# President Biden's FY 2025 Budget Request: CGS Programs of Interest

On March 11, 2024, the Biden administration released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget request. The administration proposes funding for non-defense discretionary programs at $793.3 billion and defense programs at $895.2 billion. For the U.S. Department of Education, the Biden administration proposes $82 billion, which is an increase of $3.1 billion or 3.9 percent above the FY 2023 enacted funding level of $78.9 billion. The budget requests an increase of $750 in the maximum Pell Grant award, thus raising the maximum annual Pell award to $8,145. The budget also proposes the elimination of origination fees on Federal Direct student loans. The budget proposes $8.58 billion for the Department of Energy's Office of Science, which is a $486 million increase over the FY 2023 level. The administration proposes $50.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health, which is an increase of $1.5 billion over the FY 2023 level. The President's budget requests $10.2 billion for the National Science Foundation, a nearly $1.12 billion increase over the FY 2023 level. The administration requested $200.1 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities. This level of funding will support $74.4 million for NEH grant projects in the humanities and $60 million in NEH awards to partners in 56 states and jurisdictions.

## Department of Education

### Student Financial Assistance

The Federal student aid programs provide grants and work-study assistance to help students afford a postsecondary education and realize the lifelong benefits of an education beyond high school. The FY 2025 budget proposes an 18 percent increase in the Federal Pell Grant Program from FY 2023 enacted levels.

Pell Grants have been the foundation of low- and moderate-income students' financial aid for decades; however, the value has diminished as college costs have risen. As already mentioned, the Administration's FY 2025 budget would set a maximum award of $8,145 for the award year 2025-26, an increase of $750 over the 2024-2025 award year. This includes a $100 increase in the maximum award in discretionary funding and a $650 increase to the mandatory add-on.

The Department of Education operates two major student loan programs, the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) program and the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) program. Since July 1, 2010, the Department of Education has made new loans only through the Direct Loan program. The PLUS Loans are available to parents of dependent undergraduate students, and to graduate and professional students. There is no annual or aggregate limit on the amount that can be borrowed other than the cost of attendance minus other financial aid. The budget request for the Graduate PLUS Loan program is $14.9 billion, which is a slight increase over the FY 2024 enacted amount of $14.6 billion.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Federal Pell Grant Program** | $28.7 billion | $24.6 billion | $34.5 billion |
| **Federal Work-Study Program** | $1.2 billion | $1.2 billion | $1.2 billion |

**Higher Education Programs**

***Institutional Service***

The institutional service office administers programs to improve academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability. The FY 2025 budget requests $3.3 billion for the Department of Education's higher education programs. This includes increased investments for communities that are underserved and programs that benefit underrepresented minority groups, such as, the Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans program, the Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions [HBGIs] program, and the Strengthening Master's Degree Programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities program. The Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans program provide funds to eligible HSIs that offer a postbaccalaureate certificate or postbaccalaureate degree-granting program. The program is designed to help Hispanic Americans gain entry into and succeed in graduate study, a level of education in which they are underrepresented.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans** | $27.3 million | $27.5 million | $29.8 million |
| **Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions [HBGIs]** | $100.8 million | $101.3 million | $108.5 million |
| **Strengthening Master's Degree Programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities** | $19.9 million | $19.9 million | $21.3 million |

***International Education and Foreign Language Studies***

The budget includes $81.5 million for International and Foreign Language Studies. The International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE) office administers Title VI (domestic) and Fulbright-Hays (overseas) grant and fellowship programs that strengthen foreign language instruction, area/international studies teaching and research, professional development for educators, and curriculum development at the K-12, graduate, and postsecondary levels.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Title VI** | $75.4 million | $75.4 million | $73.3 million |
| **Fulbright-Hays** | $10.3 million | $10.3 million | $8.2 million |

