

Overview of Federal Funding Opportunities for Behavioral and Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

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Introduction

This document provides a select catalog of funding opportunities for behavioral and social sciences, arts, and humanities that span the federal government. Social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, and the arts have critical roles to play in answering important scientific and societal questions about technological innovation, national security, healthcare and human well-being, and sustainability, among other issues.

The first 10 months of President Trump's second term have been marked by program and award terminations, major shifts in research priorities, and proposed closures or reorganizations of many federal agencies and offices. The Administration has directed the closure of the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS) via Executive Order, proposed the closure of the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities (NEA/NEH) in the fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget request, and terminated the Department of Defense's (DOD) Minerva Research Program in the social and behavioral sciences. In addition to these high-level changes, many programs across the NEH, National Science Foundation (NSF), and other funding agencies have been archived or had FY 2026 competitions cancelled, leaving the future outlook for these programs unclear. Within programs that remain, agencies have deemphasized topics related to diversity and equity, climate change response and adaptation, gender identity, misinformation/disinformation, ethical impacts of artificial intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies, and other topics at odds with Administration priorities.

Despite the proposed funding cuts and pressures on social and behavioral sciences, arts, humanities, and education research, the Trump Administration has revealed new priorities in these areas. NEH and NEA have been tapped to lead new programs associated with the nation's semiquincentennial, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Several agencies have expressed interest in how AI and emerging technologies can best be implemented to unlock human flourishing. In the health and agriculture realm, the new Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) effort has emphasized children's behavioral health, particularly how social media and technology can contribute to poor mental health outcomes for youth. Additionally, longstanding priorities in topics such as workforce, mental health, and social and emotional learning remain a key focus for federal agencies.

Most grants offered by the federal government are listed on www.grants.gov, a government funding opportunity database. To find grants on grants.gov, select the "Search Grants" tab and a variety of search options should appear, including agency, category, and eligibility.

The availability of funds for federal grants is dependent on annual appropriations. The most current information on the funding status of individual programs can be found on the websites listed for each grant.

National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds basic science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) research. This includes social, behavioral, and economic sciences, as well as education research. While other federal agencies listed in this document support the social and behavioral sciences through various programs, NSF remains the largest funder of these disciplines. An estimated 63 percent of all federal research investments in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences are provided by the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) at NSF.

In recent years, SBE has also expressed interest in seeding new cross-platform ideas that maintain the basic research priorities of NSF and include a greater emphasis on broader impacts and addressing global challenges. The Directorate has increased its portfolio of research examining the human element of cross-agency priority areas such as manufacturing processes, artificial intelligence (AI), and other emerging technology topics. These efforts have been carried out through SBE support for cross-NSF initiatives like AI Institutes; the Responsible Design, Development, and Deployment of Technologies (ReDDDoT) program; Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC); and Convergence Accelerators.

Under the Trump Administration, SBE has been a target for cuts. The FY 2026 budget request proposes \$94 million for SBE, which is \$196.3 million dollars less than the FY 2024 enacted level of \$290.3 million. The budget request notes cut funding would eliminate research on “climate; clean energy; woke social, behavioral, and economic sciences; and programs in low priority areas of science.” While no funding level for SBE has been finalized, the directorate may face additional cuts and award terminations going forward. Already, all programs within the SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (SMA) have had FY 2026 competitions cancelled, and it is unclear whether they will resume accepting proposals.

Many NSF proposals are due twice annually or are accepted through a rolling submission process. Additionally, NSF has many opportunities for graduate students, which are referenced in the following program descriptions. SBE research programs are organized into two main divisions to address fundamental questions in social science fields: Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS) and Social and Economic Sciences (SES). SBE also supports the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES).

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about SBE is available at <http://nsf.gov/sbe/about.jsp>.
- A full list of SBE programs can be found at <https://nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=SBE>.
- A complete list of active grant programs offered by NSF with submission deadlines is available at https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities?sort_bef_combine=nsf_funding_upcoming_due_dates_DESC.
- A full list of programs for graduate students can be found at https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities?f%5b0%5d=student_educator_eligibility:grad.

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE)

Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences

Archaeology Program

The Archaeology Program (ARCH) supports Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRIG) grants for anthropologically relevant archaeological research which means “the value of the proposed research can be justified within an anthropological context.” There is no geographical limit or specific time for this program. This program does not define a specific category of research, requests are mainly made up of fields of study or analyses of archaeological material. Eligible applicants include doctoral degree granting Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) accredited in, and having a campus located in, the U.S., acting on behalf of their faculty members. The anticipated funding is about \$800,000 for 30-40 awards. Full proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the ARCH-DDRIG is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/archaeology-program-doctoral-dissertation-research>
- More Information about Archaeology Senior Research awards is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/archaeology-program-senior-research-awards-arch-sr>
- More information about the Archaeometry program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/archaeometry-amtry>

Biological Anthropology

The Biological Anthropology program provides DDRIG grants to “advance scientific knowledge about the processes that have shaped biological diversity in living and fossil humans and their primate relatives through support of basic research on human and primate evolution, biological variation, and interactions between biology, behavior and culture.” The program supports research that engages with biological anthropological and evolutionary theory; uses diverse and interdisciplinary methods to conduct research; utilizes varying levels of analysis and timelines; and considers the ethical and societal impacts of the proposed work. Research outcomes should benefit society and enhance efforts to broaden participation in STEM. In 2026, the submission windows will be from January 20 to January 31 and July 20 to July 30. NSF typically funds between 25 and 40 DDRIG awards and 20-40 senior research awards through this program annually.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Biological Anthropology Program – Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (BA-DDRIG) is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/biological-anthropology-program-doctoral>.
- More information about the Biological Anthropology program senior research awards is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/biological-anthropology-program-senior-research>

Cognitive Neuroscience

This program seeks proposals that explore the range of brain function and cognition. According to the landing page, proposals should be highly innovative and increase “understanding of neural

mechanisms and human cognition including attention, learning, memory, decision making, language, social cognition and emotions.” As of 2026, Research proposals are due twice annually on February 2 and August 17. The average award size for this program is approximately \$175,000-225,000 per year for a duration of three to five years.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Cognitive Neurosciences program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cognitive-neuroscience-cogneuro>.

