Budget and Appropriations Update -- With a summer recess starting following a chaotic end of the summer session, both the House and Senate appear to have reached the end of their regular fiscal 2015 appropriations seasons, with the outstanding bills unlikely to progress any further. The Appropriations panels have been trying to push through draft versions of as many of the 12 spending measures as possible, but they have run through all the bills are that politically plausible to move.

The House has passed seven bills, but four of the remaining bills are unlikely to reach the floor, and the fifth, Agriculture, was pulled from floor debate and its fate remains unclear. No markups or floor debate are currently planned in either chamber on the remaining fiscal 2015 spending bills.

The calendar is part of the problem, with only a few days in session planned for September, leaving little time ahead of the October 1 start of the new fiscal year to consider any other fiscal 2015 spending bills. The Senate's inability to consider a single spending bill on the floor, combined with the new debate over a possible fiscal 2014 supplemental to handle the child migrant crisis, means that another government-wide continuing resolution until after the November elections is a near-certainty.

The Interior-Environment and Labor-HHS-Education bills are considered so explosive that Republican leaders would have been hard-pressed to find enough votes within their own caucus to pass the measures off the floor. Jack Kingston (R-GA), the chairman of the Labor-HHS subcommittee, hinted earlier this month that the outlook for advancing the measure even out of subcommittee would be rocky. Homeland Security and State-Foreign Operations, meanwhile, have also proven to be headaches on the floor due to their propensity for attracting poison-pill immigration and foreign aid amendments. Advancing those measures has been further complicated this year by the debate over the child migrant crisis, because the supplemental request involves those areas.

Members of Congress will depart for their home districts by the end of September to campaign for their November elections. A "lame duck" session is expected from mid-November until sometime in December. Appropriators hope to use that period to pass a Fiscal 2015 Omnibus appropriations bill covering the federal agencies for the rest of the year.

Higher education policy bills approved in the House
A flurry of legislative activity in July marked the first steps in the process to pass a new version of the Higher Education Act, the major policy vehicle for the Department of

Education and the higher education community. The current law expires at the end of 2014.

Having released a [white paper](#) June 24 outlining key principles to guide their drafting of new legislation, House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline (R-MN) and Higher Education and Workforce Training Subcommittee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx (R-NC) moved a series of bills to the House floor. Rather than develop a single bill, House legislators intend to introduce a series of bills over the coming months that together would encompass reauthorization.

Four policy bills on various parts of the Higher Education Act were passed by the House during the week of July 21. The bills approved were:

- HR 3136, the *Advancing Competency-Based Education Demonstration Project Act*, (approved 414 to 0) would foster competency-based education demonstration projects by the Department of Education along with an annual evaluation of each. To learn more about the bill, click [here](#).
- HR 4983, the *Strengthening Transparency in Higher Education Act*, (approved by voice vote) would help students and families make more informed decisions about their higher education options by requiring the Education Department to create a consumer-tested College Dashboard to display key information. It would also streamline and eliminate certain information and federal transparency initiatives. To learn more about the bill, click [here](#).
- HR 4984, the *Empowering Students Through Enhanced Financial Counseling Act*, (approved 405 to 11) would promote financial literacy through enhanced counseling annually for recipients of federal financial aid. To learn more about the bill, click [here](#).
- [H.R. 5134 - NACIQI and Advisory Committee for Student Financial Assistance](#) was introduced July 17 by Chair Virginia Foxx and passed by the House July 24. This bill simply extends the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Improvement (NACIQI) for one year until Sept. 30, 2015, and the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for one year until Oct. 1, 2015.

In addition, a Ways and Means Committee bill, [HR 3393](#), the Student and Family Tax Simplification Act was also approved July 24 by a vote of 227 to 187. The legislation would provide for an American Opportunity Tax Credit, in lieu of the current Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits and the tax deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses. Under the bill each eligible student carrying at least 1/2 the normal full-time course load would receive a credit of 100 percent of up to $2,000 of qualified tuition and related expenses, plus 25 percent of their expenses exceeding $2,000, but not more than $4,000. The bill makes up to $1,500 of the credit refundable. The bill also excludes Pell grants from gross income for income tax purposes in taxable years beginning after 2014.

The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee has released its [legislative draft](#) and [summary](#) of principles for reforming the Higher Education Act. The Committee is seeking comment on the draft until August 29.

In general, the House and Senate committees have similar intentions in several areas: modifying income-based repayment programs, expanding Pell Grants availability, providing improved information and disclosures to prospective students, and reforming teacher preparation programs. Senate Democrats will focus on affordability and student loan debt while the Republicans in the House would like to cut down on the Federal footprint and regulations and improve student choices in the process.

The Senate HELP Committee bill would expand Pell Grant availability by returning to the use of a summer Pell eligibility, a benefit eliminated by Congress in 2010 to save money.

The HELP proposal would create a state-federal partnership to bolster higher education investment and attempt to stem the decline of state contributions to the sector. A commission would be tasked to examine ways to accomplish risk-sharing – a process that would assess financial penalties to colleges who have low graduation rates or whose students accrue massive debt burdens.

When Congress returns following the August summer recess, it will have only nine legislative days before adjourning for the fall elections at the end of September. Several high profile issues will likely take up legislative floor time and attention including passing a Continuing Resolution to fund Federal agencies through early December, and a supplemental appropriations bill to deal with the border crisis and the influx of unaccompanied immigrant children. Following the elections, Congress will return for a "lame duck session" in mid-November to complete unfinished business. Bills that pass this session will most likely form the basis for new legislation in the next Congress.

Campus sexual assault bill introduced in the Senate

Following several months of hearings, roundtable discussions and legislative negotiations, a bipartisan group of Senators including Marco Rubio (R-FL) introduced legislation July 30 to help curb campus sexual assaults.

The bill would attempt to empower students, and strengthen accountability and transparency for institutions — including establishing stiff penalties for non-compliance with the legislation's new standards for training, data and best practices.

In addition to Rubio, the *Campus Safety and Accountability Act* was announced by cosponsors Claire McCaskill (D-MO), Dean Heller (R-NV), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and Mark Warner (D-VA). The group hopes to bring the bill to the Senate floor in September but has received no assurances from Senate leaders. Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) said she will introduce the identical bill in the House.