***Student Service***

The student service office administers programs to provide access to higher education opportunities for low-income, first-generation students and individuals with disabilities to higher education; encourages low-income students in elementary, middle, and secondary schools to attend college; and facilitates quality graduate education to address national needs. The FY 2025 budget requests a $20 million increase in Federal TRIO programs, including $61.4 million for the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program. The McNair Scholars program funds are awarded to institutions of higher education to prepare eligible participants for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Participants are from disadvantaged backgrounds and have demonstrated strong academic potential. The budget requests funding for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program remains the same at $23.5 million. The program provides fellowships to assist graduate students with excellent records who demonstrate financial need and plan to pursue the highest degree available in their course study at the institution in a field designated as an area of national need. The FY 2025 budget would support approximately 415 GAANN fellowships.

The budget also requests $80 million for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program, which supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based childcare services, including for graduate students.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| Federal TRIO | $1.2 billion | $1.2 billion | $1.2 billion |
| Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement | $60.8 million | $61.4 million<br>**CR Level* | $61.4 million |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need | $23.5 million | $24.5 million | $23.5 million |
| Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) | $75 million | $75 million | $80 million |

## Department of Energy's Office of Science

For FY 2025, the Biden administration proposes funding the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science at $8.58 billion, which is an increase of $483 million or 5.8 percent above the FY 2023 enacted amount of $8.1 billion. The budget calls for an increase in investments in basic research on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), climate change and clean energy, and efforts to support underserved communities through the Reaching a New Energy Sciences Workforce (RENEW) and Funding for Accelerated, Inclusive Research (FAIR) initiatives. For the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E), the budget proposes $450 million, which is a decrease of $20 million above the FY 2023 enacted amount of $470 million.

The FY 2025 budget requests $1.152 million for Advanced Scientific Computing Research which is an increase of $84.7 million over the FY 2023 enacted amount. This level of funding aligns with the Department of Energy's priorities to advance responsible AI technology, and critical and emerging technologies such as QIS and microelectronics. For the Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists program, the budget calls for $43 million in funding. The budget prioritizes funding for workforce training programs that attract and train students and educators for STEM learning and authentic research experiences at DOE laboratories and expands the opportunities to individuals from new emerging research communities in STEM, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), and community colleges. The budget continues to support the Reaching a New Energy Sciences Workforce (RENEW) initiative, which will build creative pathways to connect students and educators from new emerging research communities in STEM to DOE workforce training opportunities.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Annualized CR | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| Office of Science | $8.1 billion | $8.2 Billion *Enacted | $8.58 billion |
| Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy | $470 million | $470 million *Enacted | $450 million |
| Advanced Scientific Computing Research | $1.07 billion | $1.03 billion | $1.15 billion |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Basic Energy Sciences | $2.53 billion | $2.5 billion | $2.58 billion |
| Biological and Environmental Research | $908.7 million | $835.6 million | $945.2 million |
| Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists | $42 million | $42.1 million | $43.1 million |
| Science Laboratories Infrastructure | $280.7 million | $293.9 million | $295.2 million |

## Department of Health and Human Services

### *Health Resources and Services Administration*

The Biden administration proposes $320 million for the Teaching Health Centers Graduate Medical Education program, which is a substantial increase of $201 million over FY 2023 levels. The Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program helps address the critical need for primary care providers by training primary care physicians and dental residents in community-based settings, which will ultimately help increase primary care physicians practicing in high-need communities post-residency. In 2022, Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education residents significantly enhanced access to primary care in underserved areas by treating over 792,000 patients during more than 1.2 million patient encounters.

### *National Institutes of Health*

The U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) supports the training and development of the next generation of scientists who will bring diverse perspectives, skill sets, and backgrounds. For this reason, NIH reaffirms its commitment to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in its workforce and beyond. For FY 2025 the Biden administration proposes funding the biomedical agency at $50.1 billion which is $2.4 billion over FY 2023 levels. Funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) is projected to remain flat at $1.5 billion.