Cultural Anthropology

The Cultural Anthropology program was recently split into two separate programs: the Cultural Anthropology Senior Research Awards (CA-SR) and the Cultural Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRI) grants. Both programs fund projects that explore “the causes, consequences, and complexities of human social and cultural variability.” Both programs support basic anthropological research, which tests or creates theories to establish new knowledge about society and culture. Researchers from all sub-fields of cultural anthropology are welcome to apply. Projects should have research goals to “produce empirically grounded findings that will be generalizable beyond particular case studies and contribute to building a more robust anthropological science of human society and culture.” Applications for both the senior research awards and the DDRI grants are due annually on January 15 and August 15. CA-SR anticipates making 30 to 40 awards with an anticipated funding total of \$4 million. NSF additionally anticipates making 40 to 50 DDRI awards.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the CA-SR program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cultural-anthropology-program-senior-research-awards-ca-sr>.
- More information about the Cultural Anthropology DDRI grants is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cultural-anthropology-program-doctoral-dissertation-research-improvement>.

Developmental Sciences (DS)

The Developmental Sciences program supports basic research on the “cognitive, linguistic, social, cultural, and biological processes related to human development across the lifespan.” With this program, it is expected that research will “add to our knowledge of the underlying developmental processes that support social, cognitive, and behavioral functioning, thereby illuminating ways for individuals to live productive lives as members of society.” Proposals will be due on July 30. NSF anticipates making 12 awards that last for a period of three years; providing between \$100,000 and \$200,000 of annual funding. Awards for workshops and small conferences typically have total cost budgets of \$35,000.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Developmental and Learning Sciences program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/developmental-sciences-ds>.

High-Risk Research in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology (HRRBAA)

The High-Risk Research in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology (HRRBAA) program supports research “conducted under unusual circumstances.” In particular, the program provides small awards (up to \$35,000) for a project period of one year to allow investigators to “assess the feasibility of an anthropological research project” in a distant location. Investigators are required to contact the relevant NSF program officer before submitting an HRRBAA proposal to determine whether the proposed work is appropriate, and the proposed activity must be high-risk in nature. Proposals are accepted at any time once a program office has been consulted. Based on the availability of funds, NSF anticipates between \$100,000 to \$150,000 in funding per year to make two to five awards.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the HRRBAA program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/high-risk-research-biological-anthropology-and-archaeology-hrrbaa>.

Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS)

The Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS) program has evolved from the previous Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences (RIDIR) program and other research thrusts. The HNDS program encourages research that enhances the general understanding of human behavior by leveraging data and network science. Successful proposals will “provide data-rich insights about human networks to support improved health, prosperity, and security.”

The HNDS program is divided into two tracks:

1. HNDS-Infrastructure (HNDS-I) projects, which will fund the “development of data resources and relevant analytic techniques that support fundamental SBE research.”
2. HNDS- Core Research (HNDS-R) projects, which will “advance theory in a core SBE discipline by the application of data and network science methods.” This includes the “leveraging of large data sets with diverse spatio-temporal scales of measurement and linked qualitative and quantitative approaches, as well as multi-scale, multi-level network data and techniques of network analysis.”

There is approximately \$8 million available in annual funding, and the program anticipates releasing five to 25 awards in total. Four awards will be given to infrastructure projects through the HNDS-I track, and 5 to 20 will be awarded to core research projects through the HNDS-R track. HNDS-R tracks will be co-reviewed with other SBE programs. The HNDS-I track proposal deadlines occur twice annually, the first Thursday in February and the first Thursday in August. The proposal deadline for the HNDS-R track is every second Thursday in January and every second Thursday in July.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the HNDS program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/human-networks-and-data-science-hnds>.

Human-Environment and Geographical Sciences Program (HEGS)

The Human Environment and Geographical Sciences (HEGS) program (formerly the Geography and Spatial Sciences (GSS) program) supports research on the “nature, causes, consequences, or evolution of the spatial dimensions of human behaviors, activities, and dynamics as well as their interactions with environmental and social processes across a range of scales.” An estimated \$5 to \$7 million is expected to be made available for 15-25 senior research awards. Between 15-25 of these awards will be for regular research projects, up to two will be for faculty early career development (CAREER), one to three awards will be for community development, and up to one award will be for RCNs. For regular proposals, the deadline for submission is the third Friday in January and the first Friday in August. In 2026, that will be January 16 and August 7. DDRI grant proposals are submitted through a separate program and have no proposal-submission deadlines; however, the number of DDRI proposal submissions for a doctoral student is limited to two times. An estimated 10-15 DDRI awards are made during each fiscal year, not exceeding \$20,000 in costs.

Sources and Additional Information:

- General information on HEGS is at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/human-environment-and-geographical-sciences-program-hegs>.
- More information about the HEGS program DDRI award is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/human-environment-geographical-sciences-program>.

Linguistics

The Linguistics program supports “basic science in the domain of human language, encompassing investigations of the grammatical properties of individual human languages, and of natural language in general. Research areas include syntax, semantics, morphology, phonetics, and phonology.” Early career grants and DDRI awards are available under this program, however DDRI awards have their own solicitation. An estimated 25-35 DDRI awards are made per year, with proposal budgets not exceeding \$12,000 in direct costs for the entire duration of the award. Anticipated award amounts and funding levels for research projects is not currently available. The Linguistics program has two target dates annually for research proposal submissions on January 15 and July 15.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Linguistics program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/linguistics>.
- More information about the Linguistics program DDRI awards is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/linguistics-program-doctoral-dissertation-research-improvement-grants-ling>.

