Funding Recommendations for Undergraduate Mathematics Education
National Science Foundation
FY 2011 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill

The MAA supports programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF) within the Directorates for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS) and the Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS); and the Education and Human Resources (EHR) and the Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE). MPS' programs advance the mathematical sciences through support of algebra, analysis, applied mathematics, combinatorics, computational mathematics, foundations, geometry, mathematical biology, number theory, probability, statistics, and topology. EHR's programs cut across disciplines, which have a direct impact on undergraduate STEM and mathematics education and recruiting and retaining students with diverse backgrounds and women at the undergraduate level. DUE programs provide advanced learning and research that is necessary to equip the next generation of innovation and advance the STEM enterprise. The President's FY 2011 request for NSF is consistent with efforts to double the federal investment in basic research agencies to advance science and innovation, or reach $10.9 billion by 2017. The MAA urges Congress to fully fund the President's request of $7.424 billion for the NSF in the FY 2011 budget, or an increase of $551.89 million (+8%) over the FY 2010 enacted level ($6.872 billion).

Division of Mathematical Sciences

The Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) provides the majority of all federal support for basic research in applied and computational mathematics to advance science and engineering. DMS provides critical support for the mathematical sciences research institutes; postdoctoral, graduate and undergraduate training; and infrastructure support for workshops and conferences to disseminate and train the nation's scientific and engineering workforce. The MAA urges Congress to fully fund the proposed increase for OMS to $253.5 million in the FY 2011 budget, or an increase of $12.08 million (+5%) over the FY 2010 enacted level ($241.38 million).

Division of Undergraduate Education

The Division of Undergraduate Education is positioned to have the greatest impact on preparing our nation's undergraduate students to enter into the STEM workforce. The core activities seek to improve the undergraduate STEM curriculum and teaching practice to develop a well-trained scientific and technical workforce. The MAA strongly supports its mission to build the STEM pipeline and strengthen the science and engineering workforce by addressing the gateway between K-12 education and a successful career in the STEM fields through effective programming at the undergraduate level. To continue important activities related to STEM workforce development and teacher education, the MAA urges Congress to provide $298.3 million (+ 2.0%) for programs at DUE in the FY 2011 budget. The recommendation is consistent with the President’s request to increase the EHR baseline budget by 2.2% in FY 2011.