



# Thurgood Marshall College Fund Government Affairs Division FY 2016 Funding Priorities

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### 1890 Education and Facility Programs

TMCF supports the FY16 budget for the 1890 Education and Facility Programs that strengthens research, extension and teaching in the food and agricultural sciences by building the institutional capacities of the 1890 Institutions, including Tuskegee University.

#### ↪ 1890 Institutions Education Grant

Proposes: \$21 million

#### ↪ 1890 Institutions Facility Improvements

Proposes: \$22 million

#### ↪ 1890 Extension Programs

Proposes: \$49.4 million

#### ↪ Evans-Allen Research Funding

Proposes: \$53 million

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Programs

Proposes: \$35.9 million, FY14 level funding or an increase to \$40 million

TMCF urges Congress to restore the FY14 level funding to this program to increase minority participation in STEM education. The FY14 enacted funding for the HBCU/MI program was \$35.9 million. TMCF worked successfully with authorizers and DoD appropriators to protect level funding at \$34.4 million in the FY15 budget in response to a proposed \$10 million cut by the Administration. Simultaneously, TMCF fought to reject the Administration's Omnibus FY14 reprogramming proposed request to reduce funding to the HBCU/MI account by \$5 million. The FY15 enacted funding level is \$34.4 million. Unfortunately, the Administration proposes a \$8 million cut to the HBCU/MI programs, from \$34.4 million in FY15 to \$26 million for FY16.

The HBCU/MI program provides access to scientific and technical information products and services to faculty, staff and students of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, American Indian Tribal Colleges and Universities, Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions, and other minority serving institutions.

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## PROPOSED REPORT LANGUAGE FOR DOD

TMCF believes that a diverse workforce in Science and Technology is a matter of national security. We urge report language for accounts, particularly the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program, that expands research opportunities for minority scholars who will advance the DoD science and technology goals and ensure an adequate and diverse S&T/STEM workforce pipeline to support America's STEM talent needs. Additionally, we request the inclusion of language that supports and expands Professional Development, Research Training and Technical Assistance Programs and Activities throughout the Department of Defense. Furthermore, we want the language to provide opportunities for non-profit organizations (NPO) with a proven track record of enhancing minority workforce development, education and training to strengthen Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions to participate in these programs. Finally, we want the language to advance initiatives to leverage federal scholarship support with the scholarship resources of key NPOs that focus exclusively on minority STEM/S&T Workforce and Research goals.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Tile III B Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities

TMCF recommends protecting existing discretionary funding for FY16 Title III Part B to help HBCUs support undergraduate programs and activities.

Additionally, TMCF requests Congress restore mandatory funding for the Master's Degree Programs at HBCUs and PBIs (Predominately Black Institutions) and encourage Congress to preserve mandatory funding for Title III Programs for HBCUs and PBIs.

#### 🔴 **Title IIIB, Section 323 – HBCU Undergraduate**

Proposes: \$227 million – Discretionary (FY15 level funding or \$267 million, restoration to the FY 10 funding levels pre-sequestration and other cuts)

Proposes: \$85 million – Mandatory

#### 🔴 **Title IIIB, Section 326 – HBCU Graduate Institutions**

Proposes: \$61 million (FY15 level funding)

#### 🔴 **Title IIIA, Section 318 – Strengthening Predominately Black Institutions**

Proposes: \$9.2 million – Discretionary (FY15 level funding) or \$11 million, restoration to FY 10 funding levels.

Proposes: \$15 million – Mandatory

#### 🔴 **Master's Degree Programs at HBCUs**

Proposes: \$10.7 million (FY14 level funding)

Unfortunately, this program was not funded under the FY 15 budget

Funding levels for the Title III programs are critical to enhance and sustain the quality of HBCUs, and to meet the national challenges associated with global competitiveness, job creation and changing demographics.

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## **HBCU Capital Financing Program**

Proposes: \$25 million (guarantees an estimated \$286 million in new loans)

The HBCU Capital Financing Program supports the construction, reconstruction, and renovation of academic facilities at institutions of higher education.

## **Pell**

TMCF supports an increase in Pell Grants to \$5,960 maximum award and urges Congress to reinstate summer Pell Grants. These need-based grants provide critical funding to low-income students persisting toward degree completion.

Proposes: \$5,960 maximum

The 2016 discretionary request of \$22.5 billion for Pell Grants would continue to make college more affordable for 8.4 million students. A scheduled increase in current law would increase the maximum Pell award from \$5,775 in 2015-2016 award year, while fully funding the program through award year 2017-2018.

## **Federal Work Study**

The Federal Work Study program provides assistance to undergraduate and graduate students working part-time to assist with the cost of their education. Participating institutions pay up to 75 percent of the wages.

Proposes: \$989.7 million (level funding from FY15)

## **TRIO**

Proposes: \$859 million

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Minorities in Energy Initiative (MIE)**

Proposes: \$2 million

TMCF supports funding the Administration's Minorities in Energy Initiative (MIE) and urges Congress to allocate resources to support the Department of Energy's activities that increase minority participation in STEM. The Administration's FY 16 budget proposal includes \$1million to support MIE activities.

In 2013, the Department of Energy launched the MIE to increase engagement of minority and tribal communities in the broader energy sector through enhanced public awareness of energy-related careers and the promotion of STEM education and workforce development, Energy Economic Development and Climate Change.

Additionally, TMCF requests Congress include report or bill language that encourages the Department to partner with HBCUs and non-profit organizations (NPOs) that have a strong track record of enhancing minority STEM workforce pipeline development. The FY14 and FY15 budgets did not fund this critical initiative.

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## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

### Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)

#### HBCU Historic Preservation Fund

Proposes: \$15 million

Please note the HBCU Historic Preservation Fund account has not received funding under the regular appropriations process in several years. It was last funded in 2009 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) at the level of \$15 million. These funds were competitively awarded to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) for preservation of historically significant structures with critical rehabilitation needs.

TMCF would like Congress to preserve the original HBCU designated Historic Preservation Fund account. The administration's FY16 budget includes \$90 million for the Historic Preservation Fund. Under this fund, \$50 million is being proposed for a Civil Rights initiative to preserve historic projects nationwide that are connected to Civil Rights and the African American experience. Unfortunately, the HBCU Historic Preservation Fund is grouped under the same account at a mere \$2.5 million.

In the event that all funding is grouped together, TMCF strongly urges Congress to allocate a minimum of \$15 million as opposed to \$2.5 million for HBCUs under this newly proposed focus on restoring sites connected to the Civil Rights era and the African American experience. The Historic Preservation Fund contributes to the National Park Service's goals of protecting significant cultural resources.

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS and SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)

#### Minority University Research and Education Program

Proposes: \$35 million

## NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)

#### Education Partnerships Program/Minority Serving Institutions

Proposes: \$16 million

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

#### Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP)

Proposes: \$9 million

#### Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST)

Proposes: \$25 million

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

Proposes: \$35 million

#### Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP)

Proposes: \$50 million

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