Dynamic Language Infrastructure – NEH Documenting Endangered Languages (DLI-DEL)

The Dynamic Language Infrastructure – Documenting Endangered Languages (DLI-DEL) program is a multi-year funding partnership between NSF and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supporting projects that would “develop and advance knowledge concerning dynamic language infrastructure in the context of endangered human languages—languages that are both understudied and at risk of falling out of use.” As part of a prior SBE reorganization, the program’s name was updated to “Documenting Endangered Languages” to highlight the emphasis on information technology and computational infrastructure to conduct research on endangered

languages. Specifically, funding can support “data management and archiving, and the development of the next generation of researchers,” as well as “fieldwork and other activities relevant to the digital recording, documenting, and archiving of endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases.” The program will grant funding for one-to-three-year research grants and conference proposals. DDRI grants are also available through a separate solicitation. Research projects and conference proposals have a maximum funding amount of \$450,000 for up to three years, and NSF anticipates 20-25 awards. Applications for research grants and conference proposals are typically due annually on February 15 and September 15. However, the next due date will be February 17, 2026. DDRI applications are accepted anytime and have a maximum award size of \$15,000 in direct costs for approximately 10-15 awards for a project period of up to 24 months.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the DLI-DEL program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/nsf-dynamic-language-infrastructure-neh>.
- More information about the Linguistics: Dynamic Language Infrastructure-Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants program is available at https://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505710.

Mid-Career Advancement (MCA)

The Mid-Career Advancement (MCA) Program gives scientists and engineers an opportunity at their mid-career point to advance the trajectory of their research through partnerships. This is to ensure their “long-term productivity and creativity” with an understanding in their careers they are often constrained by “service, teaching, or other activities that limit the amount of time devoted to research.” According to the solicitation, “MCA support is expected to help lift these constraints to reduce workload inequities and enable a more diverse scientific workforce (more women, persons with disabilities, and individuals from groups that have been underrepresented) at high academic ranks.” This program provides resources, time, and new skills through partnerships. Partnerships from outside the PI’s own discipline are encouraged but not required. The proposals are due between February 1 and March 1 for 35-45 awards with a total estimated funding amount of \$14 million to \$18 million

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the MCA program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mid-career-advancement-mca>

Perception, Action and Cognition (PAC)

The Perception, Action, and Cognition (PAC) program supports “empirically grounded, theoretically engaged and methodologically sophisticated research” in various topics related to “human perceptual, motor, and cognitive processes and interactions.” PAC encourages proposers to study behaviors in real-world scenarios, with inclusive subject populations as projects should “have a clear and direct path towards benefiting society.” Some proposals may be eligible for co-review by other programs. There are two application windows for research projects: the first occurs annually between January 15 and February 2 and the second between July 15 to August 3. PAC estimates to award 25-35 grants, with 20 to 30 regular research project awards; 0 to 5 faculty early-career development (CAREER) awards; 1 to 3 awards to support conferences, group travel, and/or other community-development activities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the PAC program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/perception-action-cognition-pac>.

Social Psychology

The Social Psychology program explores how human social behavior “is influenced by macro- and micro-level social forces, including how thought, motivation, emotion, neural, and physiological processes explain ways of thinking about and relating to self and others.” NSF encourages proposals that “develop new theories or methods for understanding social behavior” and employ interdisciplinary, multi-disciplinary, or convergent approaches to research. Proposals will be evaluated based on whether they are “theoretically grounded, based on empirical observation and validation, and with designs appropriate to the questions asked.” Research proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and July 15. While this program does not accept DDRI proposals, it does accept Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER), Early Concept Grant for Exploratory Research (EAGER), and Rapid Response Research (RAPID) proposals, as well as proposals for research in undergraduate institutions (RUI). It is recommended that applicants contact a Program Director prior to submitting a proposal to confirm the proposal is a good fit.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Social Psychology program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/social-psychology>.

The Science of Learning and Augmented Intelligence (SL)

The Science of Learning and Augmented Intelligence (SL) program, which evolved out of the previous Science of Learning program and the expired Science of Learning Centers, explores learning by supporting “potentially transformative research that develops basic theoretical insights and fundamental knowledge about principles, processes and mechanisms of learning, and about augmented intelligence - how human cognitive function can be augmented through interactions with others or with technology, or through variations in context.” Single discipline and interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged. The program welcomes projects that address “collaborative and collective models of learning and/or intelligence that are supported by the unprecedented speed and scale of technological connectivity.” Proposal deadlines are February 11, 2026 and August 5, 2026, with future deadlines on the second Wednesday in February and the first Wednesday in August annually thereafter.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SL program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/science-learning-and-augmented-intelligence>.

Division of Social and Economic Sciences

Accountable Institutions and Behavior (AIB)

The Accountable Institutions and Behavior (AIB) program is one of two programs (along with the Security and Preparedness program) that evolved out of the Political Science program. This program addresses “issues broadly related to attitudes, behavior, and institutions connected to public policy and the provision of public services,” including “the study of individual and group decision-making, political institutions (appointed or elected), attitude and preference formation

and expression, electoral processes and voting, public administration, and public policy.” The AIB program also supports undergraduate research experiences. The AIB program coordinates closely with the Security and Preparedness (SAP) and Law and Science (LS) program to address research previously covered under the political science program and national interest basic research broadly. Proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about AIB is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/accountable-institutions-behavior-aib>.

