

## FY2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act

The FY2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act (PL 114-113) is a \$1.15 trillion package of year-end appropriation bills. Within this measure is funding for the FY2016 Labor, HHS and Education programs, which received an increase of \$5.4 billion compared to FY2015. Programs under the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, received an increase of \$1 billion (primarily for the Child Care and Development Block Grant and Head Start).

### Key Early Learning and Family Funding FY2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Dollars in Millions)

Program	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Net Result Over FY2015
Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	\$2,360	\$2,435	\$2,761	\$326
Social Services Block Grant (Title XX)	\$1,700	\$1,700	\$1,700	Freeze
Head Start	\$8,070	\$8,590	\$9,166	\$576
Early Head Start & EHS/Child Care Partnerships	\$500	\$500	\$635	\$135
Child Abuse State Grants	\$25.30	\$25.30	\$25.30	Freeze
Child Abuse Discretionary Grants	\$28.74	\$28.74	\$33.00	\$4
Community Based Child Abuse Prevention	\$39.76	\$39.76	\$39.76	Freeze
Child Welfare Services	\$268.70	\$268.70	\$268.70	Freeze
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$674.00	\$674.00	\$715.00	\$41
Striving Readers (Literacy & Pre-Literacy Grants)	\$158.00	\$160.00	\$190.00	\$30
Preschool Development/Expansion Grants	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	Freeze
21st Century Community Learning Centers	\$1,149.37	\$1,151.67	\$1,166.00	\$14.33
Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grants	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Zero
IDEA Section 619 Preschool Grants	\$353.23	\$353.23	\$368.23	\$15
IDEA Part C Infants & Toddlers	\$438.49	\$438.55	\$458.55	\$20
Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPS)	\$15.13	\$15.13	\$15.13	Freeze

**Source:** Division H- Departments of Labor, HHS and Education and Related Agencies, FY2016, Contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY2016

<http://docs.house.gov/meetings/RU/RU00/20151216/104298/HMTG-114-RU00-20151216-SD009.pdf>

<http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20151214/CPRT-114-HPRT-RU00-SAHR2029-AMNT1final.pdf>

**Note:** With regard to the Head Start increase of \$576 million, \$429 million of that funding goes for competitive expansions to full day programs (\$294 million) and an increase of \$135 million for Early Head Start (including EHS/Child Care partnerships).

To read the House Majority Summary of the 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act, [click here](#). To read the Democratic summary, [click here](#).

### The Protecting Americans From Tax Hikes Act of 2015

Another end of the year bill, The Protecting Americans From Tax Hikes Act of 2015, includes changes to the tax code which are estimated at losing about \$623 billion over the next 10 years. Some of the provisions make sections of the current tax code permanent (instead of allowing them to expire), some

make modifications, and some repeal some sections of the code. Provisions of interest to families with children include:

**The Child Tax Credit:** The child tax credit is a \$1,000 credit. The measure would make the credit permanent and reduce the earnings threshold for the refundable portion of the child tax credit to \$3,000 (not indexed for inflation). The cost for this modification over 10 years is \$87.3 billion (\$24.8 billion over 5 years).

**The American Opportunity Credit:** The Hope Scholarship Credit is a credit of \$1,800 (indexed for inflation) for tuition and related expenses for the first 2 years of college. The credit begins to phase out at \$48,000 (single returns) and \$96,000 (married filing jointly), which are indexed for inflation. The measure makes the credit permanent, increases it to \$2,500 for 4 years of college, and increases the phase-out to \$80,000 (single returns) and \$160,000 (married filing jointly). The cost for this modification over 10 years is \$79.8 billion (\$25.7 billion over 5 years).

**The Earned Income Tax Credit:** The earned income credit is available for low and moderate income taxpayers on a refundable basis. For 2009 through 2017, the EITC was increased for families with three or more children and the marriage penalty was reduced by increasing the phase-out range by \$5,000 (indexed for inflation) for married couples filing jointly. The measure makes these changes permanent. The cost for this provision is \$30.4 billion over 10 years (\$8.3 billion over 5 years).

**Elementary and Secondary School Teacher Deduction:** Currently, teachers can deduct \$250 for classroom related expenses. The measure make this deduction permanent, allows for professional development costs to be included, and indexes the deduction for inflation. The cost for this provision is \$2.8 billion over 10 years (\$1.29 billion over 5 years).

To read the House Ways & Means Committee Section by Section describing the tax bill, [click here](#). To read the Joint Tax Committee's revenue estimates with regard to the provision, [click here](#).

#### **Next Steps on the Budget:**

The President signed the measure into law on December 18, 2015. The President's budget for FY2017 will be submitted in February 2016.