Legislators cited statistics showing that approximately 19 percent of undergraduate women have been the victims of sexual assault. Because many crimes are not reported, that number could be substantially higher.

Provisions of the legislation include:

- New Campus Resources and Support Services for Student Survivors: Under this legislation, colleges and universities will be required to designate Confidential Advisors who will serve as a confidential resource for victims of assaults committed against a student. The role of Confidential Advisors will be to coordinate support services and accommodations for survivors, to provide information about options for reporting, and to provide guidance or assistance, at the direction of the survivor, in reporting the crime to campus authorities and/or local law enforcement. To encourage individuals to come forward with reports about sexual violence, schools will no longer be allowed to sanction a student who reveals a violation in good faith, such as underage drinking, in the process of reporting a sexual violence claim.

- Minimum Training Standards for On-Campus Personnel: Currently, a lack of training of on-campus personnel hampers sexual assault investigations and disciplinary processes, often resulting in negative outcomes for survivors. This legislation ensures that everyone from the Confidential Advisors, to those responsible for investigating and participating in disciplinary proceedings, will now receive specialized training to ensure they have a firm understanding of the nature of these crimes and their effect on survivors.

- New Transparency Requirements: For the first time, students at every university in America will be surveyed about their experience with sexual violence to get an accurate picture of this problem. This new annual survey will be standardized and anonymous, with the results published online so that parents and high school students can make an informed choice when comparing universities. The Department of Education will also be required to publish the names of all schools with pending investigations, final resolutions, and voluntary resolution agreements related to Title IX.

- Campus Accountability and Coordination with Law Enforcement: All schools will now be required to use a uniform process for campus disciplinary proceedings and may no longer allow athletic departments or other subgroups to handle complaints of sexual violence for members of that subgroup alone. This legislation will require colleges and universities to enter into memoranda of understanding with all applicable local law enforcement agencies to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information.

- Enforceable Title IX Penalties and Stiffer Penalties for Clery Act Violations: Schools that don't comply with certain requirements under the bill may face a penalty of up to 1 percent of the institution's operating budget. Previously, the only allowable penalty was the loss of all financial aid, which is not practical and has never been done. The bill increases penalties for Clery Act violations to up to $150,000 per violation from the current penalty of $35,000.

Senator releases survey results on campus sexual assaults

Continuing her focus on campus sexual assaults, Senator McCaskill on July 9 released the results of her survey of 440 colleges on their practices relating to the issue. She said the results were a "wakeup call" to the nation's colleges and universities.

To read the 120-page report click here. The Senator's press release highlights the survey findings:

- **"Investigations**: Federal law requires every institution that knows or reasonably should have known about an alleged sexual assault to conduct an investigation. But 41 percent of schools surveyed have not conducted a single investigation in the past five years. More than 21 percent of the nation's largest private institutions conducted fewer investigations than the number of incidents they reported to the Department of Education, with some institutions reporting as many as seven times more incidents of sexual violence than they have investigated.

- **Training**: 21 percent of institutions surveyed provide no sexual assault response training at all for members of their faculty and staff. 31 percent of schools do not provide any sexual assault training for students.

- **Title IX coordinator**: Colleges and universities are required to assign a staff or faculty member as a Title IX coordinator, with responsibility for coordinating the institution's compliance efforts, including investigations of sexual harassment and sexual violence, but more than 10 percent of institutions surveyed do not have a Title IX coordinator.

- **Adjudication**: Federal law requires institutions that receive claims of sexual assault to conduct an adjudication process to determine whether an assault occurred and, if it did, to reach a determination. But:
    - 33 percent of schools failed to provide basic training to the people adjudicating claims.
    - 43 percent of the nation's largest public schools let students help adjudicate cases.
    - 22 percent of institutions give athletic departments oversight of cases involving athletes.

- **Climate surveys**: Confidential climate surveys of students are one of the best ways to get an accurate portrait of assaults on a campus, but only 16 percent of schools conduct climate surveys.

- **Coordination with law enforcement**: Law enforcement officials at 30 percent of institutions receive no training on how to respond to reports of sexual violence, and 73 percent of institutions have no protocols on how the institution & law enforcement work together to respond to such violence."

Senate Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill released

The Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee on July 24 released its FY 2015 bill and report that were approved by the subcommittee earlier this summer. The $156.5 billion bill has not moved to the full Appropriations Committee. Subcommittee Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) decided to release the bill once it became clear that Congress will not deal with any more regular appropriations bills until after the election. The House has not produced its bill. It is expected that this bill will be used as the basis for working out a compromise bill in November's lame duck session of Congress.

Among the items included in the Senate version:

Pell grants: $22.475 billion in discretionary funding for the Pell grant program, which would increase the maximum Pell by an estimated $100 to $5,830 in academic year 2015-16. The Committee is also trying to build up a surplus to help cover Pell programs costs in 2016. More than 8.8 million students are expected to receive a Pell grant in the 2015-16 academic year.

FIPSE First in the World grants: Under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education the Committee recommends $84.7 million for FIPSE and within that $75 million for the First in the World program begun in FY 2014. As in 2014, $20 million would be set aside for minority-serving institutions.

Veterans Student Success centers: Also within FIPSE, the bill would provide $6 million for the Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success program.

Prohibition on use of Federal funds: The bill contains a provision that would prohibit colleges and universities from spending Federal educational program dollars on advertising, marketing, and recruitment.

The report carries language on the Administration's proposal to rate colleges urging the Department of Education "to consider carefully the metrics used to determine the rankings system, given the complexity in accurately measuring the value offered by colleges and universities."

NIH, CDC: The bill also funds the health agencies in the Department of Health and Human Services. Overall, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would receive $7.1 billion under the Senate bill, an increase of $200 million over current funding. The National Institutes of Health would receive $30.5 billion under the bill, an increase of $605.7 million. The report says that amount, along with the increase provided in 2014, would bring the NIH's budget back to the amount appropriators intended to provide in fiscal 2013 before budget sequestration took effect.

