

# Budget and Appropriations: The Basics of Federal Spending



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## Authorization vs. Appropriation

“authorizes”  
programs,  
provides  
legal power,  
may suggest  
funding  
levels

determines  
funds for  
discretionary  
spending,  
can fund  
expired laws

**Authorizers write laws and appropriators fund them.**



# Example: Student Support and Academic Enrichment State Grants

## ESSA Authorization Language

SEC. 4112 [20 U.S.C. 7112]  
AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

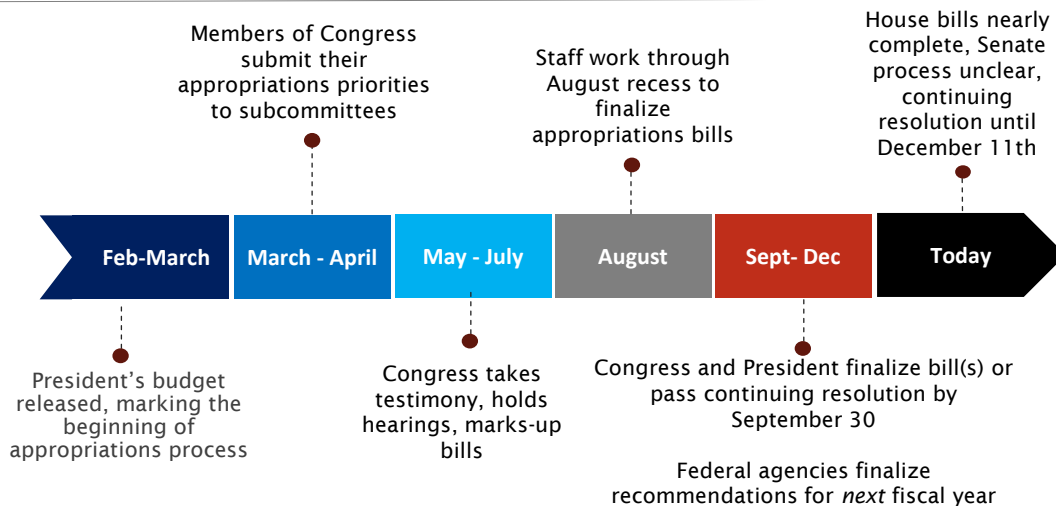
(a) IN GENERAL - There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subpart \$1,650,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 and \$1,600,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2020

## FY 2021 Appropriations Language

The Committee recommends \$1,220,000,000 for Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) State Grants, which is \$10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. The fiscal year 2021 budget request proposes to eliminate this program

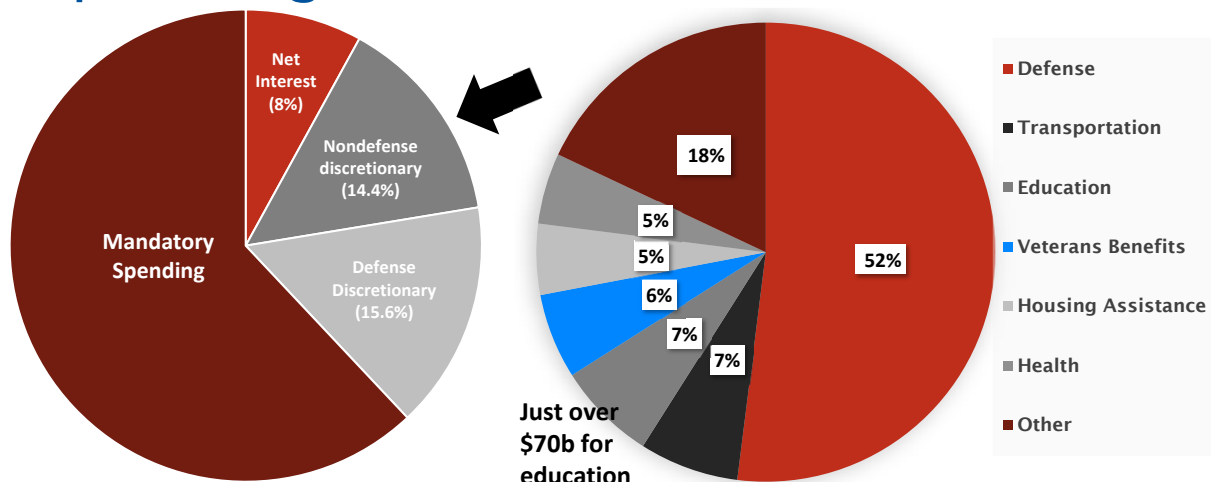


# Timeline: The Appropriations Cycle



## Total Federal Spending \$4.4t

## Discretionary Spending \$1.3t



## How Can We Make a Difference?

### Fiscal Year 2021 Funding 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

