

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC

Summary and Analysis of the President's FY 2012 Budget Request for Federal Research and Education Programs

Prepared for the Council on Social Work Education
by Lewis-Burke Associates LLC

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Executive Summary

President Obama released his budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2012 on February 14, 2011 in the midst of major changes in political leadership in Congress and an unresolved federal budget for FY 2011. His request continues his support for federal science and education funding as an important component of innovation and economic recovery for the nation, providing significant increases despite a 5-year freeze in overall spending for non-security domestic discretionary programs. The White House proposal emphasizes the connections between federal research funding and economic outcomes – focusing on the bang for the buck rather than the knowledge benefits generally. Measureable outcomes is a theme that extends to Obama’s emphasis on education reform as well.

The President proposes significant national investments in agencies and programs critical to the social work research and education communities:

- ◆ National Institutes of Health (NIH) would increase 2.4 percent over FY 2010 to \$32 billion.
- ◆ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) would decrease 9.1 percent below FY 2010, but would see increases to its health professions training programs.
- ◆ The maximum Pell Grant award per student would remain \$5550. The Pell Grant Program continues to experience significant annual shortfalls.

The White House and congressional leaders have begun talks on a long-term deficit reduction plan based at least initially on recommendations by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. The President has pledged to veto any appropriations bill that Congress sends to him that includes congressional earmarks.

Department of Education

Budget Highlight

- ◆ The maximum Pell Grant remains at \$5,550 but the budget request would end year-round Pell and interest subsidies to graduate students.
- ◆ The budget request continues the President's signature initiatives including Race to the Top, Investing in Innovation Fund (i3), and Promise Neighborhoods, and seeks to build on these reforms through ESEA reauthorization.
- ◆ The request would create several new programs of interest to higher education including ARPA-ED, College Completion Incentive Grants, and a "First in the World" competition to expand access and completion efforts.

President Obama has made education the cornerstone of his FY 2012 budget request and provided targeted increases which advance his education reform agenda. The President's FY 2012 budget request for the Department of Education (ED) focuses on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and builds on the reforms started through the Race to the Top program and Investing in Innovation (i3) fund. Those programs, directed to states and local education agencies (LEA), required local agreement to education reforms, such as increased assessments and standards in the K-12 education system, teacher incentive pay structures, and increased data collection and coordination. In keeping with this reform agenda, many of the new programs proposed by the Administration are directed to the states and LEAs.

Within student financial aid, the President's budget would reform the Pell Grant program which has continued to suffer from funding shortfalls as the need for the program expands. The President's budget request keeps the historic increases gained through last year's restructuring of the student loan program but at the expense of the new year-round Pell Grant and subsidized interest for graduate student loans.

New funding initiatives are directed to institutions of higher education in support of the President's college completion agenda and teacher training reform. These new programs, such as the College Completion Incentive Grants and Presidential Teaching Fellows Program, are tied directly to the reform agenda and require state participation or partnerships with LEAs.

The total ED budget request is \$77.4 billion, an increase of \$13.3 billion or 20.7 percent over the FY 2010 enacted level.

Student Financial Assistance

Pell Grant

The President's budget request includes a maximum Pell Grant of \$5,550 for the 2012-2013 academic year and cuts \$100 billion out of the program over the next ten years. The President's budget request would also pay for an estimated \$20 billion in shortfall for the Pell program in FY 2012. The savings would be accomplished through elimination of the year-round Pell Grant program, which offered Pell to students completing summer courses and was created in the last Higher Education Act reauthorization in 2008, and the elimination of in-school interest subsidy for graduate students using federal student loans. Currently, graduate students are eligible to borrow \$8,500 in subsidized federal student loans and \$12,000 in

unsubsidized student loans. Under the subsidized student loans, the federal government provides in-school interest subsidies. This proposal would remove the subsidies, but not change the graduate student loan limits. The changes to the Pell Grant program and the graduate school loans would be accomplished through the *Pell Grant Protection Act* legislation, as proposed by the Administration.