Institute of Medicine report recommends overhaul of nation's graduate medical education system

The Institute on Medicine released a report on the governance and financing of graduate medical education (GME) July 29.

Since the creation of the Medicare and Medicaid programs in 1965, the public has provided tens of billions of dollars to fund GME (currently $15 billion per year), the period of residency and fellowship that is provided to physicians after they receive a medical degree. Although the scale of government support for physician training far exceeds that for any other profession, the IOM committee found there is a "striking absence of transparency and accountability in the GME financing system for producing the types of physicians that the nation needs."

The IOM formed an expert committee to conduct an independent review of the governance and financing of the GME system. The 21-member IOM committee

concluded that there is an unquestionable imperative to assess and optimize the effectiveness of the public's investment in GME.

In its report, "Graduate Medical Education That Meets the Nation's Health Needs," the committee recommends significant changes to GME financing and governance to address current deficiencies and better shape the physician workforce for the future. The IOM report provides an initial roadmap for reforming the Medicare GME payment system and building an infrastructure that can drive more strategic investment in the nation's physician workforce.

The report concludes, "Significant reforms are needed to ensure value in the public's sizable investment in physician education. Because the rules governing Medicare GME financing are rooted in statute, they cannot be revised without legislative action. As such, the IOM committee strongly urges Congress to amend Medicare law and regulation to allow a transition to an accountable, performance-based system."

Among its many recommendations, the IOM expert committee calls for creating a GME Policy Council in the Office of the HHS Secretary, a GME Center in the HHS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and two separate funds to pay for the operational costs as well as transformation of the system to develop innovative alternatives with performance measures. Current payment schemes would be consolidated under the proposal and Medicaid GME funding would be left to the discretion of states. The IOM calls for a 10-year path to transformation of the system.

The report also says the 20-year-old freeze on GME training slots –which has affected Florida and other sun-belt states -- has had a negative effect, creating geographic inequities in program funding. To read more, visit this [IOM site.](#)

House passes three science bills

The House has passed several bills recently relating to STEM education, windstorm science and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

[H.R. 5031](#) – The STEM Education Act was approved by the House on July 14.

The first component of this act seeks to have the definition of STEM education include computer science and apply to programs at NSF, the Department of Energy, NASA, NOAA, NIST and the EPA.

The bill would also direct NSF to continue to award competitive, merit-based grants to support research and development of innovative out-of-school STEM learning and research that advances the field of informal stem education. The use of these funds are intended to support activities that range from a single STEM discipline to multiple or integrative STEM initiatives.

The legislation would amend the Noyce Scholarship Program to allow teachers with a bachelor's degree working towards a master's degree to participate in the program. Due to the changes to the definition of STEM education, the Noyce Scholarship Program has expanded the qualifying fields to include computer science. The purpose of this program is offer academic courses and leadership training to better prepare individuals to become master teachers in elementary and secondary schools. An eligible individual may receive a maximum of 1 year of fellowship support while enrolled in the Noyce Scholarship Program.

H.R. 1786 – The National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2014 passed by the House on July 14.

This bill would establish the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program with the purpose of achieving measurable reductions in the losses of life and property from windstorms through a coordinated Federal effort. The program would be bolstered by cooperation from other levels of government, academia, and the private sector which will all be focused on improving the understanding of windstorms, their impacts, and developing cost-effective mitigation strategies.

To best facilitate this effort, the National Institute of Standards and Technology will have the primary responsibility for planning and coordinating the program. As the lead agency, the NIST would promote windstorm risk reduction measures, support the development and promotion of performance-based engineering tools, and issue recommendations to assist in informing the development of model codes to Congress.

In addition to serving as the lead agency for the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, NIST is also responsible for carrying out research and development to improve model building codes and best practices for design, construction, and retrofitting of structures. NIST will be supported in their efforts by NSF, NOAA and FEMA. Together, these agencies will provide research to better understand the behavior of windstorms, economic and social factors influencing risk reduction measures, and the promotion of windstorm preparedness and mitigation.

All of the agencies involved with windstorm research would be required to submit a description of their activities for the program in their annual budget request along with an assessment of what they plan to spend for each activity. The bill also establishes an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction that will be comprised of the heads of relevant agencies to create a strategic plan for the program that consists of short-term, mid-term, and long-term research goals and an explanation of how these goals will result in tangible outcomes.

H.R. 5035 – To reauthorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Passed by the House July 22.

This bill would reauthorize appropriations for the agency for two years,$850 million for the current fiscal year and $855.8 million for Fiscal 2015.

A program of university research fellowships with financial and logistical assistance, including direct stipend awards, would be established by the measure. Eligible students would be those "who show promise as present or future contributors to the mission of the Institute."

The bill would also set up a postdoctoral fellowship program with at least 20 fellows per year. The NIST Director would be encouraged to consider ways to promote participation by underrepresented students in research areas supported by the Institute.

Senate legislation would create mechanism for NIH budget increases

Legislation introduced July 24 by Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) seeks to accelerate biomedical research by laying out a steady plan for restoring investment in the National Institutes of Health. Harkin is the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

Harkin said his motivation for the bill is the fact that budget caps have resulted in over 20 percent erosion in the purchasing power of dollars for biomedical research. If current trends continue, he said, the government of China will outpace the U.S. investment in biomedical research over the coming decade, diverting private investment, jobs, and subsequent economic growth.

The Accelerating Biomedical Research Act, *(S.2658)* attempts to reverse this trend by instituting a Congressional budget cap adjustment to prioritize NIH over the remaining fiscal years of the *Budget Control Act*. The budget cap adjustment is sufficient to allow the Appropriations Committees to restore the purchasing power the NIH would have had if funding had kept pace with inflation since 2003. Currently, the Budget Control Act only allows such budget cap adjustments for anti-fraud efforts in the Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The bill includes language that would require the Appropriations Committee to maintain the current funding of $29.9 billion for NIH, above which appropriations would rise up to $46.2 billion at the end of the seven year period from Fiscal Year 2015 to 2021. The additional funding provides an initial bump of ten percent increases in the first two years to quickly mitigate the lingering effects of budget sequestration, followed by a five percent increase each year thereafter.

