

# The Midterms are (Almost) Over: What's Next for Federal Higher Education Policy?

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### **About SHEEO**

National association serving chief executives of statewide governing, policy, and coordinating boards of postsecondary education and their staffs.





#### **About SHEEO**

- Advocate for state policy leadership
- Act as a liaison between states and the federal government
- Provide information and analysis on educational and public policy issues
- Recognize that state context matters





50 STATES
2 TERRITORIES
+ D.C.



SHEEO, together with its members, works to promote an environment that values higher education and its role in ensuring the equitable education of all Americans, regardless of race/ethnicity, gender or socioeconomic factors.



## **Today's Presentation**

- Election Results/New Committee Chairs
- Student Loan Relief Plan
- Appropriations
- Regulations
- Policy Implementation



## **Election Results/New Committee Chairs**

- Senate: 50-50 or 51-49, with Democrats in a slim majority
- House: GOP projected to take control by a slim majority
- Senate HELP Committee
  - Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) expected to become chair
  - Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) or Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) expected to become ranking member
- House Education and Workforce Committee
  - Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) expected to become chair
  - Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) expected to become ranking member







## **Senate Committee-Key Policy Position**

## Senate:

- Sen. Sanders
  - supports free public higher education
  - full cancellation of student debt
  - increased student aid for non-tuition expenses, investments in minority-serving institutions
- Sen. Rand Paul
  - supports ending the U.S. Department of Education, more tax deductions/advantages to pay for college
- Sen. Cassidy
  - supports College Transparency Act, short-term Pell Grants





## **House Education and Labor**

## House:

- Oversight on executive actions in the Biden Administration and potential lawsuit of Biden student debt relief plan
- REAL Reforms Act
  - Workforce Pell Grants
  - Risk-sharing
  - Streamline Income-Driven Repayment
  - End PSLF
  - End uncapped borrowing in the GradPlus program, greater institutional discretion over loans
  - Opposed to free college plans





English | Español

#### Welcome to StudentAid.gov

### Student Loan Debt Relief Is Blocked

Courts have issued orders blocking our student debt relief program. As a result, at this time, we are not accepting applications. We are seeking to overturn those orders.

If you've already applied, we'll hold your application. Subscribe and check back here for updates. We will post information as soon as further updates are available.



## **Student Loan Forgiveness**

# House:

- The Biden plan would forgive \$10,000 in federallyheld student loan debt for those making less than \$125,000 annually (\$250K married)
- The Administration has collected 26 million applications, approved 16 million
- The plan has been blocked by federal courts
- Pressure is building to extend the loan repayment pause expiring on Dec. 31

## **Appropriations**

- Currently on a continuing resolution until December 16.
- Congress could pass an omnibus spending bill or pass another CR, pushing it off until 2023
- House has completed its work, and Senate Dems have offered their numbers. Negotiations with GOP remain.
- GOP has lost considerable leverage due to election results. Parties are more likely to make a deal on FY23 in this Congress.
- Key retirements provide incentive to make a deal
- Sens. Leahy (D-VT) and Shelby (R-AL) are "close" to a top-line deal



# **Appropriations**

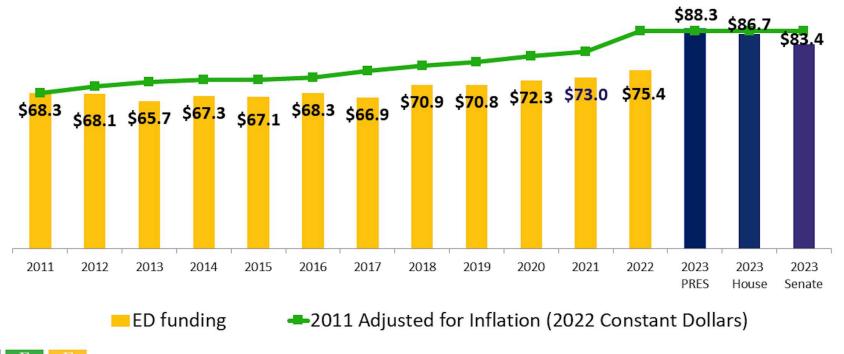
Key Programs	FY22 Funding	President's Budget	House Democrats	Senate Dems	Final
Pell Grant Max Per Student	\$6,895	\$8,670	\$7,395	\$7,395	
Federal Work- Study	\$1.21b	\$1.19b	\$1.244b	\$1.235b	
GEAR UP	\$.378b	\$.408b	\$.408b	\$0.4b	
SEOG	\$.895b	\$.880b	\$.92b	\$.915b	
TRIO	\$1.137b	\$1.298b	\$1.298b	\$1.275b	
FIPSE	\$.068b	\$.56b	\$.52b	\$.214b	



## **Appropriations**

# FY 2023 Proposals Have Big Education Funding Increases — But Just Return Funding to About the 2011 Inflation-Adjusted Level

(Department of Education Discretionary Funding in Billions of Dollars)







## **Final Regulations**

- 90/10 rule
- Prison Education Programs
- Changes in Institutional Ownership



## Final Regulations: Targeted Loan Relief Programs

- Borrower Defense to Repayment
- Prohibiting Mandatory Pre-dispute Arbitration and Class Action Waivers
- Interest Capitalization
- Total and Permanent Disability Discharges
- Closed School Discharges
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness
- False Certification Discharge



## **Other Regulations**

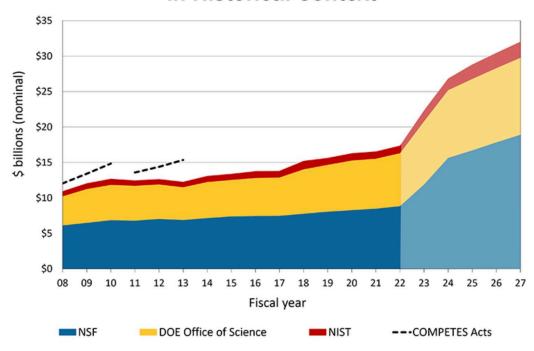
- Title IX (proposed, currently going through comments)
- Gainful Employment (NPRM in April 2023)
- Standards of Administrative Capability (NPRM in April 2023)
- Ability to Benefit (NPRM in April 2023)



## **Policy Implementation**

- FAFSA Simplification
- Chips and Science Act
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Inflation Reduction Act

# CHIPS and Science Act Authorizations in Historical Context



Includes DOE Office of Science authorizations from the Energy Policy Act of 2005 for fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Excludes supplemental appropriations provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.



### **Questions and Contact Information**

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