



- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Brown University
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Iowa State University
- The Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- The Ohio State University
- The Pennsylvania State University
- Princeton University
- Purdue University
- Rice University
- Rutgers University – New Brunswick
- Stanford University
- Stony Brook University –
- State University of New York
- Texas A&M University
- Tufts University
- Tulane University
- University at Buffalo –
- State University of New York
- The University of Arizona
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- The University of Chicago
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Florida
- University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- The University of Iowa
- The University of Kansas
- University of Maryland, College Park
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- University of Missouri, Columbia
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Toronto
- The University of Utah
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- The University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Yale University

January 10, 2022

Dear Members of the 117th Congress,

On behalf of America’s leading research universities, I urge your attention to legislation important to our nation’s health, economic competitiveness, security, and crucial government-university research partnership. America cannot afford continued inaction on FY22 appropriations and the Build Back Better (BBB) Act. As you begin the second session of the 117th Congress, we believe it is urgent that you to complete FY22 appropriations and the BBB Act in the weeks ahead.

Congress has made significant progress in setting FY22 funding levels; now it is time to approve a final funding package. Specifically, we support proposed increases for the Pell Grant maximum award and other student aid programs as well as increases for critical research agencies like the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Energy’s Office of Science. In a previous [letter](#) we addressed distressing reports that Congress was considering a year-long continuing resolution (CR). CRs create funding uncertainty for students and researchers which stall innovation. It is vital that you complete FY22 appropriations early this year and avoid a harmful year-long CR.

Similarly, the BBB Act presents a key opportunity to make long-term investments in our workforce, national security, and economic competitiveness. We support House-passed provisions that raise the Pell Grant maximum award as a step toward [doubling Pell](#); invest in critical research infrastructure, including at HBCUs, HSIs, and other MSIs; and bolster scientific research consistent with pending bipartisan competitiveness legislation (the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act, the NSF for the Future Act, and the DOE Science for the Future Act) that authorize a new use-inspired directorate at NSF and critical funding increases for the scientific research and innovation programs at NSF and other agencies. The proposed investments would support research grants, scholarships, fellowships, technology transfer, and scientific facilities. They would also help make college more affordable for students from low- and middle-income families by increasing the Pell Grant maximum award by \$550. These proposed investments are an important down payment on the next-generation workforce and American innovation. Failure to approve these provisions will thwart implementation of the bipartisan competitiveness legislation and hamper our national interests.

We urge you to seize this moment and approve these legislative proposals essential to our nation’s health, security, and economic prosperity. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Barbara R. Snyder, President