Perkins Loans

The Perkins Loan program has been scheduled to sunset in 2014. Similar to earlier proposals, the President's FY 2012 budget request would restructure the program, increasing it from \$1 billion to \$8.5 billion and direct these loans to students as an alternative to high-interest private student loans. The Administration estimates that this would reach an additional 2,700 postsecondary education institutions. The new program would also reward institutions for increased college completion.

Campus Based Aid Programs

The President's budget request includes level funding for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) at \$757.5 million and the Federal Work Study program at \$980.5 million.

Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership (LEAP)

The LEAP program, which provides additional funding to states for need based aid and work study assistance, would be zeroed out in the President's budget request. This program received \$63.9 million in FY 2010 and has been zeroed out in previous budget requests.

American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)

The President's budget request would make permanent the AOTC, a partially refundable tax credit worth up to \$2,500 per student per year.

Higher Education Programs

Title VI International Programs

The President's FY 2012 budget request would level fund the Title VI international programs at \$125.9 million. Within Title VI, the domestic programs, which include the National Resource Centers (NRCs), would be funded at \$108.4 million and the overseas programs, which include the ED Fulbright programs, would be funded at \$15.6 million.

"First in the World" Competition

The President's budget request includes \$122.8 million in the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) for a new evidence-based grant program designed to increase college access and completion and improve educational productivity. The program would be modeled after the i3 program and would likely require community partnerships and matching funds. This proposed program would be funded through money that was previously earmarked within FIPSE.

College Completion Incentive Grants

The President's budget request includes \$50 million for a new grant program that would encourage colleges to help expand access and completion efforts and reward institutions that produce successful outcomes. These grants, like the previously proposed American Graduation Initiative (AGI), would be directed to states. Participating states would be required to align high-school graduation requirements with

college readiness standards, create stronger articulation agreements, provide some matching funds for the program, and be required to set goals for college completion. States would provide payments to schools as a positive incentive to encourage better outcomes for students. All institutions within a state, including private and for-profit, would be eligible for funds; however participation by public institutions in the agreed-to reforms would be mandatory.

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) and TRIO Programs
The President's budget request includes \$323 million for GEAR UP and \$920 million for TRIO. This is level funding for GEAR UP and a \$10 million increase over the FY 2010 enacted level for TRIO. The increase within TRIO would be directed to the Upward Bound program which will hold a new competition in FY 2012. Both GEAR UP and TRIO focus on increasing access and success in postsecondary education for low income and disadvantaged students.

Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI)

The President's budget request would continue to provide \$117 million in discretionary funding to the Hispanic Serving Institutions program to supplement the mandatory funding provided from the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA). Total discretionary and mandatory funding for HSI would remain level with FY 2010 funding at \$239.4 million.

Graduate Programs

The FY 2012 budget request consolidates the Javits Fellowship and Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) programs. The Javits program provides fellowships for doctoral students in the arts and humanities, while GAANN funds are directed to scholarly areas identified as national needs, usually in the sciences. The President's budget request includes \$40.7 million for the GAANN program, which equals the combined total for GAANN (\$31.0 million) and Javits (\$9.7 million) in FY 2010, making the consolidated program level funded at the FY 2010 level. Language is included that requires ED to consult with appropriate federal agencies in the arts, humanities, and social sciences in establishing areas of national need in future GAANN competitions.

Institute of Education Services (IES)

The President's budget request would fund IES at \$760.5 million, an increase of \$101.5 million (or 15.4 percent) over FY 2010 funding. Within IES, Research, Development, and Dissemination would be funded at \$260.4 million, a \$60.2 million (or 30.0 percent) increase over FY 2010. The Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) would be funded at \$69.7 million, a \$1 million (or 1.4 percent) decrease from FY 2010 due to the completion of program evaluation. The budget also includes language that the funding will be used to award new five year REL contracts in an upcoming competition. Statewide Data Systems would be funded at \$100 million, an increase of \$41.7 million (or 71.5 percent) over FY 2010. The budget would direct up to \$15 million of that increase to awards for public or private agencies and organizations to support activities to improve data coordination and use at the local, state, and national levels.

