



FY25 PRIORITIES

“We ask that the Administration’s request of \$300 million, for FY 2024 is met, but we ask the entire funding amount to be allotted to HBCUs, specifically because of the documented needs and long-standing funding inequities.”

Strengthening HBCUs

The Title III Part B Strengthening HBCUs Program is the number one funding priority for HBCUs. This versatile funding allows HBCUs to continue projects ranging from academic support, infrastructure, research enhancement and student support. Although HBCUs received increased funding in FY 2024, the institutions require significantly more funding to remain competitive and successful in today’s academic marketplace. We are asking Congress to allocate \$514 million in funding for FY 2025.

HBCU Infrastructure

HBCU applications have been increasing for years. We expect this trend to continue in light of recent Supreme Court decisions. For HBCUs to handle the student capacity to ensure important national outcomes, debt-free funding for infrastructure on HBCU campuses is imperative. These needs are apparent and have been properly documented by the GAO to show the current needs of HBCU infrastructure. For our HBCU campuses to flourish, Congress must pass the HBCU infrastructure funding, improving on the level funded \$50 million for HBCUs and MSIs in FY 2024. We ask that the Administration’s request of \$300 million, for FY 2024 is met, but we ask the entire funding amount to be allotted to HBCUs, specifically because of the documented needs and long-standing funding inequities.

Ensuring Safety at HBCUs

During all 12 months of 2022, HBCUs experienced bomb threats that rocked the foundation of our nation’s academic safe havens. Students, faculty and staff deserve the right to pursue their academic and professional goals at HBCUs without worry of physical, mental or emotional harm. We ask that Congress provide a specific line item within the FEMA Nonprofit Security Grant Program of no less than \$100 million per fiscal year until HBCUs are suitably fortified and this funding is dispersed federally—not by States.

Double Pell Grant

The Pell Grant is the leading source of assistance for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve higher education. The purchasing power of this grant has decreased steadily over the years, but now is the time to strengthen this program. UNCF believes maximum Pell Grants should be funded no lower than \$13,000 for qualifying individuals. With education being a way to level the American playing field, significantly increasing this program is nothing short of a necessity.

Congressional Gold Medal

In 1944, The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) was founded on the belief that education was crucial to the upward mobility of the Black community and that the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) founded to educate the progeny of the formerly enslaved should work together to appeal for the funding essential to providing that education. UNCF has raised over \$7 billion in private donations for HBCUs and African-American students, and awards \$100 million annually to students at hundreds of colleges and universities.

HBCU Endowment Funding

HBCUs have experienced a history of systemic underfunding compared to non-HBCU colleges and universities. Endowment support at HBCUs includes investments and donations that help support long-term financial stability and fund academic and operational activities. Endowments allow a college or university to make commitments far into the future and provide a higher quality of service. Institutions operating with less than robust endowments face additional challenges that impact the student experience, and the tools that help them to get to and through college.

[UNCF.org](https://www.uncf.org)

