PAA/APC’s Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Priorities

NIH » Support the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research recommendation of $32 billion. PAA and APC support this request, which is higher than the amount ($30.3 billion) requested by the Administration for NIH in FY 2015. Sustained growth in the NIH budget is imperative for ongoing behavioral, social, and biomedical research at over 3,000 institutions nationwide—research that will save and improve lives and train the next generation of U.S. scientists. Funding is also critical to sustaining NIH-supported longitudinal surveys, databases, and population research centers.

Census Bureau » Support the Administration’s request of $1.2 billion, a $270 million increase over FY 2014. This funding is necessary to keep essential, cost-saving operational preparations on schedule for Census 2020, including completing the decennial census research and testing phase, implementing the ongoing American Community Survey, and disseminating results from the 2012 Economic Census.

NCHS » Support Friends of NCHS request of $175 million, a $35 million increase above the FY 2014 funding level. This funding increase is necessary to support ongoing implementation of electronic death records nationwide, to sustain the National Health Interview Survey sample size, and to pursue essential data collection and other survey innovations.

NSF » Support the Coalition for National Science Funding Request for $7.5 billion, $328 million increase above the FY 2014 funding level and higher than the amount ($300 million) requested by the Administration for NSF in FY 2015. NSF is the only federal research agency dedicated to advancing all fields of fundamental science.

BLS » Support the Administration’s request of $610 million, an increase of $18 million above the FY 2014 funding level. This funding is necessary to sustain existing surveys, such as the National Longitudinal Surveys program and American Time Use Survey, and to conduct a new, mandated supplement to the Current Population Survey.

BEA » Support the administration’s request for $107 million, an increase of approximately $12 million above the FY 2014 funding level. The BEA seeks increased funds in part to initiate “Big Data for Small Business,” a new data program that will allow a new Small Business GDP measure.

USAID » Support adequate funding for bilateral and multilateral family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) account. With this level of funding, USAID will be able to provide ongoing support to its research evaluation activities, including the Demographic and Health Surveys program.

PAA and APC urge Congress to build upon progress made in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 by striving for balanced, long-term deficit reduction that does not disproportionately and adversely affect funding for non-defense discretionary programs and to move beyond budget austerity and invest in our nation’s opportunity deficit.