Other Programs within the Department of Education

Race to the Top

The President's budget request includes \$900 million for an updated Race to the Top program, first

competed through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and requests that that program be included in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Under this new program, ED would hold state and district level Race to the Top competitions. For the district level competitions, ED would focus on the same four reforms as the state level competition held last year: rigorous standards and assessments; improving teacher quality and effectiveness; improving and expanding the use of data; and turning around low-performing schools.

Investing in Innovation Fund (i3)

This program, also created in ARRA, would be included in the Administration's reauthorization of ESEA. The authorized program would be funded at \$300 million and make grants to develop and validate promising practices to improve student outcomes. ED would also include a priority for projects in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Promise Neighborhoods

The President's budget request includes \$150 million for the Promise Neighborhood program for a second cohort of implementation grants. The program had received \$10 million for planning grants in FY 2010. The program seeks to fund the development and implementation of plans for comprehensive neighborhood projects modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone which incorporates and partners education, health, and social services for community children and families.

Advanced Research Projects Agency-Education (ARPA-ED)

The FY 2012 budget includes \$90 million for a proposed Advanced Research Projects Agency-Education (ARPA-ED) initiative, including \$50 million in discretionary funding and \$40 million in mandatory funds from the Wireless Innovation Fund. This program is included under the Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE) and the discretionary funds were previously earmarked. This proposal is an outgrowth of the National Educational Technology Plan, a five year action plan to improve student learning and boost adoption of effective practices, and is modeled after the agencies including the Defense Applied Research Projects Agency at the Department of Defense and the Applied Research Projects Agency-Energy at the Department of Energy. ARPA-ED would be designed to "pursue breakthrough developments in educational technology and learning systems, support systems for educators, and tools that improve educational outcomes."

Early Learning Challenge Fund

The President's FY 2012 budget request would create the Early Learning Challenge Fund under ESEA reauthorization. This new program would be funded at \$350 million and provide competitive grants to states to establish model systems of early learning for children from birth to kindergarten. This new program would be coordinated with early learning efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Teacher and Leader Pathways

Similar to the FY 2011 budget request, the President's FY 2012 budget proposal would consolidate the Title II teacher training programs, including Teacher Quality Partnerships, into the Teacher and Leader Pathways which would be authorized within an ESEA reauthorization. The program would be funded at \$250 million and would support the creation or expansion of high-quality pathways into the teaching profession, including university based and alternative routes. In FY 2010 the Teacher Quality Partnership

program received \$43 million.

Effective Teaching and Learning: Literacy, STEM, and a Well-Rounded Education

The FY 2012 budget request proposes several new programs under Effective Teaching and Learning which would provide grants to State Educational Agencies (SEA) in partnership with other entities, including institutions of higher education, to support comprehensive efforts to improve literacy instruction; improve the teaching and learning of STEM; and develop and expand innovative practices to improve teaching in the arts, health education, physical education, foreign languages, civics and government, geography, environmental education, economics, and other subjects. These programs would be funded through the consolidation of several existing programs included Striving Readers, Mathematics and Science Partnerships, and Teaching American History. Funding in FY 2012 would be \$383.3 million for Effective Teaching and Learning: Literacy; \$206.5 million for Effective Teaching and Learning: STEM; and \$246.1 million for Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education.

Presidential Teaching Fellows Program

The President's budget request proposes a new Presidential Teaching Fellows program to replace the sunseting TEACH grant program in FY 2012. The TEACH grant program had provided grants to pay for the acquired student loans of teachers who completed service in high need schools. Funds for the Presidential Teaching Fellows program would be provided to states through formula grants and would fund scholarships up to \$10,000 for students at "high-performing" teacher preparation programs. Scholarships would be used to pay for the final year of either a traditional teacher preparation or alternative route program. After graduation, scholarship recipients would be required to teach for three years in a high need school or a high need subject. In order to receive funds, States would commit to holding the least effective teacher preparation programs accountable.