In Fiscal Year 2012, the NIH extramural program supported around 50,000 competitive research grants and 300,000 scientists and research personnel at more than 2,500 universities, medical schools, and other research institutions across 50 States.

Student data privacy bill introduced in Senate

Legislation to help safeguard the educational records of students was introduced July 30 by Senators Edward J. Markey (D-MA) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT).

Recent changes to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) have allowed for increased sharing and use of student data in the private sector. The new legislation would take steps to ensure that students are better protected in an interconnected world.

The "Protecting Student Privacy Act" establishes security safeguards to ensure greater transparency and access to stored information for students and parents. It includes a provision banning data mining for marketing or advertising purposes and other protections for students' personally identifiable student data. A copy of the legislation can be found here.

"With the business of storing and sifting through records of students growing as fast as students are, Congress must act to ensure that safeguards are in place for data that is shared with outside companies," said Senator Markey. "This legislation ensures the parents, not private companies, control personal information about their children and that it won't be sold as a product on the open market."

The Protecting Student Privacy Act of 2014:
- Requires that data security safeguards be put in place to protect sensitive student data that is held by private companies;
- Prohibits the use of students' personally identifiable information to advertise or market a product or service;
- Provides parents with the right to access the personal information about their children – and amend that information if it is incorrect – that is held by private companies;
- Makes transparent the name of all outside parties that have access to student information;
- Minimizes the amount of personally identifiable information that is transferred from schools to private companies; and
- Ensures private companies cannot maintain detailed inventories on students in perpetuity by requiring the companies to delete personally identifiable information when the information is no longer used for its specified purpose.

Amicus briefs filed in student athlete unionization case

Leaders of the House Education and Workforce Committee joined with three Republican Senators to file an amicus brief July 3 with the National Labor Relations Board regarding the treatment of scholarship student athletes as employees under the National Labor Relations Board.

Committee Chair John Kline also sent a June 26 letter to the NCAA requesting information on its efforts to address challenges to student athletes. To read the amicus, click here. To read Chairman Kline's letter to the NCAA, click here.

The American Council on Education and four other associations also filed an amicus brief on July 3 making the case that student athletes are not employees covered by federal labor law. ACE was joined in submitting the brief by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges; the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities; College and University Professional Association for Human Resources; and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

New Senate bills would streamline student loan application process and repayment options

Federal student loan payments would be automatically adjusted based upon income under new legislation introduced July 16 by Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Mark R. Warner (D-VA).

The Dynamic Student Loan Repayment Act would consolidate, simplify and improve income-based repayment options for federal student loans. According to the sponsors, borrowers would be able to repay loans at a more affordable pace and with more manageable payments. The bill would set up a system to streamline the current repayment options into a simpler, user-friendly repayment plan, one that automatically adjusts to the changes in a borrower's income.

Total U.S. student loan debt now tops $1.2 trillion, eclipsing credit card debt as the largest financial obligation of U.S. households.

Last year, Rubio and Warner partnered on another proposal to address growing concern about the rising cost of higher education. With Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR), the senators introduced The Student Right to Know Before You Go Act of 2013, which would change college reporting guidelines so future students could compare schools' graduation rates, average college loan debt, and future potential earnings for particular areas of study.

A summary of the Dynamic Student Loan Repayment Act is available here and the legislation is available here.

FAST Act
Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) released a draft bill June 19 to simplify the process of applying for and receiving federal financial aid to attend college, allow year-round use of Pell Grants, discourage over-borrowing and simplify repayments.

The bill would reduce to a single postcard—called the "Student Aid Short Form"—the questions any student must answer to apply for federal financial aid and inform high school students in their junior year of the amount they'll receive in federal aid to help pay for college. It would also address the problem of some students borrowing too much money, and simplify the options students have to repay their federal loans. The act also streamlines federal grant and loan programs.

The Financial Aid Simplification and Transparency Act, or FAST Act, would transform the federal financial aid process by:

Eliminating the Free Application for Financial Student Aid, or FAFSA: The bill would reduce the 10-page form to a postcard that would ask just two questions: What is your family size? And, what was your household income two years ago?

Telling families early in the process of what the federal government will provide them in a grant and loan. The bill would create a look-up table to allow students in their junior year of high school to see how much in federal aid they are eligible for as they are start to look at colleges.

Streamlining the federal grant and loan programs. The bill would combine two federal grant programs into one Pell grant program and reduce the six different federal loan programs into three: one undergraduate loan program, one graduate loan program, and one parent loan program, resulting in more access for more students.

Enabling students to use Pell grants in a manner that works for them. The bill would restore year-round Pell grant availability and provide flexibility so students can study at their own pace. Both provisions would enable them to complete college sooner.

Discouraging over-borrowing. The bill would limit the amount a student is able to borrow based on enrollment. For example, a part-time student would be able to take out a part time loan only.

Simplifying repayment options. The bill would streamline complicated repayment programs and create two simple plans, an income based plan and a 10-year repayment plan.

New data released on tuition, fees and degrees

National Center for Education Statistics has released its [Postsecondary Institutions and Price of Attendance in 2013-14; Degrees and Other Awards Conferred: 2012-13; and 12-Month Enrollment: 2012-13: First Look (Provisional Data)](). Among the key findings:

