



Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Appropriations Executive Summary

In March 2024, Congress passed and President Biden signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (CAA, [P.L. 118-42](#)) and the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 (FCAA, [P.L. 118-47](#)), which provides fiscal year (FY) 2024 funding for all government agencies.

Signed into law on March 9, the CAA is a six-bill funding package that includes the Commerce-Justice-Science, Energy-Water Development, Interior-Environment, Agriculture-Rural Development-FDA, Transportation-Housing-Urban Development, and Military Construction-Veterans Affairs appropriations bills. This \$460 billion package, which also included crucial health extenders, passed the Senate by a vote of [75-22](#) and the House of Representatives by a vote of [339-85](#). Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper and Reps. Caraveo, Crow, DeGette, Lamborn, Neguse, and Pettersen voted in favor of the bill, while Reps. Boebert and Buck opposed it.

Two weeks later, on March 23, President Biden signed the FCAA into law, a six-bill funding package that included the Defense, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Labor-Health and Human Services-Education, Legislative Branch, and State-Foreign Operations appropriations bills. This \$1.2 trillion package passed the Senate by a vote of [74-24](#) and the House of Representatives by [286-134](#). Senator Hickenlooper and Reps. Caraveo, Crow, DeGette, Lamborn, Neguse, and Pettersen voted in favor of the bill, while Senator Bennet and Reps. Boebert and Buck opposed the package. Senator Bennet voted against the bill because it did not include aid to Ukraine.

Passage of the two funding bundles concludes a tumultuous funding cycle that included numerous threats of a government shutdown and the ousting of the House Speaker. The two packages fund federal agencies and programs for the fiscal year that began on October 1, 2023, and will keep federal agencies open through September 30, 2024. The bills adhere to funding caps enacted in the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA), legislation that raised the debt ceiling last summer and will significantly constrain non-defense spending for FY 2024 and FY 2025. The bills follow the caps established under the FRA, which led to cuts for most federal research programs, including NSF, NIH, NASA, NOAA, and NIST, and flat fund most education and student aid programs, including the Pell Grant.

The federal budget includes Congressionally Directed Spending/Community Project Funding requests, previously known as earmarks. CU received funding for three projects championed by members of the Colorado congressional delegation, including:

- \$950,000 for the CU Boulder Watershed Monitoring program – led by Rep. Neguse (CD-2)
- \$402,785 for the CU Anschutz Rural eConsult Expansion Project – led by Rep. Crow (CD-6) and Sens. Bennet and Hickenlooper
- \$374,000 for the UCCS Hybrid Physical Therapy Program – led by Sens. Bennet and Hickenlooper

The following are budget highlights for education, research, and health agencies of interest to CU. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Government Relations.

Department of Education (ED)

- \$26.6 billion for federal student aid programs, an increase of \$25 million over FY23 levels.
- Maintains the maximum Pell Grant award at \$7,395 for academic year 2024-25 without rescinding funds from the Pell Grant program reserve.
- \$910 million for the Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant program, flat funding.
- \$1.231 billion for Federal Work Study, flat funding.
- \$1.191 billion for Federal TRIO programs.
- \$388 million for GEAR UP.
- \$50 million for the HBCU, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCU), and MSI Research and Development Infrastructure Grants program.
- \$45 million for Postsecondary Student Success Grants.
- \$793.1 million, a \$14.5 million or 1.8% decrease from the FY23 enacted level, for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).
- \$85.664 million, flat funding, for Title VI International Education programs.
- \$7 million, a \$5 million decrease from the FY23 enacted level, for ED's Open Textbooks Pilot.
- In addition, the agreement urges the Department of Education to mitigate FAFSA delays by keeping institutions, scholarship providers, and states up to date in a timely fashion and regularly updating public data on 2024-25 FAFSA completion.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- \$116.8 billion, an \$8 billion decrease from FY 23.
- National Institutes of Health (NIH): \$47.081 billion for NIH, a \$378 million (0.8%) decrease over FY 23 enacted levels.
 - The NIH decrease is a direct result of a scheduled \$678 million reduction in Cures funding available to appropriators in FY 2024. Appropriators added \$300 million of the scheduled cutback into the bill.
 - Institutes receiving substantial increases include the National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Aging, and National Institute of Mental Health. All other institutes received small increases or flat funding. A full [institute-by-institute funding chart can be found here](#).
- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H): \$1.5 billion, flat funding.
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): \$8.9 billion, a decrease of \$577 million
 - Includes \$886.3 million for the Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing workforce development programs, an increase of \$6 million over FY23 levels.
 - Included in the topline funding is \$47 million for Area Health Education Centers,
 - \$390 million for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education program.
 - \$12.7 million for the Rural Residency Program.
 - A majority of the HRSA cuts were achieved by limiting the number of CDS requests.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): \$9.22 billion, a \$4.5 million increase over FY 23.
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ): \$369 million, a \$4.5 million decrease.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): \$7.3 billion, a \$70 million decrease.
 - A majority of the SAMHSA cuts were achieved by limiting the number of CDS requests.

- Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR): \$305 million for the Hospital Preparedness Program, flat funded.
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA): \$3.52 billion, a \$8 million decrease from FY23 levels. Total funding for the FDA, including revenue from user fees, is \$6.72 billion.
 - Protects the \$50 million in expiring funds from the 21st Century Cures Act for the FDA.