The ED FY 2012 budget can be accessed here: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget12/index.html>.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The President requests a discretionary budget of \$79.9 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for FY 2012. This would represent a \$72 million decrease or .09 percent below FY 2010. The President's budget request would include funding for two major pieces of legislation that passed in the 111th Congress, including the Food Safety Modernization Act, which will be overseen by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as the healthcare reform law. The stated priorities in the President's FY 2012 budget for HHS and its offices include:

- ◆ Implementing the healthcare reform law;
- ◆ Investing in America's competitiveness through funding for biomedical research;
- ◆ Strengthening the health professions workforce through the training of primary care providers; and
- ◆ Continuing strong support for high-quality early childhood programs by investing in Head Start and others to assist vulnerable populations.

Following through on statements made during last month's State of the Union address, the President's budget request continues its support for biomedical research, noting that it is essential for improving health and bolstering the economy. As part of HHS efforts to transform health care, the budget request highlights the activities at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focused on the translation of discoveries into therapeutics and drugs and the importance of creating collaborations among government, academia, and industry to accelerate the development of treatments and cures.

Healthcare reform implementation remains a priority for the Administration. The President's budget request includes funding for implementing provisions contained in ACA, while using the savings claimed from the bill to reduce the deficit. Funding for implementation will continue to be a battle with the Republican-controlled House, which will continue to try to repeal provisions of the law and cut funding for implementation through the annual appropriations process.

To ensure there are primary care providers to care for the anticipated growth of patients enrolling in a healthcare plan by 2015, the President's budget would invest in the healthcare workforce by providing increased resources for providers who choose to serve in underserved areas. Additionally, the budget would prevent cuts in payments to physicians, which they are currently facing through the Sustainable Growth Rate Formula (SGR) for the next two years while committing to work with Congress toward a permanent fix in the long-term. While the proposed budget would make an investment in training primary care providers, it would eliminate programs such as the Children's Graduate Medical Education Program, which funds freestanding children's hospitals to help them maintain their graduate medical education programs.

The request would provide funding for several cross-cutting initiatives including comparative effectiveness research. The new Patient Centered-Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), which is an independent institute created under ACA to perform comparative effectiveness research through funds obligated under the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund. Additionally, funding would be included in the request for patient-centered research at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and NIH.

The request also includes support for the Administration's medical countermeasures priorities and includes \$665 million for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority; \$70 million for advancing medical countermeasures at FDA; and \$55 million towards investigators who have promising early-stage, medical countermeasures products, but limited development experience at NIH.

National Institutes of Health

Budget Highlight

- ◆ President Obama followed through on his commitment put forth in the State of the Union to invest in biomedical research by proposing a \$745 million increase for NIH in FY 2012.
- ◆ The budget request highlights the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) as providing critical infrastructure and technologies to translate basic research discoveries into new diagnostics and therapies.
- ◆ Also a priority in the budget is advancing technologies that accelerate discovery, such as nanotechnology, computational biology, and new imaging modalities.

The President's FY 2012 budget request would provide a \$745 million, or 2.4 percent, increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) above FY 2010 to \$31.987 billion. This is below the \$1 billion increase requested in the FY 2011 President's proposed budget.

To focus attention on the areas of great promise for biomedical research, the budget request identifies translational science, specifically the new National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), as the one area of "extraordinary opportunity" for the agency. However, the budget request does not specify funding for the new center as decisions are still being finalized about what programs and funding levels will be included in the new center. NIH Director Francis Collins announced that an amendment to the budget will be released in approximately one month outlining the budget for NCATS in FY 2012 and reflecting the movement of programs out of the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), which is being dissolved, to other institutes and centers (ICs) within NIH. See the table below for the various ICs' funding levels in FY 2012.

The budget identifies the programs expected to be included in NCATS, including the Molecular Libraries Program (MLP), Therapeutics for Rare and Neglected Diseases (TRND), NIH Rapid Access to Interventional Development (RAID), the recently established NIH-FDA Partnership, the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs), and the Cures Acceleration Network (CAN). CAN, which was created in the healthcare reform law, would receive \$100 million in FY 2012.

