accessible, and high-quality health care in underserved communities.
- Provides $1.36 billion to strengthen the health workforce and connect skilled health care providers to rural communities and other areas in need.
- Increases funding for the mental health and substance use block grants, including the assisted outpatient treatment for individuals with serious mental illness and medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders.
- Provides $5 million for eating disorder identification, treatment, and recovery.
- Provides a $10 million increase for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

- Provides a $4 million increase for Home and Community Based Supportive Services, which funds services that enable seniors to live independently.
- Maintains level funding for Child Care and Development Block Grants at $8.7 billion, which provides vouchers for working families to access childcare.
- Maintains funding at the FY25 level for Head Start at $12.3 billion, which promotes school readiness of children under 5 from low-income families through preschool services.
- Provides a $6 million increase for programs under the Community Services Block Grant Act.
- Provides $48 billion for the National Institutes of Health, maintaining America's edge in basic biomedical research for cures to cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and rare diseases, and supports the Trump Administration's priority of increasing research for other chronic diseases impacting Americans.
- Consistent with the FY26 Administration budget proposal, consolidates the Sexually Transmitted Infections, Domestic TB, and Infectious Diseases and the Opioid Epidemic funding lines into a new Consolidated, STD and Tuberculosis Prevention Grant that gives states flexibility to address local needs in addressing state specific challenges.
- Increases funding for the Special Olympics by 5% to $21 million.
- Consistent with the priorities of the FY26 Administration Budget Request, it increases funding for CDC's core infectious disease capacities by 2% or $55 million.

Department of Education

Provides a discretionary total of $67 billion to the Department of Education, which is $12 billion (15%) below the FY25 enacted level.

- Increases funding by $26 million for special education, $60 million for charter schools, $5 million for Impact Aid, and $25 million for career and technical education state grants.
- Increases funding to support people with disabilities at schools like Gallaudet University and the American Printing House for the Blind.
- Maintains funding for Pell Grants at the discretionary maximum award level of $6,335, which when combined with mandatory funding under current law would continue to support a total maximum award of $7,395.
- Reduces funding by $5.2 billion (27%) for Title I grants. Despite outsized investment, America's public schools continue to fail children and families.

Related Agencies

- Provides no funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.
- Provides no funding for National Public Radio and Public Broadcasting Service.
- Reduces funding by $3 million (1%) for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and includes a small increase of $400 thousand to library grants.