



Federal Budget and Appropriations Process



JANUARY

- ❖ Office of Management and Budget (OMB) finalizes the new budget request.
- ❖ President speaks to Congress signaling his priorities in the State of the Union.

MARCH

- Appropriations and authorizing committee hearings begin on the budget request.
- Budget Committees draft annual resolution.
- Possible House and Senate floor action taken on their versions of the Congressional Budget Resolution
- Members send priority requests to appropriators on Appropriations subcommittees.

FEBRUARY

- ❖ President's budget request is sent to Congress for its consideration.
- Budget Committees start hearings on a Congressional Budget Resolution.

APRIL

- Congressional Budget Resolution debate continues.
- April 15th – Statutory deadline for completion of Congressional Budget Resolution (frequently missed)

MAY

- Congressional Budget Resolution debate concludes.
- May 15 – Statutory date after which appropriators may begin to consider bills even if a Congressional Budget Resolution is not finalized.
- House/Senate Appropriations issue 302(b) allocations to their respective subcommittees.

JULY

- Senate Appropriations subcommittees/full committee markups are underway.
- Senate floor consideration of appropriations bills begin
- ❖ Federal agencies begin to formulate the next fiscal year's budget proposal.

JUNE

- House Appropriations subcommittee/full committee markups are underway.
- House floor debate on appropriations bills begin.

AUGUST

- House/Senate stand in recess during August (dates vary).
- House/Senate appropriations staff begin conference negotiations.



SEPTEMBER

- Appropriations House/Senate conference negotiations begin.
- House and Senate conferees meet to finalize bills.
- Conference bills are approved by the full House and then the full Senate.
- ❖ President signs bills into law after conference bills are approved by Congress.

NOVEMBER

- ❖ OMB and federal agencies negotiate the next fiscal year's budget request with rounds of feedback and input.

OCTOBER

- October 1st – New federal fiscal year begins.
- Continuing resolutions begin remaining bills.
- Any appropriations negotiations not resolved in September continue.
- ❖ Federal agencies send proposals for next fiscal year's budget to OMB.

DECEMBER

- ❖ OMB and federal agencies resolve differences on next fiscal year's budget request.