The Association of Community College Trustees

The Voice of Community College Trustees
Welcome!
Carrie Warick-Smith, Vice President, Public Policy
José Miranda, Director, Government Relations,
Wesley Whistle, Legislative Assistant, Senator Bob Casey
Securing Federal Funds Directly from Congress

• “Earmarks” background
• Transparency Reforms & Regulations Governing Earmarks
• House & Senate Timelines
• Community College Projects in FY22
• Congressional Perspective
What is an “earmark”? 

• A “Congressional earmark” is defined as “a provision or report language included primarily at the request of a Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, or Senator providing, authorizing or recommending a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or other spending authority for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a specific State, locality or Congressional district, other than through a statutory or administrative formula-driven or competitive award process.”
“Earmarks” in 117th Congress

• Knowns as:
  • Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) in the Senate
  • Community Funding Projects (CFP) in the House

• Long-standing practice that was paused during the 112th Congress due to concerns of wasteful spending and corruption

• Brought back by Appropriations leadership in both chambers with strengthened rules and regulations, focused on targeted spending & transparency
Reforms & Regulations for CFP & CDS

- No member financial interest - Each member making requests must certify in writing and make that certification available to the public
- Any member making requests must do so in writing, including the Member’s name, the name and location of the intended recipient, and the purpose of the spending item
- Committee on Appropriations must make publicly available requests included in a spending bill
- Members must post online their requests & financial certification disclosures
- A 1 percent cap on discretionary spending for CDS/CFP items
- Ban on CDS/CFP items to for-profit entities
- Randomized GAO audit
Additional Regulations & Criteria for CDS/CFP

• State or Local Match remains in place for programs that require it

• Each project request must be for fiscal year 2023 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding

• Members are encouraged to consider public entities as primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project
  • For non-profits, will need to provide evidence by either supplying the Employer Identification Number or an IRS determination letter

• “Support” vs. “Request” for a project
Additional Regulations & Criteria for CDS/CFP, Cont’d

• Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects receive Federal funding

• The following accounts will allow requests:
  • Department of Labor—Employment and Training Administration—Training and Employment Services
  • Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Children and Families Services Programs
  • Department of Education—Innovation and Improvement
  • Department of Education—Higher Education
Congressional Timelines

U.S. House of Representatives

• Up to 15 submissions per member across all 12 Appropriations bills
• Member submission deadline for LHHS Subcommittee: April 27, 2022 @ 6pm ET
• Each Representative will set their own internal deadlines for constituent requests prior to 04/27

U.S. Senate

• Member submission deadline for LHHS Subcommittee: May 25, 2022
• Each Senator will set their own internal deadlines for constituent requests prior to 05/25
Community College Projects in FY22

• $71.4 million for Community Colleges from the Higher Education and Employment & Training Administration Accounts
• Most recurring project funding was valued at $500,000
• ACCT NOW: Congress’ New Take on Earmarks
• Additional projects from other accounts & in other bills
Resources

- FY23 Labor-HHS-Education Dear Colleague.pdf (house.gov)
- FY23 Labor-HHS-Education Request Guidance.pdf (house.gov)
- Microsoft Word - Document3 (house.gov)
- FY 2023 Appropriations Requests and Congressionally Directed Spending | About the Committee | United States Senate Committee on Appropriations
- Appropriations Requests Website1.pdf (senate.gov)
- Reforms and Regulations for Congressionally Directed Spending Website.pdf (senate.gov)
ACCT Announcements

• April is Community College Month
  • [https://www.acct.org/ccmonth](https://www.acct.org/ccmonth)

• ACCT Congress: Oct 26-29
  • Call for Presentations is Open! Due May 13th
  • [https://www.congress.acct.org/](https://www.congress.acct.org/)

• Sign up for Electronic Alerts: Latest Action in Washington by emailing [publicpolicy@acct.org](mailto:publicpolicy@acct.org)
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