Decision, Risk and Management Sciences (DRMS)

The Decision, Risk and Management Sciences (DRMS) program supports research on understanding decision making at all social levels, from individuals and groups to organizations and society writ large. The program funds research several areas, including “judgment and decision making; decision analysis and decision aids; risk analysis, perception, and communication; societal and public policy decision making; management science; and organizational design.” In addition to standard research awards, this program also supports conferences, DDRI grants, time-sensitive research in emergency situations through the RAPID mechanism, and high-risk/high-reward or potentially transformative research through EAGER grants. Before submitting a DDRI grant proposal, researchers are strongly encouraged to contact a DRMS program manager directly. DRMS DDRI grants have a maximum duration of 12 months, and proposal budgets cannot exceed \$30,000 in total costs. For 2026, research proposals are due on January 20 and August 18, with proposals due on January 18 and August 18 annually thereafter.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Decision, Risk, and Management Sciences program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/decision-risk-and-management-sciences-drms>.
- More information about the DRMS-DDRI program is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/drms-ddrig-decision-risk-management-sciences-doctoral-dissertation>

Economics

The Economics program supports research to understand the “processes and institutions of the U.S. economy” as well as the larger global system. Awards are granted in many different areas of economics, including: “econometrics, economic history, environmental economics, finance, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics, and public finance.” This program has a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches and will fund “individual or multi-investigator research projects, doctoral dissertation improvement awards, conferences, symposia, experimental research, data collection and dissemination, computer equipment and other instrumentation, and research experience for undergraduates.” As of 2026, grant proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Economics program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/economics>.

Incorporating Human Behavior in Epidemiological Models (IHBEM)

The IHBEM program is co-sponsored with the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and aims incorporate human behavioral and social processes in mathematical epidemiological models to "improve the accuracy and usefulness of public health interventions and policymaking during pandemics and other health crises." The program provides support for projects that involve balanced participation from the mathematical sciences and from the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. Between 10-15 awards will be given out with a total budget of up to \$6 million for new awards. Recipients may receive up to \$1 million with a three to four year duration. In 2025, proposals were due on July 14. No information has been released about deadlines for 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the IHBEM program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/programid/505991?org=SBE&from=home>

Law & Science

The Law & Science (LS) program, evolved from the Law and Social Sciences program, supports interdisciplinary and methodological projects relating to the science of law and the system of rules. Proposals should "describe research that advances scientific theory and understanding of the connections between human behavior and law, legal institutions, or legal processes; or the interactions of law and basic sciences, including biology, computer and information sciences, STEM education, engineering, geosciences, and math and physical sciences." Among the topics that may be addressed are "Crime, Violence, and Policing; Cyberspace; Economic Issues; Environmental Science; Evidentiary Issues; Forensic Science; Governance and Courts; Human Rights and Comparative Law; Information Technology; Legal and Ethical Issues related to Science; Legal Decision Making; Legal Mobilization and Conceptions of Justice; Litigation and the Legal Profession; Punishment and Corrections; Regulation and Facilitation of Biotechnology (e.g., Gene Editing, Gene Testing, Synthetic Biology) and Other Emerging Sciences and Technologies; and Use of Science in the Legal Processes." The LS program also offers DDRI grants and conference awards, as well as Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), CAREER, RUI, RAPID, and EAGER awards. Grant proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Law & Science program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/law-science-ls>.

Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS)

The Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS) program supports interdisciplinary research geared toward the development of innovative methods and models for the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. Theory-based proposals with potential for use across multiple fields are of particular interest. This program offers funding for "Regular Research Awards; awards for conferences, workshops, and community-development activities; DDRI Grants; and REU Supplements." It is anticipated that \$3.76 million will be available each year for between 15 and 35 awards. For 2026, the deadlines will be January 29 and August 27; proposals will be due on the last Thursday of January and August annually thereafter.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the MMS program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/methodology-measurement-and-statistics-mms>.

Research Infrastructure in the Social and Behavioral Sciences (RISBS)

The Research Infrastructure in the Social and Behavioral Sciences (RISBS) program is a new opportunity from SBE, jointly hosted by the Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences and the Division of Social and Economic Sciences. The RISBS program supports the development of research infrastructure, in the form of computational and data tools, to enable research in the social and behavioral sciences. RISBS also intends to support co-funding efforts with other SBE programs. According to NSF, “RISBS does not support research by principal investigators except in service of creation of the infrastructure.” The RISBS program accepts proposals at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the RISBS program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/research-infrastructure-social-behavioral-sciences>.

SBE-UKRI Lead Agency Opportunity (SBE-UKRI)

The SBE-UKRI Program supports promoting “transatlantic collaborative research by reducing barriers to conducting international research. The SBE-UKRI Lead Agency Opportunity allows U.S. and UK researchers to submit a single collaborative proposal that will undergo a single merit review process through the lead agency.” There are two stages required in submitting a proposal:

- Expression of Interest (EOI) - This step includes identifying a prospective lead agency, a brief description of research, the expression of interest form, and communication to lead agency.
- Full Proposal Submission - This step includes prefacing the title with “SBE-UKRI.” If NSF is the lead agency: proposals must align with NSF’s Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG). “Single Proposal” should be selected if the proposal is only using one U.S. institution. Affiliations of foreign personnel should be listed in the overview as well. If a UK Research council is the lead agency: Proposals must comply with the council’s guide. Proposals should only include UK funds. These costs should be clearly differentiated between U.S. and UK.

An institutional statement is required by each non-lead country partner organization. Proposals will be peer reviewed by lead agencies, and each agency will use its internal procedures to determine whether the proposal will receive funding.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SBE-UKRI opportunity is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/programid/505916?org=SBE&from=home>

Science of Organizations (SoO)

The Science of Organizations (SoO) program supports basic research projects that explore the development, formation, and operation of organizations in their various shapes and forms. Proposals should “use scientific methods to develop and refine theories, to empirically test

theories and frameworks, and to develop new measures and methods.” SoO-funded projects should yield “generalizable insights that are of value to the business practitioner, policy-maker and research communities.” Proposals should consider intellectual merit and large-scale impacts. As of 2026, full proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SoO program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/science-organizations-soo>.

