



March 2022

FEDERAL FY 2022 FUNDING UPDATE

Last Saturday, President Biden signed the Omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2022 into law after Congress completed action on this bill. This ensures funding for all federal agencies will continue through September 30, 2022. By passing this bill versus a Continuing Resolution, funding for programs can increase and other changes in policy can occur.

As it relates to aging programs the bill is somewhat of a disappointment as most funding increases were small. The largest in the Older Americans Act was \$15 million (1.5%) for the nutrition programs with the increase directed to home-delivered meals. The chart below provides more details:

Program	FY21 Final	FY22 Final
Older Americans Act Programs		
Title III-B Home and Community-Based Services	\$392.5 million	\$398.6 million
Title III-C Nutrition Total	\$951.7 million	\$966.7 million
<i>III-C-1 Congregate Meals</i>	\$515 million	\$515 million
<i>III-C-2 Home-Delivered Meals</i>	\$276 million	\$291 million
<i>III-C Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)</i>	\$160 million	\$160 million
Title III-D Preventive Health	\$24.8 million	\$24.8 million
Title III-E Family Caregiver Support Program	\$188.9 million	\$193.9 million
Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)	\$405 million	\$405 million
Title VI Native Americans Nutrition/Supportive Services	\$35.2 million	\$36.2 million
Title VI Native Americans Caregiver Program	\$10.8 million	\$11.3 million
Title VII Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$18.8 million	\$19.8 million
Title VII Elder Rights Support Activities Total	\$17.9 million	\$18.9 million
Block Grants		
Social Services Block Grant (HHS-ACF)	\$1.70 billion	\$1.70 billion
Community Services Block Grant (HHS-ACF)	\$745 million	\$755 million
Community Development Block Grant (HUD)	\$3.45 billion	\$3.3 billion
Other Aging Programs		
Americorps Seniors (CNCS)	\$225 million	\$230.7 million
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (HHS-ACL)	\$8 million	\$8 million
Elder Falls Prevention (HHS-ACL)	\$5 million	\$5 million
Aging and Disability Resource Centers (HHS-ACL)	\$8 million	\$8 million
Aging Network Support Activities	\$16 million	\$18.4 million
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) (HHS-ACF)	\$3.75 billion	\$3.85 billion
Medicare SHIPs (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) (HHS-ACL)	\$52.1 million	\$53.1 million
Housing for the Elderly (HUD)	\$855 million	\$1 billion
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (USDA)	\$325 million	\$332 million
Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (USDA)	\$21 million	\$26 million
VAWA Abuse in Later Life (DOJ)	\$5 million	\$7.5 million

Contact Us

We welcome your feedback!

Please share questions, suggestions or concerns.

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It's also worth noting that this bill provided \$1 billion for the next year for President Biden's proposed biomedical research agency, the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), which will initially be housed within Health and Human Services. Congress also extended telehealth policies adopted during the pandemic for five months after the public health emergency ends. This will allow Medicare coverage for telehealth visits for all adults aged 65 and up, including some audio-only visits, regardless of where the patient lives.

HEALTHCARE FUNDING

Funding of \$1.3 billion is provided to improve and enhance the health care workforce including: \$459 million for education and training initiatives for health care professionals with \$24 million for oral health training programs. The bill also includes \$14 million for the behavioral health workforce specifically for training peer support specialists. Related is another \$ 1 million for a behavioral health workforce data collection project. The bill also includes \$31.7 million for mental health and substance use disorder workforce training demonstrations. Finally, the bill provides \$121 million for the National Health Service Corps along with \$4.75 million to address a nursing shortage especially in acute care settings.

The focus now immediately shifts to funding for Fiscal Year 2023 which begins on October 1. Advocates for older adults plan a concerted effort to secure greater increases in key programs.

OLDER AMERICANS NUTRITION ACT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

"It is a lifeline for older adults. It goes beyond nutrition to serve as a human connection." "Extremely valuable in promoting healthy eating, socialization and preventing food insecurity." "The glue that keeps our most vulnerable connected to others." "A value can't be placed on providing meals to seniors."

These are some of the responses received from programs in Utah, Oklahoma, Indiana, Massachusetts and California to a survey by the [National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services \(NANASP\)](#) asking nutrition program providers to describe the importance of the Older Americans Act nutrition programs. On March 22, 2022, this act will celebrate its 50th anniversary. [Bob Blancato writes for Next Avenue about the importance of this milestone.](#)