- In 2013-14, of the 7,397 Title IV institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, 3,122 were classified as 4-year institutions, 2,230 were 2-year institutions, and the remaining 2,045 were less-than-2-year institutions.
- Average tuition and required fees for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates at public and nonprofit 4-year institutions increased from 2011-12 to 2013-14, while tuition and required fees decreased at for-profit 4-year institutions over the same period. After adjusting for inflation, public institutions reported a 4 percent increase (to
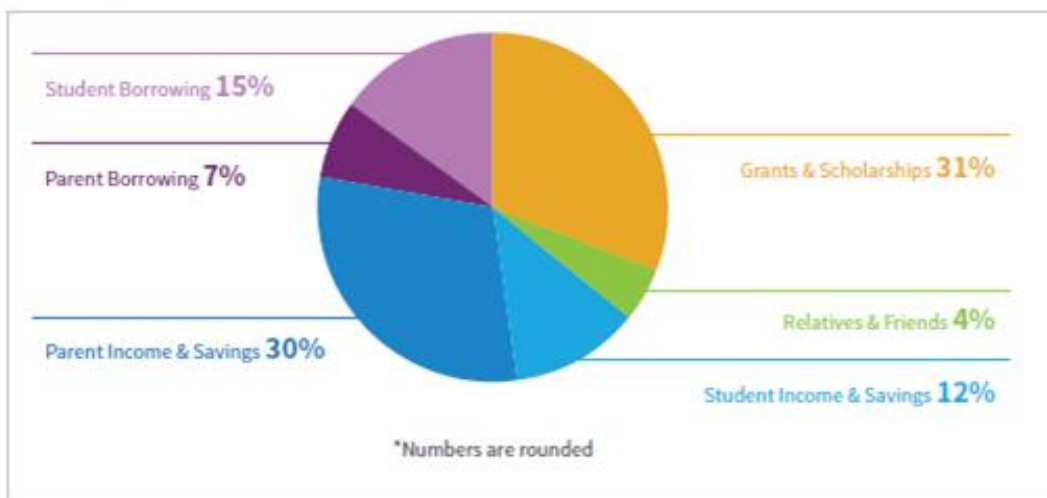
about $7,800) for in-state students and a 3 percent increase (to approximately $17,500) for out-of-state students, and nonprofit institutions reported a 4 percent increase (to about $24,800). For-profit institutions reported average tuition and required fees of approximately $15,400 for 2013-14, which represents a decrease of 3 percent when compared with the inflation-adjusted figure from 2011-12.

- Of the roughly 3 million students receiving degrees at 4-year Title IV institutions, 47 percent were 18 to 24 years old. The proportion of degree recipients classified into this age group varied by control of institution. At public institutions, 55 percent of the approximately 1.7 million degree recipients were 18 to 24 years old. Forty-five percent of the approximately 986,000 degree recipients at nonprofit institutions and 14 percent of the roughly 341,000 degree recipients at for-profit institutions were 18 to 24 years old.

New report on how we pay for college

Sallie Mae and Ipsos today released their seventh annual, [How America Pays for College 2014](). "Families spent more out of pocket (42 percent of college costs) while overall borrowing (22 percent of college costs) was at the lowest level in five years. Low-income students, in particular, reduced their reliance on borrowed funds when paying for college last year."

Figure 1 — How the Typical Family Pays for College 2014: Average Percent of Total Cost Paid from Each Source*

Student Borrowing **15%**

Parent Borrowing **7%**

Grants & Scholarships **31%**

Relatives & Friends **4%**

Parent Income & Savings **30%**

Student Income & Savings **12%**

*Numbers are rounded

Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Historically Black Colleges and Universities - Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP)

Description: To meet the nation's accelerating demands for STEM talent, more rapid gains in achievement, success and degree production in STEM for underrepresented minority populations are needed. The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program is committed to enhancing the quality of undergraduate STEM education and research at HBCUs as a means to broaden participation in the nation's STEM workforce.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: $33,400,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14513/nsf14513.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: EarthScope

Description: EarthScope is an Earth science program to explore the 4-dimensional structure of the North American continent. The EarthScope Program provides a framework for broad, integrated studies across the Earth sciences, including research on fault properties and the earthquake process, strain transfer, magmatic and hydrous fluids in the crust and mantle, plate boundary processes, large-scale continental deformation, continental structure and evolution, and composition and structure of the deep Earth. In addition, EarthScope offers a centralized forum for Earth science education at all levels and an excellent opportunity to develop cyberinfrastructure to integrate, distribute, and analyze diverse data sets.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: $6,000,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14552/nsf14552.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Cognitive Neuroscience

Description: The Cognitive Neuroscience Program seeks highly innovative and interdisciplinary proposals aimed at advancing a rigorous understanding of how the human brain supports thought, perception, affect, action, social processes, and other aspects of cognition and behavior, including how such processes develop and change in the brain and through time.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website:

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

Description: The Research Experiences for Undergraduates program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation. REU projects involve students in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the REU program. This solicitation features two mechanisms for support of student research: (1) REU Sites are based on independent proposals to initiate and conduct projects that engage a number of students in research. REU Sites may be based in a single discipline or academic department or may offer interdisciplinary or multi-department research opportunities with a coherent intellectual theme. Proposals with an international dimension are welcome. (2) REU Supplements may be included as a component of proposals for new or renewal NSF grants or cooperative agreements or may be requested for ongoing NSF-funded research projects.

Due Date: 8/27/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $68,400,000

Website:

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (AGS-PRF)

Description: The Division of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences (AGS) awards Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (PRF) to highly qualified investigators within 3 years of obtaining their PhD to carry out an independent research program. The research plan of each Fellowship must address scientific questions within the scope of AGS disciplines. The program supports researchers for a period of up to 2 years with Fellowships that can be taken to the institution or national facility of their choice. The program is intended to recognize beginning investigators of significant potential, and provide them with experience in research that will broaden perspectives, facilitate interdisciplinary interactions and help establish them in leadership positions within the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences community.

Due Date: 1/12/2015

Funding: See annoucement;Award Ceiling: $86,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14509/nsf14509.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)

Description: Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) is an NSF-wide program that supports international activities across all NSF supported disciplines. The primary goal of PIRE is to support high quality projects in which advances in research and education could not occur without international collaboration. PIRE seeks to catalyze a higher level of international engagement in the U.S. science and engineering community.

Due Date: 10/21/2014

Funding: $10,000,000; Award Ceiling: $4,000,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14587/nsf14587.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: CyberCorps(R): Scholarship for Service (SFS)

Description: Cyberspace has transformed the daily lives of people. The rush to adopt cyberspace, however, has exposed its fragility and vulnerabilities: corporations, agencies, national infrastructure and individuals have been victims of cyber-attacks. In December 2011 the National Science and Technology Council with the cooperation of the NSF advanced a broad, coordinated federal strategic plan for cybersecurity research and education to "change the game," check the misuses of cyber technology, bolster education and training in cybersecurity, establish a science of cybersecurity, and transition promising cybersecurity research into practice. To achieve this strategic plan, the nation needs advanced research within and across disciplines, requiring expertise in human, statistical, mathematical, computational, and computer sciences to develop and transition new concepts and technologies to practice. It also requires an innovative and efficient cybersecurity education system that results in an unrivaled cybersecurity workforce and citizenry capable of advancing America's economic prosperity and national security in the 21st century.

