


Follow the Money: A Guide to Appropriations



ASAM ADDICTION MEDICINE
ACTION NETWORK


Types of Federal Funding

MANDATORY: Spending that is governed by formulas or set forth by law rather than by appropriations action



- Ex: Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, school lunches
- CMS is the largest funder of treatment services in the National Drug Control Budget (\$10.1 billion on addiction treatment in FY22)

DISCRETIONARY: Spending that is made available annually through the appropriations process



- Ex: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAMHSA), Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (HRSA), State Opioid Response Grants (SAMHSA)

HHS Annual Discretionary Appropriations to Address Addiction

Agency	FY21 (in millions)
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	\$4,049.1
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$1,589.7
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	\$514.9
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	\$490.8
Administration for Children and Families (ACF)	\$80.0
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	\$75.0

WHY FOCUS ON HRSA?

- Many groups will advocate for the large programs
- If we don't advocate for addiction medicine workforce programs, no one else will

What happens after you make your ask?

1. Staffers in each member office sift through dozens of requests and decide which ones to support
2. Members submit priorities to the appropriations request database—we want to be on this list!
3. Labor-HHS Subcommittee writes the appropriations bill



The American Rescue Plan of 2021

One-time funding response to COVID-19

Substance Abuse Block Grant	\$1.5 B
Behavioral health workforce education and training	\$100 M
MH/SUD training for certain workers	\$80 M
Community-based funding for SUD services	\$30 M

WHICH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS MATTER?

- All of them!
- Some members are more equal than others, including subcommittee members and leadership—but numbers matter!
- Addiction programs have bipartisan support