

NAVY LEAGUE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
ISSUE BRIEF: Sea Cadets and Young Marines
April 12, 2022



ASK: The Sea Cadets and Young Marines needs adequate funding to build leaders of character embodying honor and service. Adequate funding is as follows:

- \$4.3M in approved funding for the Sea Cadets
- A Congressional Grant of \$4M for the Young Marines

BACKGROUND: The Sea Cadets and Young Marines are youth programs that foster patriotism, confidence, and excellence in our future sailors and future leaders. These programs have proven results in supporting young people throughout their early education and into adulthood to be tomorrow's leaders.

DISCUSSION: The Sea Cadets have built over 175,000 leaders of character since being chartered by Congress in 1961. The Sea Cadets have over 380 units across 47 states with more than 9,000 youth and more than 3,000 volunteers. The Sea Cadets promotes STEM; provides training in special forces, security, cybersecurity, and diving; and molds strong moral character in an alcohol-free, drug-free, and gang-free environment. The Sea Cadets receive their funding under Navy Operations and Maintenance, Recruiting and Advertising, of which over 90% is directly attributed to training program expenses.

The mission of the Young Marines is to develop its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The Young Marines have over 235 units across 40 states with 7,500 youth and 2,500 adult volunteers. The Young Marines program has received a Congressional Grant since 2010, normally receiving funds in 4th quarter which are obligated and used for the next fiscal year. They did not receive funds last year. The grant that the Young Marines receives has been placed in the annual Defense Appropriations Bill under Title VI, Other Defense Programs, Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities Defense (DICD), Drug Demand Reduction. The annual Grant has been for \$4M since 2010 with one exception in FY16.

NAVY LEAGUE POSITION: We support the Sea Cadets and Young Marine's need for adequate funding in fiscal year 2023. We believe this is necessary to ensure proper programming and training for our future leaders. The Navy League is asking Congress for:

- \$4.3M in funding for Sea Cadets to continue training and programming
- Approval to bestow a Congressional Grant of \$4M unto the Young Marines

Additional Resources:

- [Everything You Need to Know About the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps](#)
- [What We Do \(Young Marines\)](#)