Security and Preparedness (SAP)

The Security and Preparedness (SAP) program is one of two programs (along with the Accountable Institutions and Behavior program) that evolved out of the Political Science program. This program consolidates several funding sources from across the Directorate focused on global and national security issues, including research pertaining to “conflict and dispute resolution, international and comparative political economy, domestic political instability and conflict processes, and security implications of natural hazards and stressors.” Notably, the program does not fund applied research. The SAP program coordinates closely with the AIB and LS programs to address research previously covered under the Political Science program and national interest basic research broadly. As of 2026, proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Security and Preparedness program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/security-and-preparedness-sap>.

Sociology Program

The Sociology program supports basic research on human social organization broadly, including “societies, institutions, groups and demography,” as well as systems of individual and institutional change. Topics for research identified by the program include: organizations and organizational behavior, population dynamics, social movements, social groups, labor force participation, stratification and mobility, family, social networks, socialization, and the sociology of science and technology.” Proposals may be accepted at any time, and this program also offers crossing-cutting opportunities through CAREER, REU, RUI, Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP), Major Research Instrumentation (MRI), Postdoctoral-Research Fellowships (SPRF), Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), and Mid-scale Research Infrastructure programs.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Sociology program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/sociology>.

Science and Technology Studies (STS)

The Science and Technology Studies (STS) program, evolved from the Science, Technology, and Society program, aims to understand the “intellectual, material, and social facets” of STEM disciplines. The program’s purview includes STEM related “interdisciplinary studies of ethics, equity, governance, and policy issues.” The revamped STS program will fund standard research grants, grants for collaborative research, professional development, conferences, research community development, Scholars Awards, and DDRI grants. Proposals are due February 2 and August 3 annually; DDRI proposals will only be accepted by the August deadline.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the STS program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/science-and-technology-studies-sts>.

Science of Science: Discovery, Communication, and Impact (SoS:DCI)

The Science of Science: Discovery, Communication, and Impact (SoS:DCI) program, evolved from the Science of Science and Innovation Policy program (SciSIP), aims to increase and communicate the public value of scientific research and discovery to society. The SoS:DCI program funds research that builds on the theoretical and empirical understanding of social sciences and seeks proposals that conduct research at the “individual, organizational and institutional levels or from micro, meso, and macro scales and complex system levels” from multidisciplinary perspectives. Proposals should:

- “Draw from and advance theory, knowledge and frameworks on the science of science;
- Develop models, data, indicators and associated analytical tools that constitute and enable transformative advances rather than incremental change;
- Provide credible rigorous assessments of the proposed project’s impact and social and policy implications; and
- Include robust data management plans with the goal of advancing open science and increasing public access to usable, valid and reliable scientific materials.”

This program is particularly interested in programs that have the potential to strengthen U.S. global competitiveness in science across domains. Proposers are strongly encouraged to consider the broader impacts of their work and SoS:DCI prioritizes broadening participation in the sciences. Proposals from junior faculty, women, faculty from underrepresented groups, minority-serving institutions, RUI and EPSCoR states are encouraged. This program also supports conference awards, standard research grants, grants for collaborative research, and DDRI grants. For 2026, proposals are accepted at any time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SoS:DCI program is available at: <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/science-science-discovery-communication-and-impact-sosdci>.

A Science of Science Policy Approach to Analyzing and Innovating the Biomedical Research Enterprise

The Science of Science Policy Approach to Analyzing and Innovating the Biomedical Research Enterprise (SCISIPBIO) program is jointly offered by NSF’s Science of Science: Discovery, Communication and Impact Program (SoS:DCI) and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The program aims to support the “development of theories, models, analytical tools, data and metrics that can inform the science of science, science policy, public outcomes and the advancement of the scientific enterprise, with a focus on the biomedical sciences.” NSF and NIH expect to issue between four and eight awards per year, ranging from \$100,000 to \$250,000 in annual funding for up to four years. Proposals are due on February 9 and September 9, annually.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SCISIPBIO program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/science-science-policy-approach-analyzing-and-innovating-biomedical-research>.

SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities

Centers for Research and Innovation Science, the Environment and Society (CRISES)

The CRISES program aims to fund centers that build research and infrastructure to address major domestic and global issues from a social science perspective. Specifically, “the envisioned centers will catalyze new research and research-based innovations to address seemingly intractable problems that confront our society.” They will “develop evidence-based solutions that address fundamental quality-of-life issues, such as those involving the environment, extreme weather and sustainability; workforce and the economy; equity and access to opportunities; and well-being.”

To date, SBE has solicited proposals for two rounds of planning, conference, and EAGER proposals to inform or serve as the basis for larger center-level efforts. Proposals for the initial competition were due in June 2023 with awards starting in September 2023. Proposals for the second competition were due July 2024 and with awards beginning as early as January 2025. NSF intends to issue a future solicitation for full center-level awards with award amounts in the range of \$1 million. However, the timeline for this competition is not yet clear.

The competition for 2026 has been cancelled. It is not yet clear if NSF will run future competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the CRISES program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/programid/506189?org=SBE&from=home>

Build and Broaden: Enhancing Social, Behavioral, and Economic Science Research and Capacity at Minority-Serving Institutions (B2)

Build and Broaden (B2) funds fundamental research and research capacity across various disciplines at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and promotes research collaboration between MSI researchers and those not at MSIs. NSF has historically received less grant submissions from or involving MSI scholars; B2 seeks to address the agency’s limitations in supporting SBE research opportunities at these institutions. B2 proposals should overview research projects that “increase students’ pursuit of graduate training, enhance PI productivity build research capacity, or cultivate partnerships” at MSIs. The next round of proposals for B2 are due on January 16, 2025 and will be due on the third Thursday in January annually thereafter. SBE anticipates funding 25 to 30 projects with up to \$8 million.