The budget also highlights three areas of "exceptional opportunity" for FY 2012 that are viewed as instrumental for accelerating scientific advances across all areas of human health and disease:

- ◆ Developing technologies to accelerate discoveries, including DNA sequencing, microarray
- ◆ technology, nanotechnology, new imaging modalities, and computational biology, are emphasized as a critical first step in developing more effective therapies for diseases.
- ◆ Comparative effectiveness research and personalized medicine will enhance the evidence base for decision making in clinical practice. The budget cites the HMO Research Network Collaboratory, which is funded through the NIH Common Fund, as a program that is tackling this area by using data on 13 million patients from 16 HMOs.

- ◆ The New Investigators, New Ideas Initiative addresses the importance of attracting the best and brightest and developing young scientists through programs such as the NIH Director's New Innovator Award and the Pathway to Independence Award. The budget request would provide a 4 percent increase for post-doctoral stipends under the Ruth Kirschstein National Research Service Award training program, which would support 16,831 full-time training positions in FY 2012.

The budget request notes that in FY 2012 about 83 percent of NIH funds would be awarded to the extramural research community. Also, the President's FY 2012 budget request would fund a total of 9,158 competing research project grants (RPGs), which are the primary mechanism for funding investigator-initiated research. This is a decrease of 228 RPGs below the FY 2010 level. In an effort to fund more new grants and new ideas, NIH will constrain the average cost of continuing RPGs to just a one percent increase above the FY 2011 level.

As in previous years, the President's budget request cites a number of key priority areas for FY 2012:

Autism: NIH will continue to support ongoing research into environmental factors, early detection, and novel treatments, which will transform our understanding and care for those with autism spectrum disorders. NIH is planning to issue a funding opportunity announcement to renew the Autism Centers of Excellence program in FY 2012.

Alzheimer's disease: For Alzheimer's disease, NIH is partnering with the private sector to find new methods for early diagnosis and to support early drug discovery and preclinical drug development. It is anticipated that this effort will support studies that lead to the submission of Investigational New Drug (IND) applications to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Cancer: NIH will continue to pursue the leading-edge of discovery in basic cancer science, development of new cancer treatments, and prevention and early detection of cancer, focusing on recent discoveries regarding cancer genomes. Of note, the budget proposes funding the Cancer Centers program at \$544.1 million, which would be a decrease of \$40.1 million below the FY 2010 level. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) will seek to identify savings and reductions in the Cancer Center program to award more grants to investigators, which NCI Director Harold Varmus has stated as a priority in the coming year.

HIV/AIDS: The budget request would devote nearly \$3.2 billion for HIV/AIDS research in FY 2012 through the NIH Office of AIDS Research. A priority of this effort will be developing safe, effective vaccines and other preventive measures.

National Children's Study: A total of \$194 million would be provided for the National Children's Study, which was recently launched by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and is a multi-year research study that will examine the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the country.

Scientific Preparedness in Public Health Emergencies: The budget emphasizes that NIH is positioned to lead in the rapid response to public health emergencies, such as the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is leading the NIH activities in this area. The President's budget request would provide \$6.7 million in FY 2012 to oil spill activities,

including a prospective cohort study of clean-up workers exposed to the spill, called the Gulf Long-term Follow-Up (GuLF) study and a university-community consortia examining the impacts of the spill on health and quality of life.

**FY 2012 President's Budget Request for Individual Funding Levels for
National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institutes and Centers**