According to the FY 2025 NIH budget justification, “In FY 2025, NIH estimates it will support 43,636 research project grants, an increase of 460 above FY 2023, including a total of 10,273 new and competing grants. More than 80 percent of the funds appropriated to NIH will go to the extramural community, which supports work by more than 300,000 research personnel at over 2,800 universities, medical schools, research facilities, small businesses, and hospitals. The budget also includes $43 million for extramural facilities and instrumentation grants from the Office of the Director in FY 2025.”

**The NIH budget justification highlighted several important programs, which CGS will closely monitor:**

***Working Group on Re-envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training***

People with STEM doctorates are critical to the health of the national and global scientific ecosystem. Academic research labs train postdoctoral scholars to pursue broad, intellectually curious questions, often underpinning innovation that precipitates new treatments or devices. However, the existing postdoctoral research system is not optimally supporting the current biomedical research ecosystem, nor is it building the best foundation for a diverse, inclusive, productive, successful, and sustainable future. Among other issues, postdoctoral scholars often receive low compensation and benefits relative to their education and work experience; they confront job insecurity, insufficient support for professional development, and uncertain career prospects; and they are subject to a power imbalance that favors the institutional establishment. Further, postdoctoral scholars from historically marginalized groups and international postdoctoral scholars face disproportionate structural and implicit barriers in academia, exacerbating the challenges experienced by these groups.

Recognizing these complex issues, a new NIH Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) Working Group on Re-envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training was established in January 2023. NIH hosted four public listening sessions and posted a Request for Information to engage the community on issues affecting and possible solutions to the challenges facing postdocs. The recommendations from this report include increasing pay and benefits for all NIH-supported postdoctoral scholars, which aligns with its goal to better support the full and varied talent pool of scholars; improving training and professional development of postdoctoral scholars and facilitating the transition of scholars into their next career stages; and supporting safe and diverse perspectives and environments across research programs. These recommendations are currently being considered by the NIH Director for possible implementation.

***Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) program***

The Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) program, which focuses on the transition from postdoctoral scholar to independent investigator combines individual awards with a cohort-based mentoring program that has attracted and retained a diverse class of fellows. Following the success of this program, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences is developing a similar cohort-based program to support trainees during the transition from graduate school to postdoctoral training. The program innovates on the design of individual postdoctoral career transition awards via a cohort-based program that not only builds a community of talented early-career researchers, but also engages scientific professional societies and academic institutions to provide the necessary mentorship, networking, and professional development activities required to successfully achieve this career transition. As of FY 2023, 17 NIH Institutes and Centers have funded a diverse pool of 137 MOSAIC scholars.

**The NIH Pathway to Independence Award**

The Pathway to Independence Award offers an opportunity for highly promising postdoctoral scientists to receive both mentored and independent research support from the same award. The award is

intended to foster the development of a creative, independent research program that will be competitive for subsequent independent funding and that will help advance the NIH mission.

***Childcare Supplements for Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSAs)***

Recognizing the high cost of childcare, in 2021 NIH began allowing full-time National Research Service Awards fellows and trainees to request support for childcare costs. NIH issued fellows 224 childcare cost awards in FY 2021, 313 awards in FY 2022, and 328 awards in FY 2023.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| National Institutes of Health | $47.7 billion | $48.6 billion | $50.1 billion |

## National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities

The Biden administration proposed $210.1 million for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), which is $3.1 million more than FY 2023 enacted levels. Nearly half (46.9 percent) of the request is for direct endowment grants at $98.8 million. This includes Research Grants in the Arts, a grant program that supports research that investigates the value and/or impact of the arts, either as individual components within the U.S. arts ecology or as they interact with each other and/or with other domains of American life. As well as NEA Research Labs, which funds transdisciplinary research teams grounded in the social and behavioral sciences, yielding empirical insights about the arts for the benefit of arts and non-arts sectors alike.

