The current continuing resolution (CR) funding the federal government at fiscal year (FY) 2021 funding levels is scheduled to expire on Dec. 3, but lawmakers have not yet agreed to topline spending levels for FY 2022, leading the appropriations process to stall. Punchbowl News reported on Nov. 29 that House leadership is expected to introduce a CR on Nov. 30 to extend funding through Jan. 21 or 28, 2022, setting up a possible House vote on the new measure on Dec. 1. Before the Thanksgiving recess, House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) told reporters she would be pushing for a short-term CR through mid-December in hopes of Congress coming together to complete an end-of-year omnibus to finalize FY 2022 before the end of the calendar year. Over 300 members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research sent a Nov. 15 letter to Appropriations Committee leaders urging swift passage of $46.4 billion for the NIH base budget for FY 2022 to avoid additional long-term CRs.

Biden Announces Nominees for Top OMB Positions
President Joe Biden nominated Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Acting Director Shalanda Young to take on the role of director on Nov. 24, reported CQ Roll Call. Young has served as acting director since March following her confirmation as deputy director. Young formerly served as Democratic staff director for the House Appropriations Committee. On Nov. 24, Biden also announced the nomination of Nani A. Coloretti to be deputy director of OMB. In a press release, Biden stated that if
confirmed, “OMB would be led by two history-making women of color who are experienced and highly qualified.”

**NIH-Funded Research Reveals COVID Treatment Clues, Will Investigate Long-COVID**

A Nov. 17 NIH media advisory described new research conducted by NIH scientists and researchers at academic medical centers that identified additional details on how SARS-CoV-2 spreads and damages lung tissue, causing severe and long-term COVID-19. Specifically, the study provided additional detail on how SARS-CoV-2 “spreads in the lungs, manipulates the immune system, causes widespread thrombosis that does not resolve, and targets signaling pathways that promote lung failure, fibrosis and impair tissue repair.”

A separate Nov. 15 NIH news release outlined a newly launched research study to investigate long term effects of COVID-19 in children. Part of NIH’s **Researching COVID to Enhance Recovery (RECOVER) Initiative**, the study will enroll up to 1,000 patients ages 3 to 21 to track COVID-19 impacts on physical and mental health for three years.

**NIH Director: Feeling Grateful This Thanksgiving for Biomedical Research**

NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, authored a Nov. 23 blog post sharing his thanks for biomedical research. “High up on the list this Thanksgiving is my extreme gratitude to the scientific community for all the research progress that has been made over the past 23 months to combat the pandemic and return our lives ever closer to normal,” Collins said. He highlighted the role of vaccines in stopping the spread of COVID-19, progress in new treatments for COVID-19 developed through the ACTIV initiative, and new tests developed through the RADx initiative.

**Upcoming Events**

**Virtual Briefing: Braving the Storm: How Climate Change Will Affect How and Where We Live – Dec. 6**

The Population Association of America will be hosting a virtual briefing on climate change on December 6 from 12pm – 1pm. As climate change accelerates, extreme weather events and natural disasters (hurricanes, drought, forest fires, polar vortexes) have proliferated, and long-term effects—including rising sea levels and other coastal hazards—are becoming more apparent. But what about the impact on demographic change? Who is at risk? What trends have already surfaced due to climate change, and what might be coming just over the horizon? Shifting migration patterns and emerging risks for vulnerable subpopulations in local communities are among the myriad issues that demographers are examining in the context of climate change. Join a panel of experts as they share their most recent research and respond to your questions. Please register here for the briefing.

**NEW NIH ACD Meeting – Dec. 9 – 10**

The NIH’s Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) will meet in a virtual public meeting on Dec. 9 from 12 – 6:05pm EST and Dec. 10 from 12 – 5:15pm EST, as posted in the Federal Register. Information is also available on the ACD home page where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when
available. The meetings will be videocast and can be accessed from the NIH Videocasting and Podcasting website.

**Help End the HIV Epidemic: Clinical Fellowship Opportunity – Dec. 13**
The HIV Medicine Association and IDSA Foundation are accepting applications for the 2022–2023 training year. The fellowship program supports up to two physicians who are not trained in infectious diseases to pursue one year of HIV clinical training under the mentorship of an HIVMA member at clinical sites serving medically underserved populations.

The award includes a stipend set according to the PGY-4 salary level at the training institution, funds to cover the fringe benefits provided by the sponsoring organization and an additional $5,000 to support educational opportunities or offset administrative costs. Physicians whose communities are underrepresented in medicine or who are interested in working in the Southeastern United States are strongly encouraged to apply. Program and application requirements are on the HIVMA website, including recommended competencies for HIV clinical fellows. Email HIVMA staff with questions or for more information. Applications are now due by Dec. 13.

