



2016 CONGRESSIONAL TIMELINE

This is an anticipated schedule if Congress follows regular order, but delays are always possible.

JANUARY

- House Convenes (5th)
- Senate Convenes (11th)
- State of the Union Address (12th)
- U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting, Washington, DC. (20th – 22nd)

FEBRUARY

- President submits budget request to Congress (9th).
- Administration and agency officials testify in support of the budget request.
- Appropriations subcommittees hearings begin (House and Senate) w/ agency heads & outside public witnesses.
- Federal Holiday – President's Day (15th)
- Congress in Recess (15th - 19th)
- National Association of Counties Legislative Conference, Washington, DC (20th - 24th).

MARCH

- Appropriations subcommittees (House and Senate) continue to hold hearings with agency heads and outside public witnesses.
- National League of Cities Legislative Conference, Washington, DC (5th – 9th).
- House in recess (4th; 7th - 11th; 18th)
- Senate in recess (21st - 23rd)
- Congress in recess (24th - 31st)

APRIL

- Congress in recess (1st)
- House in recess (4th - 11th; 22nd; 25th)

MAY

- Congress in recess (2nd - 6th; 30th - 31st)
- Federal Holiday – Memorial Day (30th)
- House in recess (9th; 20th; 27th)
- House and Senate adopt budget resolutions prepared by Budget Committees. Appropriations Committees (House and Senate) make 302(b) allocations*.

**After the Budget Resolution sets the overall level of discretionary spending, each appropriations committee divides the total among its twelve subcommittees; "302(b)" refers to the section of the law governing this procedure.*

JUNE

- Congress in recess (1st - 3rd)
- House in recess (6th; 17th; 20th; 27th - 30th)
- House Appropriations Subcommittees prepare appropriations bills.
- Senate Appropriations Subcommittees revise the House-passed bills.

JULY

- Senate in recess (5th)
- Congress in recess (1st - 4th; 18th - 29th)
- Federal Holiday – Fourth of July (4th)
- Republican National Convention (18th - 21st)
- Democratic National Convention (25th - 28th)
- House passes spending bills; Senate passes revised bills.

AUGUST

- Congress in recess (1st – 31st)
- ** Note: month-long recess, congressional district work period, local Town Hall meetings.*

SEPTEMBER

- Congress in recess (1st - 2nd; 5th)
- Federal Holiday – Labor Day (5th)
- House in recess (16th; 19th)
- House-Senate conference committees resolve differences and agree on final versions of spending bills.
- President signs or vetoes final bills.
- End of the fiscal year (30th)

OCTOBER

- Beginning of fiscal year (1st). Congress passes continuing resolutions to maintain funding for any agencies affected by appropriations bills not yet passed and signed.
- Agencies send initial budget requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- House in recess (4th - 7th)
- Congress in recess (10th – 31st)
- Federal Holiday – Columbus Day (10th)

NOVEMBER

- Election Day (8th).
- House in recess (18th; 28th).
- Congress in recess (1st - 11th; 21st - 25th)
- Federal Holidays – Veterans Day (11th); Thanksgiving (24th)
- OMB reviews, modifies, and sends back to agencies the initial budget requests.

DECEMBER

- Congress organizing before the 115th Congress convenes in January 2017
- House in recess (9th; 12th)
- Congress in recess (19th - 30th)
- Federal Holiday – Christmas (26th)
- Agencies make final appeals to OMB.

JANUARY 2017

- 115th Congress Convenes
- OMB resolves appeals and assembles the final budget request
- Inauguration Day (20th)
- U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting, Washington, DC