

President's FY 2010 Budget Released

On May 7, 2009, President Obama unveiled his final fiscal year 2010 budget proposal. The \$3.4 trillion measure calls for \$24 billion for the Department of Justice.

The President's budget includes \$100 million for the Second Chance Act and prisoner reentry grants within the Department of Justice, up from \$25 million in FY2009. The President's budget also eliminates 121 federal programs and proposes that drug and mental health courts programs be combined into a \$59 million drug, mental health, and problem solving courts initiative.

Below is a breakdown of the President's proposal by agency. Funding levels for 2010 will not be finalized until Congress passes appropriations bills for each of the agencies.

Justice Funding Highlights (*in millions*)

Program	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10 Budget Request
Second Chance Act Grants	--	--	\$25	\$100
Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Program	\$5	\$6.5	\$10	--
Byrne Justice Assistance Grants	\$520	\$170	\$532	\$512
Byrne Competitive Grants	--	\$15	\$30	\$30
Byrne Discretionary Grants	\$192	\$178	\$179	--
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	\$10	\$9.4	\$0	\$30
Drug Courts	\$9.9	\$16	\$47	--
SCAAP	\$405	\$410	\$0	--

Department of Labor Funding Highlights (*in millions*)

Program	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10 Budget Request
Second Chance Act/Reintegration of Ex-Offenders	\$49	\$63	\$74	\$112

Health and Human Services Funding Highlights (*in millions*)

Program	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10 Budget Request
Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant	\$1,758.6	\$1,758.7	\$1,778.6	\$1,778.6
CSAT Programs of Regional & National Significance (PRNS)	\$398.9	\$399.8	\$412.3	\$458.0
CSAP Programs of Regional & National Significance (PRNS)	\$192.9	\$194.1	\$201.3	\$198.2

Budget Process

The President's budget proposal is just the first step in a long process to pass a final budget. The House and Senate will pass a concurrent Budget Resolution. The Budget Resolution will include the total amount available for discretionary spending and a nonbinding statement of Congress's spending priorities. The Budget Resolution will not include funding levels for specific programs.

After the Budget Resolution is passed, each appropriations subcommittee will receive a specific allocation. In each chamber, the subcommittee's responsibility is to allocate its funds among the various programs within its jurisdiction. Finally, after all the subcommittee bills are passed, a final appropriations bill will be considered. The federal fiscal year ends on September 30, although for the past several years, Congress has not passed an appropriations bill by that date.