



Friday FACTOID

Year-Round Pell Grants

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Bridging the Gap Between Data and Decisions

According to Ashley A. Smith in *Inside Higher Ed*, a bipartisan effort aimed at helping low-income students as well as reinvest in biomedical research has been approved by the U.S. Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations subcommittee. This [\\$161.9 billion funding bill](#) could restore year-round Pell Grant eligibility and significantly increase funds for the National Institutes of Health. It specifically restores eligibility for year-round Pell Grants, an action that is expected to provide an estimated 1 million students with additional funding for the 2017-18 school year.

Currently, full-time students and some part-time students exhaust their full benefit after two semesters, if this bill passes and become law, students will receive funds for an additional term within the academic year. This will provide an incentive for students to take classes year round which will allow students to stay on track for graduation and enable them to enter the workforce sooner.

This law has the possibility of being a tremendous advantage for students at Trenholm State Community College which has approximately 79% receiving some form of financial aid.

Unfortunately, almost a month to the date of the appropriations bill passed by the senate, a [House subcommittee](#) blocked the Senate's effort to provide additional funding for students received federal Pell grants to receive funds throughout the academic year.

It is important that we communicate to our legislators the need for the passage of this bill. It is incumbent upon us as educators to stay informed about legislation that will impact our students. We encourage you to use the hyperlinks included in this *Friday Factoid* to get the full story.

Do you have an idea for a Friday Factoid? Hit reply and send me a message.



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334.420.4243