



# The University of North Carolina

## Federal Policy & Programmatic Funding Priorities

### Fiscal Year 2008

The Board of Governors is grateful to the North Carolina Congressional Delegation for its consistent support for the over 200,000 students that attend the 17 campus University of North Carolina. This document, developed in collaboration with the Chancellors and their staff, outlines the University's collective Federal policy and funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2008.

	Priority	Actionable Items
1	<b>Increase Funding for Student Financial Aid, Campus-Based Aid &amp; Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs</b>	<b>Department of Education: Student Financial Aid</b> Increase overall funding pool for the Pell Grant program Increase Pell Grant Maximum Award per Student <b>Department of Education: Campus-Based Aid</b> Federal Perkins Loans Federal Work-Study Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (SEOG) TRIO & GEAR UP Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) Javits Fellowships Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) <b>Department of Education: International Education and Foreign Language Studies Programs</b> Domestic, Overseas, and Institute for International Public Policy <b>Department of State: Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs</b> The Fulbright Program Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Program
2	<b>Higher Education Act Reauthorization</b>  Status: Under Extension.  GA Staff and the Federal Relations Council will work with the North Carolina Congressional Delegation to develop provisions favorable to the University of North Carolina in the HEA reauthorization.	<b>Provisions in the HEA should:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially increase the amount of financial assistance available for students, particularly the Pell Grant;</li> <li>• Expand and hold-harmless campus-based student aid programs and student support/college access programs;</li> <li>• Provide greater flexibility for distance education students to qualify for federal grants and loans, while also protecting against fraud and abuse;</li> <li>• Ensure that students, parents, policymakers and the public receive information about higher education that is useful and appropriate;</li> <li>• Streamline the financial aid application process for students and institutions of higher education while ensuring equitable distribution of funds;</li> <li>• Support Title II which encourages university-school partnerships that focus on teacher and school leader professional development, new teacher support, and teacher retention;</li> <li>• Strengthen Title III and other institutional capacity building programs and resist expansion of the definition of eligible institutions without a commensurate increase in available funding;</li> <li>• Support state pilot programs that utilize longitudinal data systems linking elementary, secondary and higher education data while also preserving student privacy and the confidentiality of individually identifiable student data.</li> <li>• Support reauthorization of Title VI: International Education Programs.</li> </ul>