Department of Commerce

- National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST): \$1.46 billion, a decrease of \$167.3 million over FY23 levels
 - \$1.08 billion for NIST's Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS), an increase of \$127 million (13.3%).
 - \$262.1 million, a \$294.3 million or 64% decrease from the FY23 enacted level, for NIST Construction of Research Facilities (CRF).
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): \$6.319 billion, an increase of \$117.7 million (1.9%) over FY23 levels.
 - \$656.1 million, a less than 1% cut from the FY23 enacted level, for NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), including \$104 million, flat funding for NOAA's Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes, the program that supports CU Boulder's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES).

Independent Agencies

- National Science Foundation (NSF): \$9.06 billion, a decrease of \$479 million (5%) below FY23 levels.
 - \$7.2 billion for NSF Research and Related Activities and \$452 million (5.9%) below FY23.
 - \$1.17 billion for NSF education and workforce training programs, an \$18 million increase over FY23 levels.
 - \$332.7 million for quantum information science research (20.6%) increase over FY23 levels.
 - \$234 million for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC).
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA): \$24.88 billion, a decrease of \$509 million (2%) from the FY23 levels.
 - \$7.3 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate
 - \$935 million for aeronautics research, \$1.1 billion for space technology
 - \$143 million for STEM engagement education initiatives, including \$58 million for the National Space Grant Program, which supports the statewide Colorado Space Grant
 - Consortium administered by CU Boulder.

Department of Defense (DOD)

- \$886 billion, an increase of \$28 billion over FY23 levels.
- \$13 million for the CU-led University Space Consortium.
- \$148.3 billion, a 6% increase over the FY23 enacted level, for DoD Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E), which includes Basic Research (6.1) accounts and applied accounts (6.2 and 6.3).

- \$4.123 billion, a one percent increase over the FY23 enacted level, for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).
- \$2.5 million to DOD for perovskite-based energy generation, funding that will support perovskite solar cell research at a small consortium of universities, including CU Boulder
- \$257 million for the Defense Health Agency Restoral Fund (a \$54 million cut), which program helps fund many projects within the CU COMBAT Research Center.
 - Initially slated for \$87 million in funding in the Senate bill, it was increased to \$257 million after Sens. Bennet and Hickenlooper [led a bipartisan letter](#) (joined by Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.)) to the Senate Appropriations Committee asking to restore the program's funding.
 - The Peer-Reviewed Medical Research programs included Epidermolysis Bullosa and Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS). Senator Bennet [led this effort in coordination](#) with the Gates Institute.

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- \$3.6 billion for rural development programs, including \$170 million for expanding broadband service, including \$90 million for the ReConnect Broadband program, \$258 million less than the FY23 levels.
- \$910 million for rural water and waste program loans and over \$500 million in water and waste grants for clean and reliable drinking water and sanitary waste disposal systems.

Department of Energy (DOE)

- \$8.24 billion for the DOE Office of Science (SC), an increase of \$140 million (1.7%) over FY23 levels.
 - \$135 million for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning capabilities across SC programs
 - \$245 million for SC's coordinated and focused research program in quantum information science, of which \$120 million is for core research and \$125 million is for DOE's five National Quantum Information Science Research Centers, including the Quantum Systems Accelerator, in which CU Boulder participates.
- \$460 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy (ARPA-E), a decrease of \$10 million from FY23 levels.
- \$3.46 billion for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), keeping it the same at FY23 funding.
- \$200 million for cybersecurity, energy security, and emergency response, the same as FY23 levels.
- \$865 million for fossil energy and carbon management, a decrease of \$25 million (2.8%) from FY23 levels.
- \$60 million for the Reaching a New Energy Sciences Workforce (RENEW) and Funding for Accelerated, Inclusive Research (FAIR) programs to build research capacity and workforce development at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs).

Department of the Interior

- *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*: \$758 million for the EPA Office of Science and Technology, down \$44 million (5.5%) from FY23 levels.
- *National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)*: \$207 million, flat funding.
- *United States Geological Survey (USGS)*: \$15.5 million for the Water Resources Research Institutes and \$28.21 million for Cooperative Research Units.
 - USGS's Climate Adaptation Science Centers, the program that supports the North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center at CU Boulder, are funded at \$63 million, remaining the same as FY23 levels.
- *Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP)*. \$6 million for JFSP, which is jointly funded by the Interior Department and U.S. Forest Service, a decrease of \$3 million over FY23 levels.
 - The legislation includes CU-supported guiding language, which directs JFSP to address research on wildfire prevention, response, and resilience and support a broad network of academic researchers.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- \$89.8 billion in discretionary resources, including \$86.4 billion for non-defense programs and \$3.3 billion for defense-related programs. These funding levels include:
 - \$20.3 billion for major disaster response and recovery activities.
 - When excluding offsetting collections and major disaster funding, the total provided in the bill is \$61.8 billion, which is \$1.1 billion over FY23 levels.

Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and other development programs

- \$17 million for study abroad programs under the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarships program.
- \$287.8 million for the Fulbright Program.

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

- \$71 billion in advance for FY 25 for VA Medical Services. Includes \$20 billion in advance for the Medical Community Care network.
- \$943 million for Medical and Prosthetic Research at the VA, a \$27 million (3%) increase from FY 23.

Supplemental Policy Provisions

- Health Policy Provisions:
 - Mitigates the 3.37% reduction to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) conversion factor, which first took effect on January 1, by 1.68%.
 - Extends the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education program until December 31, 2024, with an additional \$164 million; the Community Center Fund, \$3.5 billion, beginning October 1, 2023, and ending on December 31, 2024 (note that total funding for this period is higher, as the bill does not fully reflect the previous funding from the CRs).

- Extends funding for the National Health Service Corps, \$297 million, from October 1, 2023, and ending on December 31, 2024.
- Eliminates scheduled reductions to the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program through December 31, 2024 (eliminating \$8 billion in cuts).