

Overview of Annual Federal Budget Process^{1 2}

	<u>President/Administration</u>	<u>Congress</u>
February	President submits budget request to Congress on or before the first Monday of February.	House and Senate Budget and Appropriations Committees hold hearings on the budget request with Administration/ Agency officials and non-governmental witnesses.
March		Continuation of Congressional hearings. House and Senate Committees of jurisdiction submit views on the President's request to their respective Budget Committees (six weeks after budget submission to Congress).
April		Continuation of Congressional hearings. Adoption of budget resolution by the House and Senate which outlines broad spending and revenue levels, including spending limits (or 302(a) allocations) for each Congressional Committee; however, this resolution is not signed into law by the President.
May		House and Senate Appropriations Committees subdivide their 302(a) allocation into 302(b) allocations, the overall levels of discretionary spending for each of the 12 appropriations subcommittees. House Appropriations Committee starts approving spending bills; full House begins consideration of spending bills.
June		House continues its work on spending bills. Senate Appropriations Committee starts approving spending bills (either in the form of proposed changes to House bills or separate bills); full Senate begins consideration of spending bills.
July	President sends a report to the Congress with updated budget estimates on or before July 15th.	House concludes consideration of spending bills. Senate continues its work on spending bills.
August		

¹ Congressional Research Service. (2008). *The Congressional Appropriations Process: An Introduction*.

² Executive Office of the President Office of Management and Budget. (2010). *Circular No. A-11: Part 1, General Information*.
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/a11_current_year/s10.pdf

<p>September</p> <p>*September 30th is end of fiscal year*</p>	<p>President signs or vetoes final spending bills.</p> <p>Agencies submit initial budget requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the next fiscal year.</p>	<p>Senate concludes consideration of spending bills.</p> <p>House-Senate Conference Committees resolve differences and agree on final versions of spending bills.</p>
<p>October</p> <p>*October 1st is beginning of fiscal year*</p>	<p>President signs or vetoes continuing resolutions for any agencies funded through spending bills that have not yet become law.</p> <p>OMB reviews and modifies budget requests from agencies for the next fiscal year.</p>	<p>Congress passes continuing resolutions for any agencies funded through spending bills that have not yet become law.</p>
<p>November</p>	<p>OMB continues its review and informs agencies of decisions on budget requests.</p>	
<p>December</p>	<p>Agencies have opportunity to make appeals to OMB and the President on modified budget requests.</p>	
<p>January</p>	<p>Budget requests finalized.</p> <p>Agencies prepare budget justification materials for Congress.</p>	