



The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS:

Jared Touchin, Communications Director
(928) 274-4275

Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer
(928) 274-2758

nnopvp.communications@gmail.com

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President Nez voices support for President Biden’s FY 2022 budget request that includes increases for schools, IHS, and other priorities

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez voiced his support for President Biden’s FY2022 Discretionary Funding request released by the Office of Management and Budget on April 9. The overall budget requests \$1.52 trillion for discretionary programs—a 16-percent increase over FY2021 enacted funding levels. The budget has large increases for domestic priorities in the areas of education, health care, and environmental protection including increased funding for many programs and services delivered to Navajo citizens.

“President Biden’s FY2022 budget request demonstrates the Biden-Harris Administration’s commitment to Indian Country and reverses the downward trend we observed during the previous administration. With the ongoing pandemic and impact on our economy, this year’s appropriations process is critically important to ensure Navajo programs and services are adequately funded,” said President Nez. “We will work with Congress to provide information as needed, as we fully support President Biden’s request.”

Below are a few highlights from the proposed budget request:

- \$17.4 billion for the Department of the Interior, a \$2.4 billion or 16% increase;
 - More than \$600 million for Indian Affairs to fund a range of DOI tribal programs, including funding for schools, clean energy development, tribal law enforcement, and court programs.
- \$131.7 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, a \$25 billion or 23.5% increase;
 - Includes \$8.5 billion in discretionary funding and an advance for FY2023 for IHS.
 - Increases focus on the opioid and HIV/AIDS epidemic, combating climate change, research, and other areas.
- \$102.8 billion for the Department of Education, a \$29.8 billion or 41% increase (the largest increase);
 - Includes \$36.5 billion for Title I grants to support students attending high-poverty schools;

- Includes large increases to fund programs to support mental health, students with disabilities; and expands access to college through increased Pell Grant awards for underserved students.
- \$27.8 billion for the Department of Agriculture, a \$3.8 billion or 16% increase;
 - Includes \$65 million for the Rural e-Connectivity Program which provides a down payment for grants and loans to deploy broadband to underserved areas, prioritizing tribal lands.
 - Includes \$25 million for Rural Water and Wastewater Grants to Colonias, Native Americans, and Alaska Native Villages.
- \$68.7 billion for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a \$9 billion or 15% increase;
- \$35.3 billion for the Department of Justice, a \$1.8 billion or 1.6% increase;
- \$25.6 billion for the Department of Transportation, a \$3.2 billion or 14% increase;

“President Biden’s strong budget proposal provides the Navajo Nation great hope for increased funding to help achieve many of our priorities. We look forward to promoting job creation to help rebuild our Navajo economy,” added President Nez.

President Biden’s FY2022 Discretionary Request can be found at:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FY2022-Discretionary-Request.pdf>

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