The Administration proposes $200.1 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), which is $6.9 million less than FY 2023 enacted level of funding. The FY 2023 budget includes $74.4 million ($3.3 million less than FY 2023) for NEH grant programs and $60 million ($3 million less than FY 2023) in awards to NEH's partners in each of the 56 states and jurisdictions. The agency offers humanities programming that serves a variety of educational needs, including programs for teacher and faculty professional development; for veterans returning to academic life; and for the creation of higher education humanities curricula.

| Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Annualized CR | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| National Endowment for the Arts | $207 million | $207 million | $210.1 million |
| National Endowment for the Humanities | $207 million | $207 million | $200.1 million |

## National Science Foundation

For FY 2025, the Biden administration proposes $10.2 billion for the National Science Foundation, which is a proposed increase of $1.14 billion or 12.6 percent above the FY 2024 enacted level of $9.1 billion. For almost 75 years, it has been the mission of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to "promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense." To meet the agency's mission, the FY 2025 budget proposes strengthening investments in emerging technologies, advancing climate research and development, bolstering research infrastructure, and promoting access in STEM education and workforce training. NSF will move the needle ahead on priorities articulated in the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 and expand efforts in research security that are vital to U.S. interests worldwide. The NSF Director has proposed three pillars including Strengthening NSF, Inspiring Missing Millions, and Accelerating Technology and Innovation. In NSF's FY 2025 Budget Justification, the three pillars underpin four major themes— Advance Emerging Industries for National and Economic Security, Build a Resilient Planet, Create Opportunities Everywhere, and Strengthen Research Infrastructure. These themes align with the administration's priorities of expanding basic research to kickstart innovation and give life to innovative approaches that address hard topics.

| NSF Directorate | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| R&RA | $7.63 billion | $7.2 billion | $8.05 billion |
| STEM Education | $1.41 billion | $1.3 billion | $1.44 billion |
| MREFC | $187.2 million | $234 million | $300 million |

### *STEM Education Directorate*

As referenced in the table above, the Biden administration proposes $1.44 billion for the STEM Education Directorate. For the Division of Graduate Education, the administration proposes $502.8 million, which is $23.3 million or 4.9 percent above the FY 2023 enacted level of funding.

For NSF, the ***Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) and the NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) program*** are agency-wide investments. For the GRFP, the FY 2025 budget proposes a funding amount of $341.11 million for the program which will support 2,300 new fellows with a cost of education allowance of $16,000 and a stipend of $37,000 per fellow.

| NSF Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| Graduate Research Fellowship Program | $318.7 million | N/A | $341.1million |

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|---|---|---|---|
| NSF Research Traineeship | $59.1 million | N/A | $60 million |
| STEM Ed Postdoctoral Research Fellowship | $9.8 million | N/A | $9 million |
| CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service | $72.9 million | N/A | $74 million |
| EDU Core Research: STEM Professional Workforce Preparation | $18.8 million | N/A | $18.6 million |

***Broadening Participation***

Like previous NSF budgets, the FY 2025 budget calls for increased federal investments to broaden participation of underrepresented minority groups and those residing in rural areas in science and engineering. The FY 2025 proposed budget includes $56.02 million to increase participation in the Broadening Participation Programs including STEM Education and Research and Related Activities. It also proposes $258.37 million, or $6.34 million over the FY 2023 enacted level for the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

| NSF Program | FY23 Enacted | FY24 Enacted | FY25 Budget Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| Broadening Participation Programs in Total | $1.38 billion | N/A | $1.44 billion |
| AGEP Graduate Research Supplements | $3.7 million | N/A | $5.7 million |
| Alliance for Graduate Education & Professoriate (AGEP) | $9.3 million | N/A | $9.9 million |
| Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity (GRANTED) | $44.5 million | N/A | $40 million |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Centers of Research Excellence in Science & Technology (CREST) | $28.6 million | N/A | $30.3 million |
| Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) | $252 million | N/A | $258.4 million |
| Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureate in Biological Sciences (RaMP) | $30 million | N/A | $31.35 million |
| Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation | $55.5 million | N/A | $55.5 million |
| SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships-Broadening Participation | $3 million | N/A | 3.1 million |