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[Financial Services](#)
[Homeland Security](#)
[Interior and Environment](#)
[Labor/Health and Human Services/Education](#)
[Legislative Branch](#)
[State/Foreign Operations](#)
[Transportation/Housing and Urban Development](#)

To read the individual legislative reports accompanying each title of the bill click on the links below:

- Introduction [PDF](#)
- Division A Agriculture [PDF](#)
- Division B Commerce, Justice, Science [PDF](#)
- Division C Defense [PDF](#)
- Division D Energy and Water [PDF](#)
- Division E Financial Services [PDF](#)
- Division F Homeland Security [PDF](#)
- Division G Interior [PDF](#)
- Division H Labor, HHS, Education [PDF](#)
- Division I Legislative [PDF](#)
- Division J State, Foreign Ops [PDF](#)
- Division K Transportation, HUD [PDF](#)
- Division L Military Construction, VA [PDF](#)

information about options for reporting, and provide guidance or assistance—at the direction of the survivor—in reporting the crime to campus authorities and/or law enforcement. Schools will no longer be allowed to sanction students who report sexual violence but reveal a non-violent student conduct violation in good faith, like underage drinking.

- Requires fairness in the campus disciplinary process: All schools will now be required to use one uniform process for campus student disciplinary proceedings and may no longer allow athletic departments or other subgroups to handle complaints. Schools must now provide written notification to the accused as well as the victim of any decision to move forward with a campus disciplinary proceeding within 24 hours of that decision. The notice must include details of the complaint, a summary of the disciplinary proceeding, and the rights and due process protections available to both parties.
- Ensures minimum training standards for on-campus personnel: This legislation ensures that everyone from the Sexual Assault Response Coordinators to those responsible for investigating and participating in disciplinary proceedings will receive specialized training so that they have a firm understanding of the nature of these crimes and their effect on survivors.
- Increases transparency: For the first time, students at every college and university in America will be surveyed about their experience with sexual violence to get an accurate picture of this problem. This new biennial survey will be standardized and confidential, with the results published online so that parents and high school students can make an informed choice when comparing universities. The Department of Education will also be required to publish the names of all schools with pending investigations, final resolutions, and voluntary resolution agreements related to Title IX with respect to sexual violence and the requirements of the Clery Act.
- Improves campus accountability and coordination with law enforcement: This legislation will require colleges and universities to enter into memoranda of understanding with each local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction to report to a campus as a first responder to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information so that when a crime occurs, both campus authorities and local authorities can focus on solving the crime rather than debating jurisdiction.
- Creates stiffer penalties for Clery Act violations: Schools that do not comply with certain requirements under the bill may face a penalty of up to 1 percent of the institution's operating budget. The bill also increases penalties for Clery Act violations up to \$150,000 per violation from the current penalty of \$35,000. Financial penalties collected from universities in violation will be distributed back to campuses through a new competitive grant program, administered by the Education Department, for which colleges and universities can apply for the purpose of researching best practices for preventing and responding to sexual

harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking on college campuses and sharing such research with peer institutions and the Department of Education.

Congress clears weather forecasting bill

The House gave final Congressional approval April 4 to the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act

Under Secretary Ted Mitchell regarding the student loan servicing procurement process. Her action came in an April 11 letter to Federal Student Aid Chief Operating Officer James Runcie.

That earlier guidance by King and Mitchell directed the Office of Federal Student Aid to take into account the past behavior of loan servicers in the upcoming award of contracts and to include consumer protections and transparency requirements in new contracts.

DeVos wrote that the procurement process had been "subjected to a myriad of moving deadlines, changing requirements and a lack of consistent objectives." She wrote that "The student loan servicing procurement affords us a significant opportunity to improve outcomes and experiences for federal student loan borrowers, as well as demonstrate sound fiscal stewardship of public dollars." She added: "We must create a student loan servicing environment that provides the highest quality of service to borrowers." (i) 27(t A)

“Borrowers who have been told in error that their employers qualify for PSLF should at a minimum be grandfathered-in for the period they were previously approved, even if the Department intends to change its determination about qualifying employment going forward.”

