

September 21, 2018

The Federal Fiscal Year 2019 Labor-HHS-Education Budget

The US House of Representatives and Senate have agreed in conference to a final FY19 federal [budget](#) for Labor, Health, Human Services, and Education. The budget continues and expands commitments to critical program and service areas which the federal government already heavily underwrites for Michigan. This represents a strong commitment from federal policymakers to strategies that are proven to improve the lives of children, youth, and families.

The State of Michigan relies a great deal on federal funds to provide programs and services that deliver vital benefits and opportunities for children, youth, and families, which means that investment decisions made by Michigan's Congressional delegation have a particularly significant impact on access to critical supports for kids and families. For example, Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services FY18-19 budget draws 70% of its funds from federal sources, including Medicaid, which covers about half of all births in Michigan, WIC, SNAP, and TANF-funded programs, as well as close to the entirety of Michigan's funding for abuse and neglect prevention and foster care. Michigan Department of Education's FY18-19 budget is likewise comprised of 74% federal funds.

While it is unclear exactly how much Michigan will receive from these new federal funds, the state is likely to receive modest increases for child care, education, health services, and workforce development, which will allow for a slight expansion of access to programs and services. We must continue to advocate our federal and state policymakers for investments across the board that are sufficient to meet the needs of every child, youth, and family who faces challenges in Michigan.

Adult Education: The final budget raises funding for grants to adult education programs by \$25 million to a total of \$642 million.

Afterschool: The budget increases funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers by \$10 million to a total of \$1.22 billion.

Basic resources: The budget includes \$50 million in new funds for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program support for families who struggle with household energy costs, to a total of \$3.69 billion.

Child Care: The final budget includes an additional \$50 million for the Child Care and Development Block Grant to states, to a total of \$5.27 billion, as well as an additional \$200 million for Head Start and \$50 million for expanded Early Head Start and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grants, to a total of \$10 billion for Head Start. The budget also included \$250 million for preschool development grants for building Birth-5 systems and continues funding for the Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools program, which provides funds to colleges and universities to offer child care to parent students.

Physical and Mental Health: The final budget includes additional funding for a variety of health care services, including \$200 million in increased spending authority for Community Health Centers from Primary Health Care funding, \$50 million in new funds for certified community behavioral health clinics

(a 50% increase), and \$27 million in new funds for health services targeted to rural areas. For mental health services, the budget increases funding by \$70 million total, including \$10 million in new funds for National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative. The budget also increases funding for maternal health, including \$23 million for State Maternal Health Innovation Grants and an additional \$26 million for state maternal and child health block grants.

Postsecondary Education: The final budget includes additions of \$50 million for federal TRIO programs including Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Services, and \$10 million in new funds for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), bringing their totals to \$1.06 billion and \$360 million, respectively. The budget also includes a \$100 increase for the maximum Pell grant award to \$6,195.

Special Education: The final budget increases funding for IDEA Part B state grants by \$86 million, to a total of \$3.8 billion, and for preschool special education by \$10 million, to a total of \$390 million.

Substance Abuse Prevention: The final budget includes additional \$555 million for substance abuse treatment programs and services, including \$500 million for state opioid response grants \$20 million in regional partnership grants for services for children and families affected by opioid/substance use

Other Education Funding: The final budget includes a \$100 million increase in Title I funding to school districts (up to \$5 billion), a \$70 million increase in student support and academic enrichment grants (up to \$1.17 billion), and an equal \$70 million increase for state grants for career education. The budget also allocates an additional \$8.5 million in education supports and programs for homeless children and youth.