

Community College National Legislative Summit



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Preparing for the 2023 NLS

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Agenda

- **Federal Update**
- **Key Factors for the 118th Congress**
- **Preparation Timeline**
 - **December**
 - **January**
 - **February**

Federal Update

- **Two big ticket items remaining in Congress' agenda: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Appropriations & National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)**
 - **Congress is poised to pass NDAA this week, which authorizes the Pentagon's spending levels for FY 23**
- **Several small pieces of legislation getting last minute push by Congressional champions & advocates, such as Green Card backlog, Dreamers, Tax Extenders, Child Tax Credit, Apprenticeships, & Short-term/workforce Pell**
 - **While some of these proposals could get floor time by themselves (such as EAGLE Act this week), most would likely have to hitch a ride on an omnibus bill**

Federal Update, Cont'd

- **Government currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) that funds discretionary programs at FY 22 levels**
- **This CR expires at 11:59pm Friday, December 16**
- **Top Appropriators are still negotiating a topline number for FY 23**
- **We expect Congress to pass this week an additional CR to allow for more time to negotiate**
- **Should Congress fail to enact an Omnibus legislation, we could see a year-long CR**
- **In the event of a year-long CR, there will be no new funding, grants, or Congressionally Directed Spending/Community Project Funding**

Key Factors That Will Impact the 118th Congress

- **First Congress Elected with 2020 Census District Maps**
 - Your college or residence may have been drawn into a new district with different Representatives (even if it's not a new Member of Congress)
- **Divided Congress & Divided Government**
 - We will not see large scale spending bills as in 117th Congress
 - House will likely focus on oversight of Biden Administration; Senate will likely focus on confirmation of Biden appointees to the judiciary and agencies
 - With little chance of the President's legislative priorities moving, we will likely see renewed efforts on the regulatory/executive action sides

Key Factors That Will Impact the 118th Congress, Cont'd

- **Differing protocols for entering House vs. Senate Office Buildings**
 - (likely) Speaker McCarthy announced on twitter that he plans to reopen the Capitol,
 - we expect House Office Buildings to follow the same policy
 - The Senate Office Buildings may still require staff escorts to enter by the time NLS takes place
- **Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending Projects are still a possibility for FY 24 under a divided Congress**
 - House Republican caucus voted down a proposed rule to ban the practice
- **The Senate will see new Congressional leadership**
 - HELP – Chair Sanders (I-VT); Ranking Member Cassidy (R-LA)
 - Appropriations – Chair Murray (D-WA); Vice Chair Collins (R-ME)

Preparing for NLS – December

- **Familiarize yourself with your college & your community**
 - **Review the Institution's mission, key programs offered, facts about the student population, the business community served by the college, and the economic impact of college programs**
 - **If not already available, work with your college to create a one-page summary/graphic with some of this key data to share at your meetings**
 - **What are the needs of the community, how is your community changing, and how is the college responding to these changes?**
 - **What federal programs are helping your institution & your community? How are they helping the constituents of the Members of Congress (MOC)?**
 - **Which Members of Congress represent your college? Which represent the areas where your students live?**

Preparing for NLS – January

- **Familiarize yourself with the key committees relevant to community colleges & their students, are the members you are meeting with in any of them?**
 - **House Education & Labor (Ed & Labor)**
 - **Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions (HELP)**
 - **Appropriations (Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, & Related Agencies Subcommittee – LHHS)**
 - **Judiciary**
 - **Agriculture**
 - **Budget**
 - **Senate Finance/House Ways & Means**
- **If your elected officials are not in any of these committees, which committees do they serve in? How are the issues in their jurisdiction related to your institution or your students?**

Preparing for NLS – January

- **Request meetings with your federal legislators**
 - **Note: in some cases your state association may coordinate and send requests for Hill meetings, be sure to check in with them to avoid duplicate requests**
- **Prepare for the meetings by completing the following steps:**
 - **Fill out the [Federal Funds Worksheet](#)**
 - **Research your MOC's background: do they have any ties to community colleges? Have they attended any events at your college? Have you met with them or their staff before? What was discussed? What are their top priorities and how can the work at the college relate to them?**
 - **Your "hill team" should coordinate and decide which top 2-3 issues and top asks will be for your elected officials.**

Preparing for NLS – February

- **Plan your meeting Agenda**

- **Make sure your group is on the same page when it comes to messaging**
- **Assign a “lead” to help kick off the meeting and ensure you stay on topic**
- **If you brought students with you, be sure to spotlight them and have them share their personal impact story**

- **Post Meeting**

- **Fill out ACCT’s [Congressional Contact Form](#)**
- **Send a thank you e-mail; include any electronic materials you brought with you and provide any additional information relevant to the topics discussed**
- **Follow up regularly to strengthen the relationship**

Thank You! – See You in February 2023

- **Reminders:**
 - **Register for the NLS [here](#). Early Bird deadline is tomorrow, Wednesday December 14, 2022**
 - **Hotel Registration Deadline: January 18, 2023 (must be registered for NLS to be able to reserve a room)**
 - **Additional resources to prepare for NLS can be found [here](#).**
 - **Next NLS webinar: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 @ 3pm ET.**
 - **Unveiling of the 2023 Legislative Priorities (Green Sheet)**
- **Questions? please contact us at publicpolicy@acct.org**