That letter was followed April 24 by another sent by 77 Members of Congress. The Members urged Secretary Betsy DeVos to review her Department’s “implementation of the program for consistency, transparency, and fairness in order to restore trust in the program for those who have chosen to pursue public service.” It continues, “It is unacceptable for the Department to revoke or retroactively deny employer certifications...the Department must honor its commitment to borrowers...To do otherwise completely undermines the financial calculus that individuals made when choosing to participate in the program and leaves them stranded with an unexpected and undue debt burden.”

The letter refers to Congress’ inclusion of the program in the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 as a way to promote public service and provide public service employers with additional recruitment tools.

The Members recommend creation of a transparent, formal appeals process that should be disclosed at the time of certification. September will be the first opportunity for eligible borrowers to claim forgiveness after meeting obligations for ten years. Over 550,000 borrowers have an approved Employment Certification Form.

Education Department changes FAFSA verification in light of DRT shut down

The Education Department announced two changes being instituted April 24 for higher education institutions attempting to verify FAFSA tax information now that the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) will not be accessible for the year and until new security protections can be added to the system. The Department and the IRS had previously announced that the online DRT system would likely be shut down for the rest of the year because of fears that it could be used in identify theft.

The new options available to institutions are designed to support those applicants who may not have had all of their required tax-related documentation available. They include:

- IRS Tax Return Filers – In lieu of using the IRS DRT, or obtaining an IRS transcript, institutions may consider a signed paper copy of the 2015 IRS tax return that was used by the tax filer for submission to the IRS as acceptable documentation to verify information provided on the FAFSA

- Verification of Non filing –

generating positive student outcomes. “Innovation authorizers” would be designated by the Education Department under the bill to authorize eligible entities to provide instruction.

House committee examines accreditation issues in hearing

In preparation for eventually reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce held a hearing April 17 examining accreditation.

Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) opened the session titled “Strengthening Accreditation to Better Protect Students and Taxpayers” by expressing her purpose to “gain a better understanding of the challenges facing the accreditation system, as well as how we can tackle those challenges.”

Witnesses included: Mary Ellen Petrisko, president of the WASC Senior College and University Commission, George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State University, Ben Miller, senior director for Postsecondary Education at the Center for American Progress, and Michale S. McComis, executive director for Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges.

Dr. Pruitt testified about improvements schools would like to see from accreditors and the Education Department. In discussing State authorization regulations he urged the Committee to incorporate the developing State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement process into the HEA. He supported accreditation focused on objectively demonstrable student outcomes, conclusions about institutional effectiveness based on objective evidence, appropriate metrics and if possible, third party validation. Finally, he said accreditors should continue to oppose the substitution of compliance for quality assurance and complained about over regulation by the Education Department. “Over the last several years, the Department of Education continually promulgated a series of increasingly intrusive, overreaching regulatory and reporting requirements and made the regional accreditors enforcers of these rules as a condition of federal recognition,” he said.

Dr. Petrisko, spoke about various opportunities to improve accreditation. She emphasized that it is imperative that the HEA reauthorization support innovation to serve current and future students and allow accreditors to review and approve institutions in a “safe zone” like those currently allowed in experimental sites. She also stressed the need for greater transparency for schools and agencies, and the ability to allow students to access relevant and up-to-date information in regard to their schooling. Finally, she suggested excessive regulations, like those defining credit hour, may be at a level where they are inhibiting growth by adding to costs without adding value.

Mr. Miller recommended six reforms to the current system. He said solutions should include making the systems more outcome focused, requiring more transparency, becoming tougher on lower performing institutions, and employing alternative approaches for quality assurance.

Dr. McComis suggested that there should be a more collaborative force between the federal government and various educational institutions. He also outlined four pillars that accreditation should be based on; Standards, Self-Evaluation, Ongoing improvement, and Stability. He reiterated the argument that the Education Department is placing an undue regulatory burden by defining the credit hour in the accreditation system. He said accreditation “should enforce an accountability-based model that combines rigorous input standards with performance outcomes such as student learning, student assessment, and student achievement.” He added, “The higher education community — including accrediting agencies — must be allowed to adapt and innovate in order to accommodate the diversity of students, student preferences, and learning styles.”