The competition for 2026 has been cancelled. It is not yet clear if NSF will run future competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on B2 is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/build-broaden-enhancing-social-behavioral-economic>.

Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2)

The Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2) program promotes “research projects that identify (1) factors that are effective in the formation of ethical STEM researchers and (2) approaches to developing those factors in all STEM fields that NSF supports.” Projects should use fundamental research to discover what constitutes responsible or irresponsible research and why. Projects should also investigate how to best incorporate responsible research practices into all levels of research. NSF anticipates awarding 10 to 15 standard grants with \$5.2 million. Proposals are due annually on the fourth Thursday in January. Proposals to this solicitation should be one of the four following kinds of projects:

- Conference Projects with a total budget of \$50,000 and a maximum duration of 12 months;
- Incubation Projects with a total budget of up to \$90,000 and a maximum duration of 12 months;
- Research Grants with a total budget of up to \$400,000 and a maximum duration of three years; and
- Institutional Transformation Research Grants with a total budget of up to \$700,000 and a maximum duration of 5 years.

The competition for 2026 has been cancelled. It is not yet clear if NSF will run future competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Ethical and Responsible Research program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/ethical-and-responsible-research-er2>.

Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI)

Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI) is NSF’s effort to better America’s research capacity to address complex infrastructure challenges with a “human-and-social-centered” approach. NSF values strong infrastructure that promotes “socioeconomic vitality,” and this program seeks to increase the efficacy of U.S. biological, technological, social, economic, or educational infrastructure. SAI supports proposals from interdisciplinary experts that advance “substantial and potentially pathbreaking” user-centered, fundamental research that can better the “design, development, use, deployment, cost-effectiveness, sustainability, and maintenance” of U.S. infrastructure. NSF is interested in research that implements a deep understanding of at least one relevant SBE science, which could include “human cognition, perception, information processing, decision making, social and cultural behavior, legal frameworks, governmental structures, and other areas.” NSF also encourages proposals from underrepresented groups and minority serving institutions (MSIs) in accordance with their broadening participation efforts. Up to \$9.6 million was available for an estimated amount of 15 awards.

The most recent proposals were submitted in March 2024, and any future competitions may be influenced by new priorities set by the incoming Administration.

The competition for 2026 has been cancelled. It is not yet clear if NSF will run future competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on SAI is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/strengthening-american-infrastructure-sai-1>.

National Center for Science and Engineering Studies

Research on the Science and Technology Enterprise: Statistics and Surveys – R&D, U.S. S&T Competitiveness, STEM Education, S&T Workforce

The National Center for Science and Engineering Studies (NCSES) collects, analyzes, reports, and disseminates objective, statistical data involving science and engineering in the United States and other countries. As the statistical branch of the SBE Directorate, and one of the few principal national statistical agencies, NCSES provides useful information to researchers, policymakers, and the public through annual reports. NCSES invites efforts by the research community to use NCSES data for research on the science and technology enterprise, to develop improved survey methodologies for NCSES surveys, to create and improve indicators of S&T activities and resources and strengthen methodologies to analyze and disseminate S&T statistical data. NCSES invites proposals for individual or multi-investigator research projects, doctoral dissertation improvement awards, conferences, experimental research, survey research and data collection, and dissemination projects under its program for NCSES S&T. NCSES expects to fund five to ten awards each year. Proposals are due annually on the third Tuesday in January and the third Tuesday in June. For 2026, the due dates were January 20 and June 16.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the NCSES program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/research-science-technology-enterprise-indicators>.

SBE Science of Broadening Participation (SBE SBP)

The Science of Broadening Participation (SBP) seeks to better understand the barriers and pathways to increased participation in STEM education and careers by utilizing the “theories, methods, and analytic techniques of the social, behavioral, economic and learning sciences.” The goal of this program is to engage underrepresented populations in STEM education, careers, and institutions to make the U.S. more competitive in STEM R&D.

SBP identified three categories of factors for proposals to focus on:

- Institutional, organizational and group factors;
- Affective, behavioral, cultural, and social factors; and
- Economic and policy-related factors.

Numerous SBE topics can contribute to SBP, including but not limited to: “underlying psychological and social issues affecting different participation and graduation rates of people who vary by gender, race, ethnicity, disability, and other statuses;” “social, behavioral, or economic processes and mechanisms that contribute to positive outcomes within education, the workforce, and major social institutions;” “factors that help promote and maintain underrepresented youths’ interest in STEM fields;” and “impacts of a diverse workforce on scientific productivity and innovation in the national economy.”

Full SBP proposals are accepted at any time. Research that would contribute to SBP should be proposed through a relevant program within the SBE Directorate. Researchers should identify their research as an SBP proposals by including “SBP:” at the beginning of the proposal title.

The competition for 2026 has been cancelled. It is not yet clear if NSF will run future competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More Information on SBE SBP is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/sbe-science-broadening-participation-sbe-sbp>.

Directorate for STEM Education (EDU)

The Directorate for STEM Education (EDU) contains a variety of programs aimed at improving STEM learning and education. EDU supports STEM education research “at all educational levels and in a variety of settings.” Supported programs encompass research and implementation and cater to diverse audiences including K-12, informal, undergraduate, and graduate students. Many programs also incorporate social science research related to STEM learning, either as standalone initiatives or as a part of a larger project.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the EDU Directorate is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/edu>.

EDU Core Research

The EDU Core Research program (ECR) supports research “that contributes to the general, explanatory knowledge that underlies STEM education in one or more of the three broadly conceived Research Areas: Research on STEM Learning and Learning Environments, Research on Broadening Participation in STEM fields, and Research on STEM Workforce Development.” Within this framework, the program supports educational research activities focusing specifically on only undergraduate education, graduate education, higher education and the STEM workforce.