Due Date: 10/9/2014

Funding: $25,000,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14586/nsf14586.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: International Research Experiences for Students (IRES)

Description: The International Research Experiences for Students program supports development of globally-engaged U.S. science and engineering students capable of performing in an international research environment at the forefront of science and engineering. The IRES program supports active research participation by students enrolled as undergraduates or graduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation. IRES projects involve students in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the IRES program.

Due Date: 9/21/2014

Funding: $2,250,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12551/nsf12551.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Economics

Description: The Economics program supports research designed to improve the understanding of the processes and institutions of the U.S. economy and of the world system of which it is a part. This program also strengthens both empirical and theoretical economic analysis as well as the methods for rigorous research on economic behavior. It supports research in almost every area of economics, including econometrics, economic history, environmental economics, finance, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics, and public finance.

Due Date: 9/18/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website:http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5437&org=SES&from=home

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers (ADVANCE)

Description: The goals of the ADVANCE program are (1) to develop systemic approaches to increase the representation and advancement of women in academic STEM careers; (2) to develop innovative and sustainable ways to promote gender equity in the STEM academic workforce; and (3) to

contribute to the development of a more diverse science and engineering workforce.

Due Date: 9/11/2014

Funding: $11,000,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14573/nsf14573.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Cultural Anthropology

Description: The primary objective of the Cultural Anthropology Program is to support basic scientific research on the causes, consequences, and complexities of human social and cultural variability. Anthropological research spans a wide gamut, and contemporary cultural anthropology is an arena in which diverse research traditions and methodologies are valid. Recognizing the breadth of the field's contributions to science, the Cultural Anthropology Program welcomes proposals for empirically grounded, theoretically engaged, and methodologically sophisticated research in all sub-fields of cultural anthropology.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5388&WT

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Chemical Oceanography

Description: The Chemical Oceanography Program supports research into the chemical components, reaction mechanisms, and geochemical pathways within the ocean and at its interfaces with the solid earth and the atmosphere. Major emphases include: studies of material inputs to and outputs from marine waters; orthochemical and biological production and transformation of chemical compounds and phases within the marine system; and the determination of reaction rates and study of equilibria. The Program encourages research into the chemistry, distribution, and fate of inorganic and organic substances introduced into or produced within marine environments including those from estuarine waters to the deep sea.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11698&WT

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Biological Oceanography

Description: The Biological Oceanography Program supports research in marine ecology broadly defined: relationships among aquatic organisms and their interactions with the environments of the oceans or Great Lakes. Projects submitted to the program for consideration are often interdisciplinary efforts that may include participation by other OCE Programs.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11696&WT

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Physical Oceanography

Description: The Physical Oceanography Program supports research on a wide range of topics associated with the structure and movement of the ocean, with the way in which it transports various quantities, with the way the ocean's physical structure interacts with the biological and chemical processes within it, and with interactions between the ocean and the atmosphere, solid earth and ice that surround it.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12729&WT

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Marine Geology and Geophysics

Description: The Marine Geology and Geophysics program supports research on all aspects of geology and geophysics of the ocean basins and margins, as well as the Great Lakes.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11726&WT

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Cultural Anthropology Program - Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (CA-DDRIG)

Description: The primary objective of the Cultural Anthropology Program is to support basic scientific research on the causes, consequences, and complexities of human social and cultural variability. Anthropological research spans a wide gamut, and contemporary cultural anthropology is an arena in which diverse research traditions and methodologies are valid. Recognizing the breadth of the field's contributions to science, the Cultural Anthropology Program welcomes proposals for empirically grounded, theoretically engaged, and methodologically sophisticated research in all sub-fields of cultural anthropology.

Due Date: 9/15/2014

Funding: See annoucement

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14560/nsf14560.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) and HBCU Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (RISE)

Description: The Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) program provides support to enhance the research capabilities of minority-serving institutions (MSI) through the establishment of centers that effectively integrate education and research. CREST promotes the development of new knowledge, enhancements of the research productivity of individual faculty, and an expanded presence of students historically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Due Date: 9/13/2014

Funding: $13,100,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14565/nsf14565.htm

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM)

Description: This program makes grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented students demonstrating financial need, enabling them to enter the STEM workforce or STEM graduate school following completion of an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate-level degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics disciplines. Grantee institutions are responsible for selecting scholarship recipients, reporting demographic information about student scholars, and managing the S-STEM project at the institution.

Due Date: 9/12/2014

Funding: $50,000,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12529/nsf12529.htm

Agency: Department of Agriculture
DM-Office of Advocacy and Outreach

Program: Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers

Description: The overall goal of the 2501 Program is to assist socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers in owning and operating farms and ranches while increasing their participation in agricultural programs and services provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This program will assist eligible community-based organizations, higher education institutions, and tribal entities in providing outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: See announcement

Award Ceiling: $400,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259949

Agency: Department of Commerce

Program: Regional Ecosystem Prediction Program; Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research, Multiple effects of ocean acidification and nutrient loading to coastal marine ecosystems

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to solicit research applications under the Coastal Hypoxia Research Program in conjunction with the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program for projects expected to last 3 years in duration. Research applications will focus on examining Ocean Acidification (OA) in the context of eutrophication, hypoxia and other stresses in coastal environments.