To view the hearing webcast or read the witness statements, [click here](#).

Program : Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program
Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and
Services Administration

Due Date: 6/12/2017

Funding: \$150,000

Awards: 6

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=287810>

Agency : HHS-ACF-OPRE
Administration for Children and Families - OPRE

Program : Early Care and Education Research Scholars: Child Care Research Scholars

Description : The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) is soliciting applications for Child Care Research Scholars grants to support dissertation research on child care policy issues. These grants are meant to build capacity in the research field to focus research on questions that have direct implications for child care policy decision-making and program administration, and to foster mentoring relationships between faculty members and high-quality doctoral students.

Due Date: 6/12/2017

Funding: \$150,000

Awards: 6

(including blindness) in order to assess the availability and use of such systems and technologies for such individuals; and providing T/TA for non-visual access.

Due Date: See Announcement

Funding: \$347,410

Awards: 2

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293206>

Agency : HHS-AHRQ
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program : Scaling Established Clinical Decision Support to Facilitate the Dissemination and Implementation of Evidence-Based Research Findings (R18)

Description : This Announcement invites R18 grant applications for research projects to scale and spread existing clinical decision support (CDS) to facilitate the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based research findings into clinical practice. The purpose of this FOA is to extend the implementation ("scale") and evaluation of well-established and effective CDS beyond the initial clinical setting or institution in which the CDS was originally developed and implemented, thereby extending the impact on clinical practice.

Due Date: 1/25/2019

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293206>

Agency : HHS-AHRQ
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program : Health Information Technology to Improve Health Care Quality and Outcomes (R21)

Description : This FOA issued by AHRQ invites grant applications for funding to conduct exploratory and developmental research grants (R21) for projects in the early and conceptual stages of development that will contribute to the evidence base of how health information technology (IT) improves health care quality and outcomes.

Due Date: 7/16/2019

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292975>

Agency : HHS-AHRQ
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program : AHRQ Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (K08)

Description : This FOA solicits individual Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development (K08) grant applications from applicant organizations. The overall goal of AHRQ-supported career development programs is to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained health services researchers are available in adequate numbers and in appropriate research areas to address the mission and priorities of AHRQ.

Due Date: 7/12/2022

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292824>

Agency : DOD-USAFA
Air Force Academy

Program : Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (PASCC) CALL 0002

Description : The USAFA is seeking unclassified research white papers and proposals (if requested) that do not contain proprietary information. The United States Air Force's Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), in partnership with PASCC, performs a range of research to investigate topics of interest to the security studies community. Investigations and research will focus on expanding knowledge related to countering

Program : Entrepreneurship in the MENA region

Description : The Department of State Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Assistance Coordination (NEA/AC) invites applicants to submit proposals that will foster and support entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North Africa, advancing regional stability and prosperity. The aim of this opportunity is to assist new entrepreneurs seeking to expand and grow their businesses and activities. Proposals must demonstrate knowledge of the target countrys economy and entrepreneurial ecosystem, and propose project activities with the goal of moving seed stage entrepreneurs to the intermediate and expansion stage.

Due Date : 6/6/2017

Funding: \$1,500,000

Awards: 2

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293350>

Agency : DOS-NEA-AC
Assistance Coordination

Program : Advancing Civic Engagement through the Assessment of Public Opinion

Description : The Bureau of Near East Affairs, Office of Assistance Coordination (NEA/AC) announces a Notice of Funding Opportunity for projects that focus on reinvigorating public participation in the MENA regions decision-making processes and supporting a more vibrant and robust dialogue between governments, business associations, private sector stakeholders, civil society organizations, and citizens. Advancing Civic Engagement through the Assessment of Public Opinion is an initiative intended to increase responsiveness to citizen, civil society, and business needs and enhance the publics ability to actively engage their government institutions, developing more informed and relevant policy making.

