

AT-A-GLANCE: FEDERAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

What Are Appropriations?

- Congress's decision-making on spending for certain federal programs
- Setting funding levels for programs operated through federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Education

What is the Typical Congressional Appropriations Cycle?

- 1) The federal government operates on an October 1st—September 30th fiscal year
- 2) The President sends a budget to Congress in February, kicking off the appropriations process
- 3) Congress has until September 30th to take input from stakeholders, draft, and pass appropriations bills for the following fiscal year

If Congress is unable to pass appropriations bills by September 30th, they must pass a stop-gap spending measure or parts of the government will automatically shut down.

What are CEC's Current Appropriations Requests?

- ❑ No less than \$14 billion for IDEA's Part B Section 611 State Grant Program
- ❑ \$684 million to fund IDEA's Part B Section 619 Pre-School Program
- ❑ \$975 million for IDEA's Part C Early Intervention Program
- ❑ \$254 million for IDEA's Part D Program
- ❑ \$70 million to fund the National Center for Special Education Research
- ❑ \$32 million for the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Act

When Is The Best Time to Advocate for CEC's Funding Priorities?

- The optimal time to share CEC's appropriations requests is early to mid-spring, before appropriators begin drafting their spending bills
- Until appropriations bills are finalized, it is never too late!

Educate. Motivate. Advocate.