Due Date: 10/23/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $4,500,000

Award Ceiling: $300,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259279

Agency: Department of Education

Program: Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE): Center for the study of Distance Education and Technological Advancements

Description: The objective of this program is to support a Center for the Study of Distance Education and Technological Advancements at an institution of higher education as described in S. Rpt. 113-71, 113th Cong., 1st Sess. at 196 (2013) to study and develop best practices in postsecondary education for online education and the use of technology-based teaching and learning tools. The Center funded under this section must, in collaboration with other institutions of higher education and organizations: (a) Collect and evaluate data on outcomes achieved by students, including students with disabilities, associated with courses or programs that utilize online education and technology-based teaching and learning tools, (b) identify effective and accessible technologies, materials and practices, that work for all students in these courses or programs and (c) disseminate the findings widely.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,485,000

Award Ceiling: $1,485,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260174

Agency: Department of Education

Program: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS): Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA): Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program: Rehabilitation of Individuals Who Are Mentally Ill

Description: The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for projects that provide-- (1) Basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; (2) A specified series of courses or programs of study leading to the award of a certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; and (3) Support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Due Date: 8/22/2014

Funding: See announcement

Award Ceiling: N/A

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260093

Agency: Department of Education

Program: OSERS: Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA): Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program: Rehabilitation of Individuals Who are Blind or Have Vision Impairments

Description: The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for projects that provide-- (1) Basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; (2) A specified series of courses or programs of study leading to the award of a certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; and (3) Support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Due Date: 8/22/2014

Funding: See announcement

Award Ceiling: N/A

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260094

Agency: Department of Education

Program: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS): Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA): Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program: Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment

Description: The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for projects that provide-- (1) Basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; (2) A specified series of courses or programs of study leading to the award of a certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; and (3) Support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Due Date: 8/22/2014

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260091

Agency: Department of Education

Program: OSERS: Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA): Rehabilitation Training: Rehabilitation Long-Term Training Program: Rehabilitation of Individuals Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Description: The Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program provides financial assistance for projects that provide-- (1) Basic or advanced training leading to an academic degree in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; (2) A specified series of courses or programs of study leading to the award of a certificate in areas of personnel shortages in rehabilitation as identified by the Secretary; and (3) Support for medical residents enrolled in residency training programs in the specialty of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Due Date: 8/22/2014

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260098

Agency: Department of Education

Program: OSERS/NIDRR: Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program: Advanced Rehabilitation Research and Training (ARRT) Program: Advanced Rehabilitation Research Policy Fellowship

Description: The purpose of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program is to plan and conduct research, demonstration projects, training, and related activities, including international activities, to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities, especially individuals with the most severe disabilities.

Due Date: 9/2/2014

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $150,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259928

Agency: Department of Education

Program: OSERS/NIDRR: Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers: Transition to Employment for Youth and Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions

Description: The purpose of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program is to plan and conduct research, demonstration projects, training, and related activities, including international activities, to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities.

Due Date: 8/29/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $875,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259792

Agency: Department of Education

Program: OSERS/NIDRR: Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers: Community Living and Participation for Youth and Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions

Description: The purpose of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program is to plan and conduct research, demonstration projects, training, and related activities, including international activities, to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities, especially individuals with the most severe disabilities.

Due Date: 8/29/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $875,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259797

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Paul B. Beeson Clinical Scientist Development Award in Aging (K08)

Description: This announcement encourages and assists the development of future leaders in the field of aging by supporting clinically trained (primarily physician) faculty members early in their careers to gain additional research training and to establish independent programs in aging research. The John A. Hartford Foundation and The American Federation for Aging Research are interested in independently funding applications submitted under this initiative.

Due Date: 11/7/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,000,000

Website: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-15-016.html

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Paul B. Beeson Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award in Aging (K23)

Description: This announcement encourages and assists the development of future leaders in the field of aging by supporting clinically trained (primarily physician) faculty members early in their careers to gain additional research training and to establish independent programs in aging research. The John A. Hartford Foundation and The American Federation for Aging Research are interested in independently funding applications submitted under this initiative.

Due Date: 11/7/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,000,000

Website: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-15-016.html

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Arts-Based Approaches in Palliative Care for Symptom Management (R01)

Description: This announcement is intended to support mechanistic clinical studies to provide an evidence base for the use of the arts in palliative care for symptom management. The objective is to understand the biological, physiological, neurological, psychological, and/or sociological mechanisms by which the arts exert their effects on symptom management during and throughout the palliative care continuum.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $300,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260175

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: NIH Transformative Research Awards (R01)

Description: The NIH Transformative Research Awards complement NIHs traditional, investigator-initiated grant programs by supporting individual scientists or groups of scientists proposing groundbreaking, exceptionally innovative, original and/or unconventional research with the potential to create new scientific paradigms, establish entirely new and improved clinical approaches, or develop transformative technologies.

Due Date: 10/10/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $15,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=260172

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Mucosal Environment and HIV Prevention (MEHP II) (R01)

Description: The purpose of the Mucosal Environment and HIV Prevention II (MEHP II) grant is to solicit applications that support innovative proof-of-concept/feasibility non-vaccine biomedical prevention (nBP) research needed to support and advance the development of safer and more effective microbicides and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) strategies. The MEHP II will support innovative, high-risk, hypothesis-driven research that provides a better understanding of how prevention products/drug delivery strategies interact with the micro- and macro-environments of the male and female genital and gastrointestinal (GI) mucosa.

Due Date: 11/21/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259988

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program: AHRQ Health Services Research Demonstration and Dissemination Grants (R18)

Description: The Research Demonstration and Dissemination Grant (R18) is an award made by AHRQ to an institution/organization to support a discrete, specified health services research project.

Due Date: 5/25/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $250,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259842

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Program: AHRQ Health Services Research Projects (R01)

Description: The Research Project Grant (R01) is an award made by AHRQ to an institution/organization to support a discrete, specified health services research project.

Due Date: 7/5/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $250,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259843

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Summer Research Training in Aging for Medical Students (T35)

Description: This short-term research training program is intended to: encourage medical students, early in their training, to consider pursuing either a basic science or health-services or clinical-research career in the areas of research that are important to the NIA; and increase the pool of physician scientists engaged in biomedical, clinical or health-services research in those areas necessary to continue NIA's mission.

Due Date: 10/30/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,000,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259709

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Extracellular Vesicles in HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse (R01)

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to encourage research projects that investigate extracellular vesicles in HIV infection/progression or as potential HIV/AIDS biomarkers or therapeutics. Proposed projects must also explore the potential impact of exposure to substances of abuse.

Due Date: 12/15/2014

Funding: See announcement; Award Ceiling: $350,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259728

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Extracellular Vesicles in HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse (R21)

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to encourage research projects that investigate extracellular vesicles in HIV infection/progression or as potential HIV/AIDS biomarkers or therapeutics. Proposed projects must also explore the potential impact of exposure to substances of abuse.

