



STOP THE LARGEST EDUCATION FUNDING CUTS EVER!!

- Unless Congress acts, on January 2, 2013 all federally-funded education programs (other than Pell grants which is exempt from the first year cut) will be subject to an 8.4% automatic across-the-board cut.ⁱ
- These sequestration cuts would chop funding for programs in the Department of Education by over \$4.1 billion. In addition, Head Start would be cut by \$669 million. This would be the largest cut EVER to education programs. Sequestration would move us backwards ten years, by slashing Department of Education non-Pell grant discretionary funding below the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 level.
- Additional cuts to education programs (including Pell grants) will likely occur in FY 2014 through FY 2021 due to stringent “caps” on so-called discretionary-funded programs, which include virtually all education programs (other than student loans) and Head Start.
- Critical programs including Title I aid to high-poverty schools; IDEA funds for students with disabilities; Impact Aid; teacher quality grants; after-school grants; charter and magnet school aid; English Language Acquisition grants; career,

technical and adult education; campus-based student aid; aid to minority-serving institutions; TRIO and GEAR UP will all be slashed. For state-by-state details see the National Education Association analysis: [Impact of Sequestration on Federal Education Programs](#).

Some examples:

- *Head Start* would be cut by \$669 million, harming 80,000 low-income children.
 - *Title I* would be cut by \$1.2 billion, adversely affecting services to almost 1.8 million educationally disadvantaged children.
 - *IDEA special education* would be cut by \$973 million affecting 494,700 students with disabilities.
 - Funding for *teacher quality grants* would be cut by \$207 million.
 - While Pell grants appears to be exempt from sequestration in FY 13, other *student financial aid programs* such as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Work-Study would be cut by \$146 million, reducing aid to more than 2.1 million students.
 - *TRIO, GEAR UP* and other higher education programs will cut by a combined \$214 million.
 - *Career, Technical and Adult Education* would be cut by \$144 million, harming more than 1.2 million students.
 - Overall, these education cuts would directly jeopardize over 80,000 education jobs.
- The Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee has also released a report detailing the state-by-state impact of the cuts on education, health and workforce training programs: [Under Threat - Sequestration's Impact on Nondefense Jobs and Services](#).
 - U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has [said](#), "The sequestration will put at risk all that we've accomplished in education and weaken programs that help children, serve families, send young people and adults to college and make the middle class American dream possible."
 - These across-the board cuts result from Congress' failure last year to enact at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction, as required by the Budget Control Act. Because Congress was unable to adopt a balanced deficit reduction plan that included both revenues and spending cuts, the entire \$1.2 trillion will now be taken out of discretionary-funded programs.
 - These cuts will be on top of education cuts adopted by Congress in 2011. Funding for education programs (exclusive of changes to Pell grants) was cut in the aggregate by \$1.25 billion (-2.7%) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, which generally provides funds to schools and colleges for the 2011-2012 school year.

The FY 2012 omnibus appropriations bill cut aggregate funding for the

Department of Education by an additional \$233 million. Between FY 10 and FY 12 more than 50 education programs totaling \$1.2 billion have had their funding completely eliminated.

- These cuts will be particularly disruptive to school districts receiving Impact Aid because those cuts will take effect in January 2013 – the middle of the 2012-13 school year.
- State/ local governments and school districts have very limited capacity to soften the cuts of sequestration. According to a survey conducted by the American Association of School Administrators ([Cut Deep: How the Sequester Will Impact Our Nation's Schools](#)), “nine of ten (90 percent) school administrators that their state would be unable to absorb or offset the cuts of sequestration, equal to the 89.5 percent indicating that their district would be unable to absorb the cuts.”
- Based on Bureau of Labor Statistics’ data, over 300,000 public school educator jobs have been eliminated since the start of the recession.
- Cuts of this magnitude will be harmful to jobs and the economy. A person with a Bachelor’s degree has lifetime earnings more than twice as much as a high school dropout, benefitting not only those individuals and their families, but our society and government by paying higher taxes and relying less on social services.
- According to [The Economic Impact of the Budget Control Act of 2011 on DOD and Non-DOD Agencies](#), recently issued by the Aerospace Industries Association, 2.14 million American jobs could be lost if sequestration cuts takes effect. “The unemployment rate will climb above 9 percent, pushing the economy toward recession and reducing projected growth in 2013 by two-thirds. An already weak economy will be undercut as the paychecks of thousands of workers across the economy will be affected from teachers, nurses, construction workers to key federal employees such as border patrol and FBI agents, food inspectors and others.”
- CEF has joined with almost 3,000 national, state and local organizations in the nondefense discretionary (NDD) community to urge Congress and the President to avert sequestration by adopting a “balanced approach to deficit reduction that does not include further cuts to NDD programs.” See: [NDD Sign On Letter Urging A Balanced Approach to Deficit Reduction](#) (July 12, 2012).

ⁱ How The Across-The-Board Cuts In The Budget Control Act Will Work: <http://www.cbpp.org/files/12-2-11bud2.pdf>