3	<p><b>Increase Federal support for university-based research</b></p> <p><b>Critical Agencies for UNC:</b>  National Institutes of Health (NIH)  National Science Foundation (NSF)  Department of Education (ED)  Department of Defense (DoD)  Nat'l Astronomical and Science Administration (NASA): <i>Space Grant</i>  Nat'l Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): <i>Sea Grant</i>  Department of Energy Office of Science (DoE)  Department of Agriculture (AG)  Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</p>	<p><b>American Competitiveness Initiative:</b> Support President Bush's call to action for more aggressive investment by businesses in research and development, double the Federal support for vital basic research over ten years, and improve math and science education for America's students.</p> <p><b>Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) at NOAA:</b> Work collaboratively to fund the Southeast United States Regional Association in IOOS through the President's annual budget request for NOAA in addition to the annual appropriations process.</p> <p><b>National Undersea Research Program (NURP):</b> Support the continued funding of the NURP program at NOAA, which enables UNCW to operate the southeast regional center, Aquarius.</p> <p><b>Aquaculture Research and Development:</b> Support increased funding for the NOAA aquaculture program, thereby enabling research dedicated to stock enhancement. Further, support Congress' call to action for the NOAA National Sea Grant Program to expand and enhance its seafood technology capabilities.</p> <p><b>Alternative Energy Research and Development:</b> Increase university-based research for alternative energy research and development including bio based fuels at DoE and at the USDA.</p> <p><b>National Children's Study:</b> Support the continued funding of the National Children's Study at the NIH that sustains the UNC-CH led Vanguard Center in Duplin County.</p> <p><b>NSF Funded Research at Minority Serving Institutions:</b> Support increased funding for NSF programs which seek to build productive capacity and output within institutions with significant enrollments of minority populations underrepresented within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM): Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST), and Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP).</p> <p><b>Minority Health Research: (NCCU, NCA&amp;T, WSSU, FSU, ECSU, UNC-CH, UNCG)</b> Support the continued funding of research and training programs at the NIH to improve the public health of minority populations, particularly through the BBRI program at NCCU, the Center for Health Disparities in Underserved Populations at NCA&amp;T, the Center in Innovation in Health Disparities at WSSU, the Research Center for Health Disparities at FSU, the Minority International Research Training Program at ECSU, and the TRIAD Project for Health Disparities at UNCG.</p> <p><b>UNC Photonics Consortium Initiative:</b> Support optics and photonics research by DOD and NSF that will strengthen the ongoing effort to commercialize optics and photonics technologies in North Carolina.</p> <p><b>Stem Cell Legislation:</b> Support legislation to expand federal funding for stem cell research and to establish additional stem cell lines.</p> <p><b>Increase Funding for Fundamental Space Biology and Physical Sciences for Human Support Research &amp; Technology:</b> Work with OMB and Congress to increase funding for Fundamental Space Biology and Physical Sciences within the NASA budget.</p>
4	<p><b>Improve access, quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for North Carolinians</b></p>	<p><b>Medicare/Medicaid Physician Payments:</b> Support fair and adequate payment rates for physicians, and of efforts to tie reimbursement rates to reasonable measures of quality over the entire health care sector.</p> <p><b>Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG) Refinements:</b> Work to ensure that the severity case mix reimbursement is adequate for teaching hospitals as the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services moves from a charge-based methodology to a cost-based methodology.</p> <p><b>Medicare and Medicaid Reform:</b> Work to protect the long-term solvency of Medicare and Medicaid through ongoing legislative reform efforts.</p> <p><b>State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization:</b> Support the reauthorization and expansion of the SCHIP program. 123,000 North Carolina children are served by this program annually.</p> <p><b>Tax-Exempt Status for Hospitals:</b> Work with Congress and the Hospital community to determine common definitions and reforms in such areas as community benefit, charitable care, charges to the uninsured and debt collection.</p>

		<p><b>AHEC &amp; Allied Health Funding, Title VII:</b> Restore health professions funding under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act to the FY 2005 level of approximately \$300 million. These programs provide vital support for the recruitment, education and training of a unique group of physicians and other health professionals, including minority candidates and those who provide care in rural and other underserved areas.</p> <p><b>Nursing Shortage, Title VIII:</b> Increase funding for Nursing Workforce Development programs under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act, and especially for the programs under Section 811, Advanced Education Nursing, and under Section 846A, the Nurse Faculty Loan Program.</p> <p><b>Pharmacist Recruitment:</b> Support legislation to recruit and retain pharmacists in underserved areas (e.g., loan repayment and scholarship programs) and to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide federal funds to pharmacy schools for technology upgrades and building expansions, renovations, and repairs.</p> <p><b>Dentistry Recruitment:</b> Support legislation to increase dental Medicaid reimbursements and to recruit and to retain dentists in underserved areas (e.g., loan repayment programs).</p>
5	<p><b>Economic development outreach grant awards &amp; centers</b></p> <p><b>Critical Programs for UNC:</b> DoC: Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) USDA: Cooperative Extension USDA: Economic Dev. Admin. USDA: CSREES SBA: SBIR SBA: SBTTC SBA: SBTDC</p>	<p><b>National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility:</b> Support the North Carolina collaborative effort to host a Department of Homeland Security/USDA/DHHS facility for threat characterization, forensics, and detection to defend both animal and public health.</p> <p><b>South East Crescent Authority:</b> Legislation to create a federal regional authority to make grants for projects in the southeast crescent region. The South East Crescent Authority region shall include all parts of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida that are not eligible for assistance from the Appalachian Regional Commission or the Delta Regional Authority.</p>
6	<p><b>Public Service and Engagement</b></p> <p><b>Critical Agencies for UNC:</b> Department of Defense (DoD) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Department of Agriculture (USDA) Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) ED: Ready to Learn Television National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)</p>	<p><b>Citizen-Soldier Support Program:</b> Support inclusion of a specific line item and \$5 million annually for North Carolina's Citizen-Soldier Support Program in the President's annual budget request for the Department of Defense.</p> <p><b>Environmental Finance Center:</b> Restore supporting language in the annual EPA Appropriations report, and include \$5 million in funding for the Environmental Finance Center Network program at the Environmental Protection Agency.</p> <p><b>UNC Institution Access to National Forests:</b> Advocate for USDA Forest Service Region 8, Department of the Interior: National Park Service agency rule change that allows altered indemnification when obtaining special use permits by UNC campuses to legally access federal lands for educational purposes.</p>
7	<p><b>Farm Bill Reauthorization</b></p> <p>Status: Due for Authorization Spring 2007</p>	<p><b>Protect and Preserve Cooperative Extension Program/Rural Development:</b> North Carolina has one of the strongest cooperative extension and rural development networks in the nation as a result of its rural economic roots and diverse agriculture and forestry production.</p> <p><b>Preserve and enhance formula funds (Hatch, Smith-Lever and McIntire-Stennis):</b> North Carolina is the largest recipient of Hatch formula funding for USDA cooperative research and extension and receives the second-largest Smith-Lever formula allocation. These funds are fully-matched with non-federal funds and complement the state's strong and diverse agriculture research and extension effort throughout the state.</p> <p><b>Support the proposed Create-21 Initiative:</b> Create21 would substantially increase the amount of competitively awarded research funds focused on agriculture, forestry and rural development. 20 percent of North Carolina's population is involved in agricultural and forestry sector of the economy.</p> <p><b>Kannapolis ARS Authorization:</b> Authorize funding for the Kannapolis project in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS).</p>