Due Date : 6/1/2017

Funding: \$2,000,000

Awards: 1

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293118>

Agency : DOS-GTIP
Office to Monitor-Combat Trafficking in Persons

Program :

Agency : DOS-DRL
Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor

Program : Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) Supporting Anti-Torture Efforts in Tunisia

Description : The Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that support Tunisia's efforts in the prevention of torture. DRL seeks to support programming that will assist the Government of Tunisia's new anti-torture authority, the National Body for the Prevention of Torture (Instance Nationale de la Prevention de la Torture, INPT), created upon Tunisia's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT), in fulfilling its mandate to address and prevent torture. DRL seeks to strengthen the expertise and capacity of the INPT by providing its members with technical assistance and management systems, and engaging networks of key stakeholders and experts in anti-torture efforts.

Due Date : 6/15/2017

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293218>

Agency : DOS-DRL
Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor

Program : Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor NOFO Encouraging Citizen Participation in the NEA Region

Description : The Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for a cooperative agreement that supports the policy objective to encourage meaningful citizen participation in public policy and governance in the NEA region. Projects should work to maintain the safe operating space for and improve the capacity of non-governmental organizations to promote the rights and interests of all citizens, including vulnerable populations; to engage the government and public on rights issues and other issues of public concern; and to promote the development of independent civil society. This program approach will operate as a flexible, regional, rapid-response mechanism to support independent civil society in the NEA region via targeted small grants and technical assistance.

Due Date : 5/29/2017

Funding

Agency :

Funding: See Announcement
Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293152>

Agency : DOD-DARPA-MTO
DARPA - Microsystems Technology Office

Program : Dynamic Range-enhanced Electronics and Materials (DREaM)

Program : USDA FNS FY17 SNAP PTI

Description : The purpose of this grant competition is to support efforts by State agencies and their community-based and faith-based partners to develop and implement: Simple SNAP application and eligibility determination systems; or Measures to improve access to SNAP benefits by eligible applicants. This RFA seeks diverse proposals that would make the entire process easier and more efficient for SNAP applicants and participants. Grant proposals should focus on improving the quality and efficiency of operations and processes within the SNAP office. Specifically, FNS is interested in initiatives that use new technologies or examine office processes in order to improve application processing timeliness for initial or recertification applications. We encourage potential applicants to carefully read the three review criteria listed in the RFA. These criteria outline the qualities FNS expects successful proposals to have; they will also guide the reviewers' evaluation of proposals.

Due Date: 6/19/2017

Funding: \$5,000,000

Awards: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293250>

Agency : NASA-HQ
NASA Headquarters

Program : University Student Research Challenge (USRC)- A Pilot Project /Spanu0 Td TJ 0 Tc 0 T

Due Date: 10/16/2017

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293273>

Agency : NASA-JSC
NASA Johnson Space Center

Program : HERO Appendix E: Space Radiobiology and Human Health
Countermeasures Topics

Description : BAA. This National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Research Announcement (NRA), entitled Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO)–2016, solicits applied research in support of NASA’s Human Research Program. Research response area NRA NNJ16ZSA001N-SRHHC “Space Radiobiology and Human Health Countermeasures Topics” is Appendix E of the Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO) NRA (NNJ16ZSA001N). Proposals are solicited by NASA in the areas of Evaluation of Current Clinical Markers as Surrogate Endpoints for Space Radiation-Induced Cardiovascular Disease; Evaluation of Animal Model Systems and Common Pathways in Understanding Space Radiation-Induced Late CNS Outcomes and Cardiovascular Disease; Approaches to Evaluate Sex Dependence and Quality Effects on Space Radiation Carcinogenesis; Galactic Cosmic Ray (GCR) Simulator Validation Experiments: Dose-Rate Dependence; In-Flight Cognitive and Behavioral Central Nervous System Risks from Space Radiation; and Combined Effects of Simulated Weightlessness and Space Radiation on Cardiovascular Structure and Function. Please note that the last topic is being jointly solicited by HRP and NASA’s Space Biology (SB) Program.

Due Date: See Announcement

Funding: \$150,000 to \$650,000 per award Ea6 Td [(A)36 (w01.15 Td [(F)5 (I)6 ((d)]TJ)9.9 (s()Tj

environments—can reach diverse audiences and bring the humanities to life for the American people. The program offers three levels of support for digital projects: grants for Discovery projects (early-stage planning work), Prototyping projects (proof-of-concept development work), and Production projects (end-stage production and distribution work).

