



ACTION

IMPACT

June 2019

CGS members and staff educated Congress on how Pell support could help low-income students enter the graduate pipeline

Rep. Ann Kuster (D-NH-02) introduced the [Expanding Access to Graduate Education Act](#) (H.R. 3334), which would provide individuals the opportunity to allocate remaining Pell support towards a graduate degree.

April 2019

40 member deans and graduate students from 23 member institutions participated in CGS's [Advocacy Day](#) in Washington, DC.

Advocates met with legislators and staff from 61 bipartisan House/Senate offices, relaying CGS's policy priorities for graduate education and research. Some of these legislators became original cosponsors of H.R. 3334.

June 2020

CGS members participated in a week of advocacy on behalf of international graduate students and Optional Practical Training (OPT).

CGS advocates utilized a [toolkit](#) with talking points, a twitter toolkit, and messaging to send to Capitol Hill in the midst of concerns surrounding proposed policies that would negatively impact international students and OPT.

March-October 2020

CGS collaborated with its higher education and research colleague organizations to request COVID-19 relief and guidance from Congress/Administration.

[Major wins/issues raised](#) include: CARES Act funding for students and institutions, reversal of guidance that would have deported int'l students taking classes fully online, and research relief due to COVID-19 disruption.

Fall 2020

CGS encouraged House members to cosponsor the Supporting Early-Career Researchers Act ([H.R. 8044](#)) and the Research Investment to Spark the Economy Act ([H.R. 7308](#)).

CGS communications led to nine new cosponsors of H.R. 8044 and H.R. 7308.

Recruitment for CGS's [Advocacy Ambassadors Network](#) (AAN), a voluntary network of advocates.

AAN welcomed 18 new members in 2019-2020. AAN members have been integral in responding to calls to action, such as requesting federal legislators to sign "Dear Colleague" letters and cosponsor bills.

CGS collaborated with colleague organizations on Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations recommendations.

CGS joined [community letters](#) advocating for provisions and funding for federal programs that elevate graduate education; research; int'l students; and workforce development.