NCLD Applauds President’s Efforts to Invest in Public Education, Urges Increases to Education Research

WASHINGTON – March 29, 2022 – The National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) commends President Biden’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 education budget request which aims to increase federal funding for education by over 15 percent from last year’s enacted budget. Recent years have highlighted the longstanding inequities in our nation’s education system. The President’s proposal shows that this Administration is serious about addressing the needs of students and in particular, students with disabilities.

The President’s FY 2023 education budget request would add $20 billion to Title I under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and roughly $3 billion to support students with disabilities within programs under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In addition, the President’s request includes $200 million for a “Career-Connected High Schools Initiative” that would aim to “increase the integration and alignment of the last two years of high school and the first two years of postsecondary education to improve postsecondary and career outcomes.” However, the President’s proposal does not request increased funding for research to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

“We applaud the Biden-Harris Administration for prioritizing the needs of students with disabilities and their educators by requesting significant increases in federal funding for IDEA programs.” says Lindsay Kubatzky, Director of Policy and Advocacy at NCLD, “But, we also continue to grapple with the persistent underfunding for research that forms an evidence base for teaching and learning. We must continue to provide a sustained investment in ongoing research to better understand the science of learning and develop effective ways to identify learning disabilities, and other complex and confounding factors that influence learning.”

It is essential that Congress pass a budget in line with the President’s request for funding for programs under ESSA and IDEA in order to meet the needs of students with disabilities. NCLD also urges Congress to pass a budget for FY 2023 that provides additional funding for much needed research on interventions that can improve the lives of students with disabilities. We look forward to working with Members of Congress to pass a budget to ensure all students have the resources needed to succeed.

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ABOUT NCLD
The National Center for Learning Disabilities’ mission is to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues—by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools and advocating for equal rights and opportunities.
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