

President Trump's Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request CGS Programs of Interest Document

In September 2025, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) issued a memorandum on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Administration Research and Development (R&D) Budget Priorities and Cross-Cutting Actions. This memorandum directs federal agencies to institute a government-wide approach for the nation's science and technology enterprise, which includes making artificial intelligence, quantum information sciences, nuclear energy, biotechnology, national security technologies, and space the highest priorities for FY 2027 funding. As a result, the FY27 Administration's Budget Request mirrors these priorities by proposing substantial levels of funding in these areas of science. For FY27, the administration is requesting a staggering \$1.5 trillion for defense programs and \$660 million for non-defense discretionary programs.

Department of Agriculture

The FY27 Budget Requests \$20.8 billion for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is a \$4.9 billion, or a 19 percent decrease from the FY26 enacted funding level.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

At the program level, the budget proposes \$1.03 billion for National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA); a \$650 million decrease from the FY26 enacted funding level. This includes a \$510 million reduction in Formula Grants. NIFA partners with universities to perform external research, higher education, and extension activities. It plays a crucial role in linking federal, state, and tribal institutions through a nationwide system of agricultural research, education, and extension. Funding is distributed through both statutory formula grants and competitive awards to State Agricultural Experiment Stations, the Cooperative Extension System, land-grant universities, and other eligible institutions. According to the budget, “[It will] reduce formula grants that act as pre-determined earmarks for university pet projects,” and that “USDA research will instead be competitively awarded to projects in the national interest, as opposed to the woke radical left projects these grants previously funded.”

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

The budget requests \$419 million for Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which is a \$16 million decrease from the FY26 enacted funding level. AFRI is the nation's premier competitive, peer-reviewed research program for fundamental and applied sciences in agriculture. Investments made through AFRI occur in the three major complementary

components: (1) Strengthening Agricultural Systems; (2) Foundational and Applied Science; and (3) Education and Workforce Development.

The budget requests \$41.9 million to support Education and Workforce Development initiatives aimed at strengthening key components of the food and agricultural sciences workforce pipeline. These efforts include institutional grants to enhance K–12 curricula and to train a technology and AI-ready workforce, as well as programs that provide undergraduate students with applied technical and leadership skills for careers in agriculture or further graduate study. Specifically, the program will support graduate and post-graduate education in food, agriculture, and related disciplines by awarding predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships. These investments into the workforce and the graduate level will address the projected shortfalls in the availability of a qualified scientific workforce in food and agriculture in the United States.

1890 Land-Grants, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic-Serving Institutions

The budget requests \$241 million for 1890 Land-Grants, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic-Serving Institutions, which is a \$15 million decrease from the FY26 enacted funding level. These programs support capacity building initiatives, education, and pathways to employment for students and faculty and help develop a strong pipeline of talented individuals. These grants support research, extension, teaching, and facilities programs at the 1890 Land-grant Universities; research, education, and extension grants for Tribal colleges (including the Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program) and Hispanic-Serving Institutions. For FY27, the administration proposes \$13 million for Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions, which is a decrease of \$3.5 million from FY26 enacted levels.

Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program

The budget zeros out the Graduate Fellowship (NNF) program. The program provides fellowship grants to colleges and universities to stimulate the development of food and agricultural scientific expertise in targeted areas of national need, specifically to the recruitment and training of new graduate students for critical food and agricultural scientific positions.

Through new and active awards, the NNF Program and AFRI Predoctoral fellowships supported 300 graduate students, including permanent residents. NIFA anticipates 50 new predoctoral Fellowships during 2026 awards.

Department of Education

The FY27 President's Budget Request proposes a reorganization of the U.S. Department of Education, including the consolidation and elimination of several important programs. The administration indicates that these changes are intended to streamline federal education activities and refocus resources on academic achievement. For FY27, the administration requests \$76.5 billion, which is a \$2.3 billion or 2.9 percent decrease from the FY26 enacted level.

