Northern Illinois University

Congressionally Directed Spending

Leadership Meeting
April 11, 2023
What is Congressionally Directed Spending*?

- Excerpted from Cornell Law: “... a statutory provision ...at the request of a Senator or ... Member, of the House of Representatives ... authorizing... discretionary budget authority ... for an expenditure.”
- Practically speaking: Federal funding sponsored by a Senator or Representative for projects in their districts.

*Also called Community Funding Proposals.
Open and Transparent

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING PROGRAM

- Each House Member may submit **up to 10** project funding requests.
- **Limited to 1%** of overall discretionary spending.
- All requests must be **posted online**.
- Member must certify **no financial interest** by Member or immediate family.
- For-profit entities not eligible (**only government and nonprofits**).
- Priority given to projects with **evidence of community support**.
- GAO will **audit** sample of enacted requests.
Process

- February-March:
  - Solicitation
  - Internal Development
  - Submission
- Spring-Fall:
  - Legislation debated
  - Appropriation Committees approve requests
- Fall-Winter:
  - Appropriations approved
- Summer-Fall:
  - Agency Submissions
  - Project start date
- Outcome: Received two in FY22, one in FY23, submitted two for FY24.

Represents a great deal of work in a short time by project leads and Strategic Development Team.
FY22: Understanding and Mitigating Weather and Climate Risks to Agriculture

- Sponsor: Representative Kinzinger
- Agency: Natl. Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA)
- Funding: $660k
- Overview:
  - Lead A.Walker, EAE
  - Interdisciplinary: EAE and Comms
  - Determine weather information needs of agricultural community
  - Provide sub-seasonal to seasonal and longer timescale insight into future weather perils
FY22: Northern Illinois Food and Workforce Development

- Sponsor: Senator Durbin
- Agency: Financial Services
- Funding: $500k
- Overview:
  - OERD, RIPS, CLAS
  - Workforce Development
  - Neighborhood Empowerment
  - Community Health and Wellness
FY23: Fabrication and Training Facility for Semiconductor Chips, Advanced Electronics, and Sensory Systems

- Sponsor: Senator Durbin and Representative Underwood
- Agency: Department of Education
- Funding: $1.5m
- Overview:
  - Leads: V. Korampally, M. Moghimi
  - Modernize Microelectronics Research and Development Laboratory (MRDL) by procuring chip-manufacturing equipment and develop related processes.
  - Education, serve local industry, and research
FY24: Expanding the Reach of Simulation Training to Ensure a Health Care Professions Workforce of Size and Skill Ready to Meet the Needs of Northern Illinois Communities

• Submitted to Senator Duckworth
• Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HHS)
• Funding: $2.1M
• Overview:
  – Simulation technology to support the Health Technology Center
  – Virtual training environments
  – Mobile simulation lab
FY24: NIU LEAP: Proven Program to Upskill Teacher Aids into Special Education Teachers in Northwest Illinois

• Submitted to Senator Durbin
• Agency: Fund for the Improvement of Secondary Education (FIPSE, DoEd)
• Funding: $2.2m
• Overview:
  – Fill special education vacancies in NW Illinois
  – Enroll and support teacher aides to earn a two-year bachelor’s degree as special education teacher
By focusing on needs of students and community, great success with Congressionally Directed Spending.

Thanks to Strategic Development Team, have a well-developed and responsive approach.

Two proposals funded in FY22 and one in FY23 for a total of $3.1M.

Two FY24 submissions totaling $4.3M.
History

- FY22 Awarded
  - Understanding and Mitigating Weather and Climate Risks to Agriculture
  - Northern Illinois Food Workforce Development Initiative
- FY23 Awarded
  - Fabrication and Training Facility for Semiconductor Chips, Advanced Electronics, and Sensory Systems
- FY24 Submitted
  - Expanding the Reach of Simulation Training to Ensure a Health Care Professions Workforce of Size and Skill Ready to Meet the Needs of Northern Illinois Communities
  - NIU LEAP: Proven Program to Upskill Teacher Aids into Special Education Teachers in Northwest Illinois