Due Date: 12/15/2014

Funding: $2,000,000;

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259731

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: High Throughput Screening (HTS) to Discover Chemical Probes (R01)

Description: This opportunity encourages investigators to form collaborations with an established academic, nonprofit, or commercial high throughput screening (HTS) facility that has the requisite expertise and experience to implement HTS-ready assays for the discovery and development of small molecule chemical probes.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259738

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: High Throughput Screening (HTS) to Discover Chemical Probes (R21)

Description: This opportunity encourages investigators to form collaborations with an established academic, nonprofit, or commercial high throughput screening (HTS) facility that has the requisite expertise and experience to implement HTS-ready assays for the discovery and development of small molecule chemical probes.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259737

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: U.S.-China Program for Research Toward a Cure for HIV/AIDS (R01)

Description: The purpose of this grant is to stimulate collaborative research opportunities between investigators in the U.S. and China focused on research toward a cure for HIV/AIDS.

Due Date: 11/21/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $1,350,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259609

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Career Transition Award for NINDS Intramural Clinician-Scientists (K22)

Description: The objective of the NIH Career Transition Award (K22) is to provide support to outstanding basic or clinical investigators to develop their independent research skills through a two phase program: an initial period involving an intramural appointment at the NIH and a final period of support at an extramural institution.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259538

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Aging and Neuromuscular Junctions (R01)

Description: The purpose of this grant is to encourage cross-disciplinary research to investigate the mechanisms underlying age-related declines in neuromuscular junctions (NMJs) as a functional unit of nerve and muscle, and explore potential avenues for maintaining the NMJs during aging or reversing the age-dependent loss in function of the NMJs using model organisms.

Due Date: 1/29/2015

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: $2,500,000

    Award Ceiling: $250,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259448

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health

Program: Discovery of in vivo Chemical Probes (R01)

Description: This announcement intends to support investigators who have interest and capability to join efforts for the discovery of in vivo chemical probes. It is expected that applicants will have in hand the starting compounds (validated hits) for chemical optimization and bioassays for testing new analog compounds.

Due Date: 9/6/2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259313

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
                National Institutes of Health

Program: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) of Genomic Research Small
                Research Grant Program (R03)

Description: This announcement invites Small Research Grant (R03) applications that
                propose to study the ethical, legal and social implications (ELSI) of human
                genome research.Applications should propose small, self-contained
                research projects, such as those that involve single investigators.Of
                particular interest are projects that propose normative or conceptual
                analyses, including focused legal, economic, philosophical,
                anthropological, or historical analyses of new or emerging issues.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $50,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259276

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
                National Institutes of Health

Program: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) of Genomic Research
                Regular Research Program (R01)

Description: This announcement invites Research Project Grant (R01) applications that
                propose to study the ethical, legal and social implications (ELSI) of human
                genome research.Applications should propose well-integrated studies
                using either single or mixed methods.Proposed methods may include, but
                are not limited to, data-generating qualitative or quantitative approaches,
                legal, economic or normative analyses, or other analytical or conceptual
                research methodologies.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259277

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
                National Institutes of Health

Program: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) of Genomic Research
                Exploratory/Developmental Research Program (R21)

Description: This announcement invites Exploratory/Developmental Research Program
                Grant (R21) applications that propose to study the ethical, legal and social
                implications (ELSI) of human genome research.Applications should
                propose exploratory or developmental studies that break new ground or
                extend previous discoveries in new directions.Of particular interest are

studies that explore the implications of new or emerging genomic technologies or novel uses of genomic information.

Due Date: 9/7/2017

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $200,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259278

Agency: Department of State
PM Weapons Removal and Abatement

Program: 2014 Comprehensive Survivors Assistance in Vietnam Request for Application (RFA)

Description: This grant will support victims' assistance to UXO or landmine survivors in Vietnam.

Due Date: 8/25/2014

Funding: Estimated Total Program Funding: N/A

Award Ceiling: $500,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259956

Agency: Department of the Interior
Geological Survey

Program: 3D Elevation Program (3DEP)

Description: The 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) initiative is being developed to respond to needs for high-quality topographic data and for a wide range of other three-dimensional representations of the Nation's natural and constructed features. The primary goal of 3DEP is to systematically collect enhanced elevation data in the form of high-quality light detection and ranging (lidar) data over the conterminous United States, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories, as well as interferometric synthetic aperture radar (ifsar) data over Alaska.

Due Date: 9/26/2014

Funding: See announcement

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=259953

Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs
National Veterans Sports Programs

Program: Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Members of the Armed Forces

Description: The ASP Program's purpose is to enable eligible adaptive sports entities to plan, develop, manage, and implement programs to provide opportunities for disabled Veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces. This is accomplished through grants enabling adaptive sports activities that include:(1) instruction, participation, and competition in adaptive sports;(2) training and technical assistance to program administrators, coaches, recreation therapists, instructors, VA employees, and other appropriate individuals; and (3) coordination, Paralympic classification of athletes, athlete assessment, sport-specific training techniques, program development (including programs at the local level), sports equipment, supplies, program evaluation, and other activities related to the implementation and operation of the program grants to adaptive sports entities that will coordinate or provide adaptive sports activities.

Due Date: 8/11/2014

Funding: $8,000,000;Award Ceiling: $500,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=258778

Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities

Program: Digital Humanities Start-up Grants

Description: The Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants program awards relatively small grants to support the planning stages of innovative projects that promise to benefit the humanities. Proposals should be for the planning or initial stages of digital initiatives in any area of the humanities.

Due Date: 9/11/2014

Funding: See announcement;Award Ceiling: $60,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=258991

Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities

Program: Enduring Questions

Description: The NEH Enduring Questions grant program supports faculty members in the preparation of a new course on a fundamental concern of human life as addressed by the humanities. This question-driven course would encourage undergraduates and teachers to join together in a deep and sustained program of reading in order to encounter influential ideas, works, and thinkers over the centuries.

Due Date: 9/11/2014

Funding: See announcement; Award Ceiling: $38,000

Website: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=258989