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 FY27 budget requests a \$10.5 billion increase in the Federal Pell Grant Program from FY26 enacted levels, for a total of \$33 billion.

The budget also proposes that the Department work with Congress to reform the Federal Work-Study allocation formula to better target funds to institutions enrolling a high proportion of low-income students. The administration further proposes revising the federal–employer cost share by requiring employers to cover 90 percent of students' hourly wages, thereby reducing the federal subsidy to 10 percent. This represents a substantial rebalancing of the current cost-sharing structure, under which the federal government may subsidize up to 75 percent of wages, and is intended to realign program incentives and reduce discretionary federal outlays.

Higher Education Programs

The budget proposes \$610.1 million in funding for Higher Education Programs that are aimed at improving student achievement and increasing access to a high-quality education for all students. It should be noted that the “administration's request for FY27 eliminates Higher Education Programs that duplicate other programs, are more appropriately supported with State, local, institutional, or private funds, are outside the Department's core mission, are unconstitutional, or have not shown evidence of effectiveness.”

Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions & HBCU Master's Program

The request for Aid for Institutional Development aims to increase institutional capacity and student support at historically Black colleges and universities and tribal colleges and universities. Many postsecondary institutions serving students from low-income backgrounds face challenges that threaten their operations and ability to provide high-quality education. The budget requests an increase of approximately \$1 million for Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions, requesting funding of \$102.5 million. The Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions (HBGI) Program provides grants to assist institutions in establishing and strengthening their physical plants, development offices, endowment funds, academic resources, and student services. Strengthening HBCU Master's Program supports HBCUs, and the administration has determined the program to be making a substantial contribution to graduate

education opportunities for Black students at the master's level in mathematics, engineering, the physical or natural sciences, computer science, information technology, nursing, allied health, or other scientific disciplines.

Strengthening Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions

The budget proposes a \$38 million reduction for the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) program. AANAPISI institutions play an important role in expanding access and supporting student success for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students, many of whom are among the first in their families to pursue higher education.

Minority-Serving Institutions

The FY27 President's Budget eliminates \$354 million in funding for Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs). In the budget justification, the administration asserts that "Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs) programs have relied upon racial quotas and racial preferences that have recently and rightly been recognized by both the Supreme Court of the United States and the Department of Justice as unconstitutional, illegal, and unjust." It further asserts that "Minority-Serving Institutions Programs, which the Department of Justice declined to defend in a recent lawsuit, and determined on December 2, 2025, are unconstitutional, because these programs discriminate by conferring Government benefits exclusively to institutions that meet racial or ethnic quotas."

International Education and Foreign Language Studies (Title VI)

The FY2027 budget request calls for the elimination of Title VI and Fulbright-Hays funding. 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. The administration states that the elimination of these programs reflects the broader effort to return education responsibilities to the states by reducing the federal role and restoring fiscal discipline to federal education spending.

Student Services

The administration does not request funding for the Federal TRIO and Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) programs for FY27. According to the administration, TRIO has failed to meet most performance measures and has not increased college enrollment. The administration states that eliminating the program supports returning education responsibilities to the states and restoring fiscal discipline, leaving decisions to states, localities, and institutions without unnecessary federal oversight.

The administration does not request funding for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) or Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program. GAANN provides fellowships to assist graduate students with excellent records who demonstrate financial need and plan to pursue the highest degree available in their course of study at the institution in a field designated as an area of national need. The CCAMPIS program supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based childcare services, including graduate students. The administration reports that GAANN has not met performance measures and costs \$77,000 per student who obtains a degree. The administration states that eliminating the program restores fiscal discipline and reduces the federal role, leaving funding decisions to states, localities, and institutions.