8	<p><b>Information Technology</b></p> <p><b>Critical Programs for UNC:</b> Commerce: NTIA, Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP)</p>	<p><b>Net Neutrality:</b> Include language in the Telecommunications reauthorization legislation that prohibits anticompetitive discriminatory behavior, permits differential access pricing based on differential performance or quality of service and prohibits the imposition of new surcharges, separate from access charges, for transporting data over networks.</p> <p><b>Copyright Legislation:</b> Oppose any new federal mandates that require specific technologies that restrict the downloading and redistribution of copyrighted material. Work to provide an understanding of methods to restrict access of copyrighted works to authorized faculty and students as required under the TEACH Act.</p> <p><b>Patent Legislation:</b> Support the development of a patent system which provides substantive review of software patent applications consistent with current knowledge of technological developments and the cautious application of intellectual property law to software products so as not to deter innovation in software production.</p> <p><b>Copyright Infringement and the Value of P2P File Sharing:</b> Support the development of innovative peer-2-peer systems in support of research and education. The university supports the requirements of the law and will protect its network resources through measures including policy, education, and network management.</p> <p><b>Municipal Networks:</b> Support the right of municipalities to build and deploy their own networks through regulatory and legislative action.</p>
9	<p><b>More and Better Teachers</b></p> <p><b>Critical Agencies &amp; Programs</b> ED: Office of Innovation and Improvement ED: Institute of Education Sciences ED: Teacher Incentive Fund National Science Foundation</p>	<p><b>No Child Left Behind (NCLB):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support NCLB Title II which encourages university-school partnerships that focus on teacher and school leader professional development, new teacher support, and teacher retention.</li> <li>• Support provisions that recognize and support the vital role played by schools of education in the recruitment, preparation and retention of teachers; develop appropriate measures of the success of those programs, emphasize teaching and teacher quality and strengthen support for recruiting and retaining teachers especially in high need licensure areas (mathematics, science, middle grades, and special education) and high need schools.</li> <li>• Support legislative initiatives to create or expand loan forgiveness and/or tuition reimbursement programs for undergraduate, graduate, and career change programs that are designed to increase the supply of teachers, particularly in mathematics and science.</li> <li>• Expand the Transition to Teaching program with increased funding for campus-based programs.</li> <li>• Support the development and utilization of longitudinal data systems to facilitate data driven decision making that will enable improved articulation, accountability, teacher quality, leadership development, student performance research and decision making.</li> </ul>