Institutes/Centers	Final FY 2010 Actual	FY 2012 President's Budget Request	Dollar Comparison to FY 2010 Actual	Percent Comparison to FY 2010 Actual
National Cancer Institute (NCI)	\$5,100	\$5,196	\$96	1.80%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)	\$3,095	\$3,148	\$53	1.70%
National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)	\$413	\$420	\$7	1.70%
National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)	\$1,957	\$1,987	\$30	1.50%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)	\$1,635	\$1,664	\$29	1.70%
National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	\$4,816	\$4,915	\$99	2.00%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)	\$2,050	\$2,102	\$52	2.50%
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)	\$1,328	\$1,352	\$23.30	1.80%
National Eye Institute (NEI)	\$706	\$719	\$12.40	1.70%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)	\$689	\$700	\$11	1.60%
National Institute on Aging (NIA)	\$1,109	\$1,129	\$20	1.80%
National Institute on Arthritis & Musculoskeletal & Skin Diseases (NIAMS)	\$538	\$547	\$9	1.60%
National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)	\$418	\$426	\$7.40	1.80%
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)	\$1,489	\$1,517	\$28	1.90%
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)	\$1,059	\$1,080	\$21	1.90%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)	\$462	\$469	\$7	1.50%
National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)	\$145	\$148	\$2.50	1.70%

Institutes/Centers	Final FY 2010 Actual	FY 2012 President's Budget Request	Dollar Comparison to FY 2010 Actual	Percent Comparison to FY 2010 Actual
National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)	\$515	\$524	\$9	1.70%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)	\$316	\$322	\$6	1.90%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)**	\$211	\$214	\$3	1.40%
National Center for Research Resources (NCRR)	\$1,268	\$1,297	\$29	2.20%
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)	\$128	\$131	\$2.20	1.70%
John E. Fogarty International Center (FIC)	\$69	\$71	\$1.30	1.90%
National Library of Medicine (NLM)	\$351	\$387	\$36	10.20%
Office of the Director (OD)	\$1,176	\$1,298	\$122	10.30%
Buildings and Facilities	\$100	\$125	\$25	25%

* It is important to note that comparison may not be exact due to unit size (millions) and rounding.

** The National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities was elevated to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010.

Other HHS Agencies

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The President's budget request would provide HRSA \$6.8 billion in discretionary budget authority in FY 2012, a decrease of \$684 million or 9.1 percent below the FY 2010 level. Overall funding for HRSA in the President's request would be \$9 billion, a net increase over FY 2010 of \$975 million, which includes mandatory funding and transfers through the ACA for programs such as Community Health Centers. Supporting the primary care providers is a priority; however, the request does not include funding for the Children's Graduate Medical Education program.

HRSA's Title VII (health professions) and Title VIII (nursing) programs would be increased in the request, which includes a total of \$786 million for FY 2012. This is \$264.5 million or 36.2 percent over the FY 2010 funding levels. Within this amount, HRSA would increase funding for Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students by 21.6 percent, geriatrics training programs by 29.6 percent, and provide first time funding of \$17.9 million for the Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grants program, which was authorized in the health care reform law.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The President's budget request would provide \$3.4 billion in discretionary budget authority, which is \$44 million or 1.3 percent below the FY 2010 enacted level. According to HHS, investments at SAMHSA will be used more "thoughtfully and strategically" by using competitive grants to identify and test innovative prevention and treatment interventions; leveraging state and tribal funding mechanisms to foster widespread implementation of proven practices; and streamlining support activities. Prevention of substance abuse and mental illness is a priority in the request and includes an increase of \$55 million over FY 2010 levels for state, tribal and Community Prevention Grants.

The request includes flat funding for SAMHSA's Minority Fellowship Program at \$4.89 million. The Council on Social Work Education is a grantee of this program and administers fellowships to minority social work students.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

The President's request for AHRQ includes \$390 million, which is a decrease of \$13 million or 3.2 percent below the FY 2010 level. The request includes \$46 million for Patient-Centered Health Research which supports research to compare the effectiveness of treatments. A transfer from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), authorized in ACA, would provide \$24 million for patient-centered health research. The request also includes \$28 million for health information technology, the same amount as the FY 2010 level.