Department of Energy - Office of Science

The FY27 President's Budget proposes \$7 billion for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science (DOE-OS), which is a \$1.2 billion decrease below the FY26 enacted level of funding. As mentioned in the FY27 Department of Energy Budget Justification, "The Office of Science (SC) is the nation's largest Federal supporter of basic research in the physical sciences. The SC portfolio has two thrusts: direct support of scientific research, and direct support of the design, development, construction, and operation of unique, open-access scientific user facilities. The SC basic research portfolio includes grants and contracts supporting over 21,000 researchers located at over 300 institutions and 17 DOE national laboratories, spanning all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories." The Office of Science budget justification prioritizes the administration's FY27 R&D priorities – artificial intelligence, quantum information sciences, fusion energy, high-performance computing, and critical minerals and materials.

The Office of Science will be integral to the Genesis Mission. Through the Genesis Mission, DOE will establish the world's most powerful scientific platform to accelerate discovery, strengthen national security, and drive energy innovation. The Genesis Mission integrates DOE's world-class supercomputing power, unique scientific data, and AI capabilities into a unified system to shrink discovery cycles from years to months. The Genesis Mission will use scientific datasets to train scientific foundation models and create AI agents to test hypotheses, automate research workflows, and accelerate scientific breakthroughs.

Department of Health and Human Services

The FY27 Budget Requests \$111 billion in discretionary funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which is a 12.5 percent decrease from the 2026 enacted level. The budget highlights the “Administration for a Healthy America” (AHA) initiative to improve nutrition, strengthen food and drug quality and safety standards, and prevent chronic disease. As a result, the budget request eliminates programs considered inefficient or outside the Department’s core mission, refocusing HHS on activities that “directly enhance the health and well-being of Americans.”

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The budget proposes a \$5 billion reduction through the creation of the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), with a particular focus on consolidating and streamlining programs previously managed by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Within the AHA structure, the budget consolidates and eliminates programs that were formerly in HRSA, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health. The administration suggests that “these programs duplicate other federal spending, promote radicalized DEI ideologies, or use taxpayer funds to support radical nonprofits that are not aligned with Administration policies.” AHA will focus its \$14.7 billion discretionary budget on high-impact priority areas, including primary care, maternal and child health, mental health, HIV/AIDS, and workforce development.

National Institutes of Health

For FY27, the administration requests \$41.5 billion for the biomedical agency. The administration calls for reforms that eliminate certain institutes and centers, including the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the Fogarty International Center, and the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health. The budget also proposes consolidating the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism into a new National Institute of Substance Use and Addiction Research.

Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

The FY27 President’s Budget Request also provides \$945 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) to accelerate the development of breakthrough solutions that improve health and reduce long-term health care costs. In the upcoming fiscal year, ARPA-H has organized its programmatic efforts into five focus areas to align with broader Administration and Department goals: 1) Addressing Chronic Disease; 2) America-Made Manufacturing and Rural Access; 3) Proactive Approaches to Healthy Well Being; 4) Healthcare Security, Efficiency, and Transparency; and 5) American Leadership in Frontier Health Technologies. In FY27, ARPA-H plans to continue to build upon a strong foundation of concrete progress towards revolutionary technology and capabilities.

NIH Priorities

The NIH priorities for FY27 include strengthening rigor, reproducibility, transparency, and access to research to ensure that all high-quality science contributes to cumulative knowledge and decision-making. The budget emphasizes broadening research portfolios to support foundational discovery, early-stage innovation, high-risk ideas, and translational research across scientific disciplines.

The administration also prioritizes accelerating discovery through next-generation tools, including data science, artificial intelligence, and human-based research models. In addition, the budget emphasizes safety, transparency, and accountability to ensure responsible stewardship of public resources and maintain public trust in federally funded research.

Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs and Grant Funding

The FY27 Budget proposes reforms to maximize the value of NIH research funding by limiting allowable publication costs and ensuring that a greater share of each award supports direct research activities. NIH has reviewed policy options to ensure publication costs remain reasonable while maintaining broad public access to research findings.

The budget proposes reforms to maximize the share of NIH funding devoted to direct research activities. This includes a proposed cap on Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs at 15 percent of the applicable direct cost base for each award, and the elimination of the appropriations general provision related to NIH F&A cost policy changes.

