



President Trump's Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Undercuts America's Students, Workers, and Families

On February 10, 2020, the Trump administration released its Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget request. Despite a bipartisan budget deal—signed by President Trump himself—that would enable the administration to *strengthen* investments in America's students, workers, and families, the president proposed slashing education, health care, and programs that support students, workers, and their families.

EDUCATION

President Trump's FY2021 proposed budget eliminates bedrock K-12 education programs that fund America's public schools and replaces them with a single block grant, **cutting \$4.8 billion from public education** and sinking billions of dollars in private school voucher schemes. Specifically, President Trump's budget:

- **Consolidates 29 K-12 education programs** into a block grant and cuts \$4.8 billion from their funding. Eliminated programs include:
 - ESEA Title I -A, which supports low-income students;
 - ESEA Title II-A, which supports teacher professional development;
 - ESEA Title IV-A, which funds mental health services, STEM and Arts education, and education technology;
 - ESEA Title IV-B, which supports afterschool and summer programs;
 - ESEA Title IV-C, the Charter Schools Program, and ESEA Title IV-D, the Magnet Schools Program;
 - ESEA Title V-B, Rural Education Achievement Program; and
 - The Full Service Community Schools and Promise Neighborhood programs, which are proven models for improving student learning and community engagement.
- Directs a total of **\$45 billion dollars toward private school voucher schemes** while cutting K-12 education by \$4.8 billion per year.
- Makes **college more expensive and less accessible** for the next generation of America's students by:
 - Cutting \$191 billion in student loan assistance through the **elimination of Public Service Loan Forgiveness** and subsidized loans, capping of graduate student loan borrowing, and other changes;
 - Eliminating GEAR UP, cutting all \$365 million from a program that supports low-income students;
 - Cutting \$79.7 million in funding from the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Program; and
 - Eliminating the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) program, which helps college students with the greatest need for financial aid attend school.
 - Cutting funding for **Federal Work Study** by more than half.
- Proposes the **elimination of Supported Employment state grants** (under Special Education and Disability Employment), which were funded at \$22.5 million in FY20.

- Proposes the **elimination of funding for Regional Educational Laboratories** (under Research and Evaluation), which were funded at \$56 million in FY20.
- Under the guise of block granting, the Trump budget proposes the **elimination of funding for Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems** (under Research and Evaluation), which were funded at \$33 million in FY20.

HEALTH CARE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In order to pay for the massive tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations, President Trump’s budget proposal cuts and eliminates critical public assistance programs. And the administration continues to wage war on Americans' health care by proposing to gut Medicaid and Medicare. The budget:

- **Cuts \$1.1 trillion from Medicaid** and other health care programs over 10 years, including \$152.4 billion in cuts from imposing harmful, ineffective work requirements that will rob jobless workers of health coverage; and
- **Cuts a net \$0.5 trillion from Medicare** over ten years.
- Makes deep cuts to programs that support healthy families and communities, including:
 - **More than \$15 billion in cuts over 10 years** in cuts to the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program;
 - A complete elimination of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)—**which provided \$3.7 billion in 2020 for families to heat their homes**;
 - Completely eliminating the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), which was funded at \$740 million in FY 2020 and **provides vital funding to programs such as Meals on Wheels**;
 - **More than \$1.7 billion in cuts to child nutrition programs**; and
 - Cuts to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

LABOR

Trump’s budget shows how deeply he continues to mislead American workers. Instead of keeping his promises to boost workers’ wages or ensure retirement security, the budget proposes **cutting \$1.3 billion, or nearly 11 percent, from the Department of Labor’s resources**. The budget also:

- **Makes a 42 percent cut to the Job Corps training program**, doubling down on the failed attempts to slash the Job Corps in FY20, and proposes a 50 percent cut in Job Corps operations in order to close Job Corps centers;
- **Makes a 41 percent cut to National Dislocated Worker Grants**, which are awarded to help areas recover from large, unexpected layoffs;
- Continues to advocate for untested “industry-recognized apprenticeship programs,” despite **misusing over \$1.1 million of taxpayer dollars on a program that does not yet exist**, rather than supporting Congressionally supported Registered Apprenticeships.
- In the face of the looming collapse of the multiemployer pension system, the budget **fails to provide a comprehensive solution that would fully protect the pensions of the more than 1 million Americans** who remain at risk of losing everything for which they worked and sacrificed. Jobs are in jeopardy; and failure to act could **cost taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars over 30 years**.

- That is why the House took strong, bipartisan action last year and passed the **Butch Lewis Act (H.R. 397)**. Unlike the budget, this responsible bill addresses the immediate multiemployer pension crisis, protects retirees' hard-earned pensions, and saves the taxpayers' money in the long term compared with doing nothing.
- This budget proposal **fails to ensure that workers' right to organize unions and collectively bargain** will be enforced. The Trump budget makes a \$27.3 million cut to the National Labor Relations Board, which includes:
 - A \$14 million cut for case-handling of unfair labor practices and union elections; and
 - A \$12 million cut for mission support, including administrative and management functions
- The budget proposal fails to invest in protecting workers, wage, safety and retirements. The Trump budget:
 - Cuts OSHA funding, which currently only has sufficient resources **to inspect each workplace in its jurisdiction once every 165 years**.
 - Eliminates the Susan Harwood Training Grant Program which provides funding to non-profit organizations to train hard-to-reach workers including day laborers, non-English speaking workers and small business employees.
 - The Trump budget also slashes funding for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health by 45%—which provides scientific research on workplace safety and health relied upon by businesses, labor, and government.