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

The President's budget request includes \$4.4 billion in discretionary budget authority for FY 2012, which includes an increase of \$1.02 billion or 30 percent from the FY 2010 level. Funding to fight healthcare fraud and abuse remains a priority and cost-saving mechanism for CMS and includes \$270 million in increased funding as part of a multi-year effort to prevent and fight fraud and abuse.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

The President's request would provide FDA with \$2.74 billion in discretionary budget authority, which is \$380 million or a 16 percent increase over FY 2010 levels. Priorities for the agency include programs which were passed in the 111th Congress, such as the Food Safety and Modernizations Act. The President's request includes \$324 million for food safety bringing the increased request for food safety to \$1.4 billion. The President's request also includes an increase of \$70 million for advancing Medical Countermeasures, which continues to be a priority of the Administration.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The President's request would provide CDC with \$5.9 billion in discretionary budget authority, which is a decrease of \$580 million or 9 percent from the FY 2010 enacted level. The decrease in funding partially

reflects the elimination of the Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant, which will be addressed through the new Community Transformation Grants that were authorized through ACA. The request also includes targeted programmatic reductions of \$43 million below FY 2010 levels for environmental health. The Administration continues to make prevention and wellness a priority and includes \$753 million of the \$1 billion available from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

Indian Health Service (IHS)

The President's request would provide IHS with \$4.6 billion, which is \$572 million or 14.1 percent over the FY 2010 enacted level. Priorities for the agency would include improving the quality of and access to care and strengthening partnerships with indigenous communities. The request includes \$42 million for Indian Health Professions, a 3 percent increase over FY 2010 funding. Within the amount is \$21.3 million for IHS's Loan Repayment Program, a slight decrease, which offers repayment of educational loans in exchange for service at an Indian health program.

Administration on Aging (AOA)

The President's request would provide AOA with \$2.3 billion, which would be a decrease of \$150 million or 6.3 percent less than the FY 2010 enacted level. The top priority for the agency would be to establish the new Caregiver Initiative. Part of this initiative would include \$96 million to support caregiver services, such as counseling, training, and respite care.

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

The President's request would provide ACF with \$16.18 billion, which is a decrease of \$1.15 billion or 6.6 percent less than the FY 2010 enacted level. Although most ACF programs would receive a reduction from FY 2010 levels, the Head Start program would received an increase of 11.9 percent in FY 2012.

The FY 2012 HHS budget request is available at: <http://www.hhs.gov/about/FY2012budget/fy2012bib.pdf>.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Budget Highlight

- ◆ Funding for several grant programs have been reduced or eliminated. HUD would focus their investments in sustainable, innovative communities and programs that support the neediest Americans, such as an initiative to combat homelessness.

For FY 2012, the President is requesting \$41.74 billion in discretionary budget authority for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a reduction of \$1.17 billion or 2.7 percent from FY 2010. Proposals of interest to the research community within the President's FY 2012 budget request for HUD will again focus on building sustainable communities.

Sustainable Communities Initiative

The budget request would provide \$150 million, level with the FY 2010 enacted level, for the Sustainable Communities Initiative, a joint effort with Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The goal of the initiative is for more communities to develop comprehensive housing and transportation plans that result in sustainable development, a reduction of greenhouse gases, and increased transit-accessible housing. The initiative is primarily targeted at municipalities, state and local governments; however institutions of higher education can be partners.

Choice Neighborhoods

The Choice Neighborhoods initiative was introduced as a \$250 million initiative in the FY 2010 budget request; however, Congress only allocated \$65 million for a Choice Neighborhoods demonstration. For FY 2012, the budget request would again request \$250 million. The Choice Neighborhoods initiative would, "transform distressed neighborhoods and public and assisted projects into functioning, sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods by linking housing improvements with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs." Choice Neighborhoods would engage local governments, nonprofits, and for-profit developers in partnerships to improve surrounding communities. This initiative is a follow-up to the public housing HOPE VI initiative started in 1992.

University Community Fund

In FY 2010, four separate university partnership programs were consolidated into the University Community Fund. In FY 2011, the President requested \$25 million for this initiative, which was the same as the enacted FY 2010 level. However, no funding is set aside for this program for FY 2012.

Catalytic Investment Competition Grants Program

This \$150 million program was originally included in the FY 2011 budget request but was removed from the FY 2012 request.