

# News Clips

## Higher Education Makes its Case to be Part of the Economic Stimulus Package

A coalition of 30 higher education associations has called on Congress to make higher education part of the economic stimulus package currently under consideration. The group is proposing a series of federal investments in student aid and campus infrastructure that will not only provide immediate benefit in terms of employment and training, but also work as a long-term investment in the research and innovative infrastructure of institutions to increase economic and research productivity.

Elements of the proposal include:

- Increase in student aid funding to provide immediate financial relief to families struggling to pay tuition during the economic downturn. This request includes an immediate increase in the Pell Grant maximum award by \$700 and retirement of the shortfall the program has amassed, as well as doubling the funding for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) Program.
- Creation of Higher Education Infrastructure Block Grants to support campus projects that provide jobs now and strengthen the academic capacity of colleges and universities. The grants would be available for “shovel ready” projects capable of starting within 180 days.

Source: [www.acenet.edu](http://www.acenet.edu)

## Earnings Related to Higher Education Flatten

According to the ED’s National Center for Education Statistics, median earnings for young adults ages 25–34 who worked full time throughout a full year increased as education level increased for each year between 1995

and 2006. The earnings difference between those with at least a bachelor’s degree and those with less education increased between 1980 and 2006. However, between 2000 and 2006, there was no measurable change in the earnings difference between the two groups. For example, in 1980, young adults with a bachelor’s degree or higher earned \$14,600 more than those who did not earn a high school diploma or its equivalent. In 2000, this difference increased to \$23,400 and was \$23,000 in 2006.

Source: *The Condition of Education 2008 (NCES 2008–031)*  
[www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov)

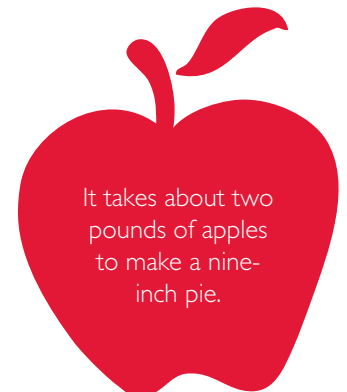
## Pell Grants Top Federal Financial Aid Funding

Program	Appropriated
Pell Grants	\$13,660,711,000
FSEOG	\$770,933,000
Federal Work Study	\$980,354,000
Perkins Loans	\$42,000,000

Data Date: Full Year  
FY2007 Continuing  
Resolution

Source: [www.nasfaa.org](http://www.nasfaa.org)

## Fun Apple Facts





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## **outlook**

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