



FY23 Appropriations Ask

[Knowledge Alliance](#), a non-partisan, non-profit, is comprised of leading education organizations committed since 1971 to the greater use of high-quality and relevant data, research, evaluation, and innovation in education policy and practice at all levels. We believe the effective use of rigorous research and evidence are integral to innovating and improving learning and outcomes for every student. Collectively, we promote the use of rigorous research to figure out “what works,” and why, to improve student outcomes and then share those findings with policymakers, practitioners, and the general public.

Research is essential to discovering and understanding which interventions and policies work best for students and educators and ensuring that evidence-based interventions and policies are adopted and used in the best possible ways. This is especially true now, as our nation’s education system, educators, and students seek to recover from the pandemic. We must continue to confront current challenges with research, evidence-based interventions, and technical assistance to facilitate change and solve the biggest education problems facing our country today.

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Congress must continue to make a significant investment in the current federal education research and development (R&D) infrastructure, which includes the Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) and the Research Development and Dissemination (RD&D) programs at IES, as well as the Comprehensive Centers (CCs) and the Education Innovation and Research (EIR) programs at the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

Knowledge Alliance thanks Congress for the increased investment in all the above programs with the passage of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 omnibus bill. We appreciate Congress’ acknowledgment of the importance of education research in ensuring that evidence-based strategies and interventions are continuously developed to support student learning. We look forward to building on the increases from FY 2022 in FY 2023.

We urge Congress to provide at least \$815.0 million for IES and \$267.9 for the RD&D program in FY 2023, an approximately 10 percent and 30 percent increase over FY 2022 levels respectively. Additionally, we urge Congress to provide at least \$65.0 for RELs and \$60.0 for CCs in FY 2023, an approximately 10 percent increase over FY 2022 levels. Finally, Congress should at a minimum match the President’s FY 2023 budget request and provide the EIR program with \$514.0 million.

There is huge demand and need for the federal education research and technical assistance (TA) infrastructure, which includes RELs and CCs, to provide critical and tailored support to states and districts to develop and implement initiatives to support post-pandemic teaching and learning. A greater investment in the Federal education research and TA infrastructure will allow for RELs and CCs to provide continued personalized and responsive support to meet the unique needs of states and districts, and support capacity building for continuous improvement and systems level change. A greater investment in EIR will help build evidence around innovations at the state and district levels.



For more information on Knowledge Alliance’s policy priorities, contact Rachel Dinkes at rdinkes@knowledgeall.net

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We urge Congress to:

- **Provide at least \$815.0 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES):** This funding level, which represents slightly more than a 10 percent increase over FY22, reflects the continued need to support and invest in the premier, independent source for research, evaluation, and statistics that helps educators, policymakers, and stakeholders improve outcomes for all students. One way IES demonstrated its role in providing critical information during the coronavirus pandemic was when it developed two Pulse surveys to gather key indicators of the global pandemic's impact on families, students and schools. Additional funding will continue to support efforts like these, as well as expand IES efforts in collecting and sharing objective, trusted research and data to be used in education decision-making.
- **Appropriate at least \$267.9 million for the Research Development and Dissemination (RD&D) program at IES:** An investment in RD&D advances our understanding of teaching, learning and education systems to improve the quality of education for all students. With additional resources, the National Center for Education Research's (NCER's) RD&D program, which funds research that is scientifically rigorous and relevant to the needs of education practitioners and policymakers, can continue and expand work in areas of learning loss, teacher quality, cognition and student learning, and college and workforce readiness. An investment in RD&D supports NCER's work to evaluate the efficacy of fully developed programs or practices, the effectiveness of specific interventions taken to scale, and develop and validate assessments.
- **Fund the Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) program at a minimum of \$65.0 million:** RELs conduct applied research, develop, and disseminate research-based products and provide trainings and resources to States, school districts, educators, families, and caregivers. RELs can also form research partnerships focused on problems of practice in the field that provide relevant and responsive research and findings to address local needs. Additional funding is essential to support the ever-growing local and regional needs in response to the impact of the pandemic on academic, social and emotional learning.
- **Provide at least \$60.0 million for the Comprehensive Centers (CCs):** Currently there are 19 Regional Centers that work closely with State Educational Agencies (SEAs) in their regions on implementation of significant improvements and innovations in elementary and secondary education, as well as one national center providing TA to the regional centers and SEAs. Increased funding is critical to allow the Centers to respond to the expanded needs of SEAs as they plan for years of post-pandemic recovery.
- **Provide a minimum of \$514.0 million for the Education Innovation and Research (EIR) program:** Authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), EIR supports the





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development and scale-up of successful educational interventions at the state and local levels. EIR uses a tiered evidence approach that has two important design principles: (1) it provides more funds to programs with higher levels of evidence, and (2) it requires rigorous and independent evaluations so that programs continue to improve and evidence of effectiveness continues to build. Increased funding for EIR would allow an additional scale of effective programs that focus on the recovery needs of districts. Knowledge Alliance supports the \$350 million set aside proposed in the President's FY23 budget to identify and scale the use of evidence-based strategies and practices to address the educator shortage.



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