**AAMC Research and Action Institute Seeks Inaugural Fellow In Residence – Dec. 15**
The Association of American Medical College (AAMC) Research and Action Institute, which builds upon a long-standing AAMC strength of conducting and disseminating research and analyses and informing policy in U.S. health care, seeks a fellow in residence to join us in 2022. The fellow will help with an in-depth health care workforce study in partnership with colleagues across the association. The fellow in residence will also work with the Research and Action Institute on timely topics in health policy as a part-time contractor, bringing expertise on the physician workforce, health workforce research, and/or labor economics. Please share this opportunity with any researchers who might be interested. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through Dec. 15. Learn more about the opportunity here.

**ASHG ACGT Program – Jan. 7**
The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) is accepting applications for the new Advocacy Certificate for Human Genetics and Genomics Trainees (ACGT) program. ACGT is a competitive, year-long program aimed at providing trainee ASHG members pursuing a research or clinical career with an introduction to the world of science policy and human genetics and genomics advocacy. As part of the program, trainees will have the opportunity to participate in various key activities such as contributing to the development of advocacy materials, attending networking and mentoring workshops, and participating in a Hill Day.

The program is open to ASHG members who are currently completing an undergraduate or graduate degree, postdoctoral fellows, or early career researchers in a human genetics and genomics or related field. More information about the ACGT program and the application instructions can be found here.

**NIH COVID-19 Resources**
NIH COVID-19 resource for applicants and grantees including guidance for various aspects of research and grant application processes, as well as FAQs and COVID-19 funding opportunities.

COVID-19 “Updates History” webpage that details relevant updates for applicants and grantees by date.

FAQ document on COVID-19 flexibilities related to policies and programs affecting the grants process.

Funding opportunities specific to COVID-19 lists active and expired funding opportunities across NIH related to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 research.

NIH COVID-19 Research Website provides a central location for trusted, up-to-date, accurate information about NIH research and our strategic role in COVID-19 research.

HHS COVID-19 awards tracking website including data on awards made by all HHS awarding agencies with supplemental appropriations.

Combat COVID website including information for those who have never had COVID-19, have been infected, have recovered, and for health care providers.

Job Postings

Policy & Advocacy Specialist or Manager, ASHG
The American Society of Human Genetics seeks a Policy & Advocacy Specialist or Manager to manage and support programs and activities of ASHG’s Policy and Advocacy Department. Most of the individual’s time in this position is split between managing the development of programs and resources to support ASHG member advocacy, and supporting implementation of ASHG committee projects and activities in policy, advocacy and professional practice. They also track policy issues and draft Society statements. A Bachelor’s degree and two years of experience in science advocacy and a demonstrated interest in advancing science and health policy is required; an advanced science or public policy-related degree is a strong plus. Title and salary for this position commensurate with experience. Please visit Jobs at ASHG for further details. To apply, please send your resume and cover letter in an email titled “ASHG Policy and Advocacy Manager Role” to Adrienne.orourke@marcumllp.com.

Assistant Vice President of Federal Research and Health Policy, CU
The University of Colorado seeks an Assistant Vice President of Federal Research and Health Policy. The Assistant VP of Federal Research and Health Policy will develop and lead strategy for federal advocacy for CU Anschutz Medical Campus, CU System, and University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) – determine federal priorities; pursue federal agency funding opportunities; maintain effective relationships with Colorado Congressional Delegation and staff, federal executive branch offices, and other health
systems and higher education institutions. Along with specific institution focus, the Assistant VP will also serve as the lead on health policy, hospital, physical, and research issues; including the analysis and tracking of all related federal bills and advancement of budgetary, legislative, and policy priorities. For a full position description, please visit the [CU Careers Page](#).

**Legislative Assistant, AAMC**
The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) is seeking a Legislative Assistant that will advocate on behalf of AAMC priorities and strengthen strategic alliances in collaboration with the Senior Director and other AAMC government relations and policy staff. With direction from the Senior Director, Government Relations & Legislative Advocacy, this role will supervise, track, and analyze activities of Congress primarily related to Medicaid and safety-net hospital and physician policies and other clinically related advocacy initiatives affecting AAMC member teaching hospitals, physicians, and the patients they serve. Learn more about the Association of American Medical Colleges [here](#). To learn more about the position and apply, please [click here](#).

**Please Note:** If you have information of interest to the NIH advocacy community that you would like to share with the Ad Hoc Group, please forward it to Christa Wagner at chwagner@aamc.org or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org.