



Michael V. Drake, MD
President

November 22, 2022

Office of the President
1111 Franklin St.
Oakland, CA 94607

CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

universityofcalifornia.edu

Dear Members of Congress:

On behalf of the University of California (UC)—including our 294,000 students, 328,000 faculty and staff, and 2 million alumni—thank you for your continued support for the agencies and programs that help ensure the University is an economic and innovation engine for California and the nation. As Congress finalizes appropriations bills for federal fiscal year (FY) 2023, we ask for your full support for the federal programs and initiatives included in the attached chart that enable the University to successfully carry out its education, research, health care and public service missions.

The University also urges you to include a bipartisan solution in support of Dreamers and undocumented students, faculty, and staff that would provide them much needed relief and a pathway to citizenship. These young individuals are students, work in our communities as teachers and medical professionals, serve in the military, and continue to contribute to our state and nation in the face of constant uncertainty around their immigration status. Following recent legal action, it is critically important that Congress take legislative action to provide permanent relief for these individuals.

As you complete work on the bills that will fund the remainder of FY 2023, I would like to call your attention to a few areas of specific importance:

- **Student Support:** The University of California urges Congress to double the Pell Grant so that the maximum award reaches \$13,000 and is indexed to inflation. By increasing the maximum Pell Grant, students will be less inclined to take out loans and more likely to graduate without a mountain of debt. Additionally, we support expansion of access to the Pell Grant to eligible Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students.
- **Research and Innovation:** Building upon the strong bipartisan congressional support for the passage of the CHIPS and Science Act, we encourage Congress to provide robust and sustained appropriations for research, including diversity in STEM, technology transfer initiatives and critical research infrastructure.
- **Health Care Delivery:** As a national leader in providing quality health care services, the University urges Congress to halt scheduled cuts to Medicare that would jeopardize patient access to hospitals and physicians, and to ensure that the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital program accounts for hospital losses from our vulnerable Medicare-Medicaid dual-eligible patients. The University also requests that you continue your strong track record of investing in the National Institutes of Health’s base budget while providing additional funding for exciting new opportunities at ARPA-H.

CAMPUSES

- Berkeley
- Davis
- Irvine
- UCLA
- Merced
- Riverside
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Cruz

MEDICAL CENTERS

- Davis
- Irvine
- UCLA
- San Diego
- San Francisco

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

- Lawrence Berkeley
- Lawrence Livermore
- Los Alamos

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Thank you for your continued support of the University of California. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or UC Associate Vice President for Federal Governmental Relations Chris Harrington. He can be reached at (202) 997-3150 or by email at Chris.Harrington@ucdc.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael V. Drake MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and a small "MD" at the end.

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Enclosure

cc: Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer
Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
UC Chancellors
UC Senior Vice President for External Relations and Communications
Brent Colburn
UC Associate Vice President for Federal Governmental Relations
Chris Harrington