Investing in the Next Generation of Biomedical Researchers

The administration proposes \$236 million for the Teaching Health Centers Graduate Medical Education program, which is an increase of \$11 million over FY26 enacted levels. The program supports training primary care physicians and dental residents in community-based settings and helps address the critical need for primary care providers in high-need communities.

NIH prioritizes training and development of the next generation of biomedical researchers to ensure continued U.S. leadership in scientific discovery. Training programs emphasize high-quality scientific design, independent inquiry, and preparation for biomedical research careers.

In this budget request, NIH continues to support Early-Stage Investigators through initiatives such as the Next Generation Researchers Initiative (NGRI), which prioritizes funding for early-career scientists and strengthens mentorship and training opportunities. As a result, the number of NIH-funded Early-Stage Investigators increased from 978 in FY16 to 1,144 in FY25, and the median age at first R01-equivalent award has declined for these investigators.

National Science Foundation

For FY27, the Trump administration proposes a \$3.9 billion budget for the National Science Foundation (NSF), which is a reduction of \$4.76 billion below the FY26 appropriated level of funding for the federal agency. The NSF budget justification outlines three priority themes for the agency: (1) Innovation; (2) Discovery Science and Engineering (S&E); and (3) Research Infrastructure.

The innovation theme “aims to transform knowledge into tangible value for the American people.” Within the Innovation theme, NSF proposes funding for artificial intelligence research (\$655 million), quantum information science (\$231 million), biotechnology (\$248.5 million), and advanced materials and manufacturing (\$175.8 million). When compared to FY25 funding levels, this budget request is proposing cuts in funding for AI, QIS, biotechnology, and materials and manufacturing.

The discovery S&E theme calls for the support of research that “creates new knowledge that serves as building blocks of innovation.” Notably, the Discovery S&E theme proposes low levels of funding for important programs such as EPSCoR (\$107.7 million), the Graduate Research Fellowships Program (\$246.5 million), and Faculty Early Career Development (\$150 million). “In FY27, NSF intends to continue funding new Graduate Research fellows and will engage industry stakeholders to seek co-funding from those who may benefit from having students perform sponsored research apprenticeships.” The budget justification also notes the end of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate.

As expected, the research infrastructure theme supports scientific projects that utilize and require individual instruments to major research facilities. For the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC) account, the administration proposes \$1 billion. Within the MREFC account, the administration proposes decent funding for Midscale Research Instrumentation (\$48 million) and Major Research Instrumentation (\$20 million).

The FY27 NSF budget proposes \$3.4 billion for the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account, which is \$4.9 billion less than the FY26 enacted amount of \$8 billion. In this budget request, the administration placed the Directorate for STEM Education in the RRA account.

In FY27, it is estimated that 13,000 graduate students and 1,000 post-doctorates will be involved in NSF-funded research. This is a marked decline from FY25, which funded 40,200 graduate students and 4,500 post-doctorate associates.

Forward Funding Grants

The Administration's budget proposes expanding the use of "forward funding," or multiyear funding, across agencies, including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and Department of Education. At NIH, the FY27 Budget specifically proposes to "fully fund the outyear commitments of all competing research project grant (RPG) awards as part of the initial grant obligation," continuing a transition that began in FY25. Under this approach, agencies would obligate the full amount of competitive research grants at the time of initial award rather than on an annual incremental basis, moving away from a structure in which "grants are classified as competing in the first year of award or renewal, and noncompeting in the remaining years of each award."

The Administration further notes that providing full funding upfront is intended to increase flexibility by reducing the need to encumber future appropriations for ongoing projects. At NIH, this shift is expected to "increase NIH budget flexibility by no longer encumbering large portions of each year's appropriation for the continuation of research projects that were initiated in previous years" and to make "a greater portion of RPG funding available for new research projects each year" as legacy awards phase out. While intended to streamline budget execution, this shift may also reduce the number of new competitive awards made in a given fiscal year due to a larger share of funds being committed at the time of initial obligation.