Due Date: 6/7/2017

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293003>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : NICHD Exploratory-Developmental Research Grant (R21)

Description : The NICHD Exploratory-Developmental Grant program supports exploratory and developmental research projects that fall within the NICHD mission by providing support for the early and conceptual stages of these projects. These studies may involve considerable risk but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area, or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research.

Due Date: 5/7/2020

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293335>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program (DP2)

Description : The NIH Directors New Innovator Award (DP2) supports a small number of early stage investigators of exceptional creativity who propose bold and highly innovative new research approaches that have the potential to produce a major impact on broad, important problems in biomedical and behavioral research. The NIH Director's New Innovator Award complements ongoing efforts by NIH and its Institutes and Centers to fund early stage investigators through R01 grants, which continue to be the major sources of NIH support for early stage investigators. The NIH Directors New Innovator Award is a component of the High-Risk, High-Reward Research program of the NIH Common Fund.

Due Date: 9/8/2017

Funding: \$80,000,000

Awards: 33

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view->

Program : Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program Si2/R00

Description : This FOA encourages applications for the Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program for the purpose of supporting the research activities during the early stage careers of independent clinical researchers.

Due Date: 8/25/2017

Website:

Due Date: 1/15/2020

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292982>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : Collaborative Research Projects to Enhance Applicability of Mammalian Models for Translational Research (Collaborative R01)

Description : The purpose of this FOA is to encourage applications for collaborative R01 projects from multi-disciplinary teams to expand, improve, or transform the reliability and utility of mammalian cancer and tumor models for translational research. For a linked set of collaborative R01s, each site has its own Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s), and the program provides a mechanism for cross-site coordination and communication. Collaborative studies are appropriate to address translational modeling research questions beyond the capacity of a single-site investigation, particularly to accommodate collaborations among sites with diverse expertise, perspectives, and contributions.

Due Date: 5/7/2020

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292965>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : Alzheimer's-related Resource Centers for Mst.27 0on(s)4 (i)6 (nf)-8 (R)6 [(r)7 (es)5 (si)]

translational, with the goal to improve the health, well-being, function, and independence of older Americans.

Due Date: 7/20/2017

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=293012>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Due Date: 6/15/2017

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292958>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : Secondary Analysis and Integration of Existing Data to Elucidate the Genetic Architecture of Cancer Risk and Related Outcomes (R01)

Descrip tion : This funding opportunity announcement encourages applications that propose to conduct secondary data analysis and integration of existing datasets and database resources, with the ultimate aim to elucidate the genetic architecture of cancer risk and related outcomes. The goal of this initiative is to address key scientific questions relevant to cancer epidemiology. (ues4es4es4es4q)10 (uei)6 (a322.08 0.84 (i)6 (ent)2 8e(o)9.9 (f)- f)-8 (89 (s)4

desired and intended cancer targets in vivo and/or characterization of in vitro detection and diagnostic devices.

Due Date: 5/21/2020

Funding: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292850>

Agency : HHS-NIH11
National Institutes of Health

Program : Neurosurgeon Research Career Development Program (NRCDP) (K12)

Description : The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to invite applications to continue support of a national program of mentored research career development for junior neurosurgeon faculty at institutions nationwide that support neurosurgical research. The goal of the program is to expand the cadre of neurosurgeon investigators trained to conduct research into neurological disorders, making use of their neurosurgical training.

Due Date: 5/30/2017 -C

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disciplines and STEM education research fields, by advancing knowledge about pathways to career success. The program objectives include: To support the development, implementation and study of innovative models of doctoral education, postdoctoral training, and faculty advancement for historically underrepresented minorities in specific STEM disciplines and/or STEM education research fields; and to advance knowledge about the underlying issues, policies and practices that have an impact on the participation, transitions and advancement of historically underrepresented minorities in the STEM academy.

Due Date: 12/8/2017

Funding: \$8,000,000

Awards: See Announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=292814>

Agency : NSF

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