The program accepts three levels of proposals to match projects with differing levels of maturity to be used for 3-5 years. Level I proposals can earn awards up to \$500,000, Level II proposals are up to \$1.5 million, and Level III proposals can be awarded up to \$2.5 million. While the deadline passed for October 2, 2025, applications are due annually on the first Thursday in October.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the ECR program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/edu-core-research-ecrcore>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/ecrcore-edu-core-research/nsf21-588/solicitation>.

Improving Undergraduate STEM Education

NSF’s Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Directorate for STEM Education (IUSE:EDU) program, formerly the IUSE:EHR program, “supports projects that seek to bring recent advances in STEM knowledge into undergraduate education, that adapt, improve, and incorporate evidence-based practices into STEM teaching and learning, and that lay the groundwork for institutional improvement in STEM education.” The program also “encourages replications of research studies at different types of institutions and with different student bodies to produce deeper knowledge about the effectiveness and transferability of findings.”

The IUSE program offers two project tracks: (1) Engaged Student Learning and (2) Institutional and Community Transformation. Each track provides various levels of scope, scale, and funding. Full proposals for the Engaged Student Learning track (Level 1) and Institutional and Community Transformation track (capacity-building level and Level 1) are due twice per year on January 21, 2026, and on the third Wednesday in January annually thereafter. Full proposals for the Engaged Student Learning (Levels 2 and 3) and Institutional and Community Transformation (Level 2) are due on July 16, 2026, and on the third Wednesday in July annually thereafter. NSF anticipates distributing approximately 135 awards totaling \$61 million. Individual award size varies by category and track.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the IUSE program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/improving-undergraduate-stem-education-directorate>.
- The most recent program solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2023/nsf23510/nsf23510.pdf>.

Innovations in Graduate Education

The Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) program supports the development of new and transformative approaches to STEM graduate education. This program encourages projects that pilot, test, and validate innovative strategies to workforce development, broadening participation, and institutional capacity building. In addition, the IGE program encourages proposals that include partnerships with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government, informal science organizations, academic partners, and others. An informational webinar was hosted in January 2025; however, the program is still waiting for a new publication date.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the IGE program is available at: <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/innovations-graduate-education-program>.

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

The NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) supports outstanding graduate students pursuing full-time, research-based master's and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), including STEM education. Established in 1952, the program works to strengthen the U.S. scientific and engineering workforce by recognizing and supporting individuals with the potential to make significant contributions to STEM.

Each fellowship provides three years of support over a five-year period, including a \$37,000 annual stipend and a \$16,000 Cost of Education allowance to cover tuition and mandatory fees. Deadlines for full proposals vary by discipline with

- November 10, 2025: Life Sciences
- November 12, 2025: Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Materials Research; Psychology; Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences; STEM Education and Learning
- November 13, 2025: Engineering

- November 14, 2025: Chemistry; Geosciences; Mathematical Sciences; Physics and Astronomy

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the GRFP program is available at: <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/grfp-nsf-graduate-research-fellowship-program>.
- The solicitation can be found here: <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/grfp-nsf-graduate-research-fellowship-program/nsf25-547/solicitation>.

Research on Innovative Technologies for Enhanced Learning (RITEL)

The Research on Innovative Technologies for Teaching and Learning program (RITEL), formerly known as Cyberlearning for Work at the Human-Technology Frontier, funds “exploratory and synergistic research in emerging technologies (to include, but not limited to, artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, and immersive or augmenting technologies) for teaching and learning in the future.” RITEL works to support research in all learning contexts and for all learner populations with a special interest in developing new cost-effective educational technologies.

Unique in its requirement that projects advance both learning and technology, the research should address multiple disciplines such as “learning sciences; discipline-based education research; computer and information science and engineering; design; and cognitive, behavioral, and social sciences.” NSF expects to support 20 to 25 awards with each project funded for a duration of 3 years and up to \$900,000. The deadline is November 4, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the RITEL program is available at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/research-emerging-technologies-teaching-and-learning>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/ritel-research-innovative-technologies-enhanced-learning/nsf23-624/solicitation>.

Advanced Technological Education (ATE)

The Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program focuses on the education and training of technicians for high-technology fields that drive the U.S. economy, with emphasis on two-year institutions of higher education. It supports partnerships between academic institutions, industry, and economic development agencies to improve the quality of science and engineering technician education. Projects are typically faculty-led and may include curriculum development, professional development for college faculty and secondary school teachers, and career pathway development.

The program anticipates approximately 45–80 awards annually, with total funding around \$74 million. Proposal submissions were due on October 2, 2025, or the first Thursday in October annually.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the ATE program is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/ate-advanced-technological-education>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/ate-advanced-technological-education/nsf24-584/solicitation>.

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure Incubators for STEM Education:** A collaboration between EDU, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Schmidt Futures, and the Walton Family Foundation that funded Incubator projects for Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure (RI) efforts with a special emphasis on the needs of historically disadvantaged communities in STEM and STEM education.
- **Racial Equity in STEM:** A program that supported NSF’s vision of “a nation that leads the world in science and engineering research and innovation... without barriers to participation.” This program aimed to foster diversity and equity in STEM fields and broaden access to and engagement in STEM education.
- **Discovery Research PreK-12 Program:** A program that supported the development of STEM education with the ultimate goal of enhancing the understanding and use of STEM content, practices, and skills among students and teachers.
- **Advancing Informal STEM Learning:** A program that funded research on STEM role in equity and belonging, educational success, and advancing public engagement in scientific discovery.
- **Analytics for Equity Initiative:** A partnership with OSTP and OMB that connected researchers with federal agencies to find solutions to research questions related to five equity themes: Equity of access to STEM Research and Education and Opportunities; Environmental Stressors and Equity; Equity in Human Service Delivery and Outcomes; Health Equity in the Wake of Climate Change; and Equity Considerations for Workplace Safety and Workers.
- **ADVANCE: Organizational Change for Gender Equity in STEM Academic Professions:** A program that promoted a diverse and equitable STEM workforce for faculty in academia.
- **Workplace Equity for Persons with Disabilities in STEM and STEM Education:** A program that supported research to promote knowledge and implementation of “diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible” STEM education and workplaces for people with disabilities.

Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering

The Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) supports interdisciplinary research to advance understanding in computing, communications, information science, and engineering. The five goals of CISE are:

- “Invests in research and education in all areas of computer and information science and engineering.
- Fosters broad interdisciplinary collaborations.
- Invests in cyberinfrastructure for all areas of science and engineering.

- Enables accessible participation in an information-based society.
- Develops a computing and information technology workforce with skills necessary for success in an increasingly competitive global market”

CISE is organized into four divisions: the Division of Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF), Division of Computer and Network Systems (CNS), Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS) and the Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (OAC). As with other NSF directorates, there are several CISE programs in collaboration with the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE).

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the CISE Directorate is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/cise/about.jsp>.

Growing Convergence Research (GCR)

The Growing Convergence Research (GCR) program supports “transitioning teams from research that is multidisciplinary to research that transcends disciplinary boundaries with novel conceptual frameworks, theories and methods.” The GCR program defines convergence research as having two primary characteristics: research having been inspired by the need to address a specific challenge or opportunity, and research that utilizes deep integration across disciplines. Additionally, NSF is looking for the convergence paradigm to intentionally bring together intellectually diverse researchers and stakeholders to frame the research questions, adopt common frameworks for addressing them, and create and implement innovative scientific approaches for their solution.

NSF expects to make 6-10 awards for this funding opportunity with a total budget of \$16,000,000. Proposers must outline a five-year research plan delineated in two phases, Phase I: years 1-2, and Phase II: years 3-5. The total budget for Phase I may not exceed \$1,200,000, and the total for Phase II may not exceed \$2,400,000. The deadline is February 9, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the GCR program can be found at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/growing-convergence-research-gcr>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/gcr-growing-convergence-research/nsf24-527/solicitation>.

Integrated Data Systems & Services (IDSS)

The Integrated Data Systems & Services (IDSS) program supports national-scale cyberinfrastructure systems and services that enable open, data-intensive, and AI-driven science and engineering research and education. IDSS funds the development and expansion of integrated systems and services that broadly benefit multiple research communities. Proposals may be submitted under three categories: “(I) development and deployment of novel national-scale systems; (II) transition and enhancement of existing regional or pilot data systems to national-scale operational quality; and (III) planning grants for future development or transitions.” The program builds on NSF’s long-standing investments in foundational and application-specific cyberinfrastructure, including programs like CSSI and Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CC*). NSF expects to make 3 to 9 awards. The estimated number of awards in each Category is as follows: 1 to 2 (Category I), 1 to 2 (Category II), 1 to 5 (Category III). The deadline for the current

FY2025 funding cycle is December 4, 2025, and the next annual deadline for the FY 2026 funding cycle is July 28, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the IDSS program can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/idss-integrated-data-systems-services>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/idss-integrated-data-systems-services/nsf25-544/solicitation>.

Cyber-Physical System Foundations and Connected Communities (CPS)

The Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS) program supports foundational and community-driven research that integrates computation, physical systems, and human interaction to create reliable, resilient systems. It seeks advances across all areas of CPS, including artificial intelligence, quantum information systems, and technologies that transform interactions among people, technology, and the environment. The program offers two tracks: CPS Foundational Research (CPS-FR), which advances theoretical and foundational studies, and CPS Community-Inspired Research (CPS-CIR), which emphasizes use-inspired, translational research. NSF anticipates awarding 20 to 31 projects with a total budget of 30.1 million dollars, spanning a range of project scopes and maturities. While proposals are accepted at anytime, NSF does provide two annual target dates, September 11, 2025, (or the second Thursday in September each year), and February 5, 2026, (or the first Thursday in February each year), in order to coordinate proposal submissions with panel review cycles. While proposals are accepted at any time, proposers are highly encouraged to meet these deadlines to ensure consideration during the panel review cycle.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the CPS program can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cps-cyber-physical-system-foundations-connected-communities>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/future-core-computer-information-science-engineering-future-computing/nsf25-543/solicitation>.

Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science

The Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science opportunity (SCH), formerly Smart and Connected Health, aims to “support the development of transformative high-risk, high-reward advances in computer and information science, engineering, mathematics, statistics, behavioral and/or cognitive research to address pressing questions in the biomedical and public health communities.” This solicitation is a partnership between NSF and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Projects funded under this opportunity must contribute to two or more fields such as “computer and information science, engineering, mathematics, statistics, behavioral and/or cognitive research to address pressing questions in the biomedical and public health communities.”

Topics outside of the scope of the solicitation include “traditional disease-centric medical, clinical, pharmacological, biological or physiological studies and evaluations...fundamental biological

research with humans that does not advance other fundamental science or engineering areas...and proposals that address health indirectly in the education or work environment.” NSF aims to support 10 to 16 awards funded up to four years of 1,200,000. The deadline was October 2, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SCH program can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/sch-smart-health-biomedical-research-era-artificial-intelligence>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/sch-smart-health-biomedical-research-era-artificial-intelligence/nsf25-542/solicitation>.

Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace

The Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC 2.0) program supports research and education to develop a trustworthy global cyber ecosystem. The program addresses cybersecurity research and development, risk management, workforce development, and related areas.

Proposals must be submitted under one of the three designations:

- **Research (RES):** Supports multidisciplinary research on cybersecurity. Projects may request up to \$1,200,000 for up to four years. Proposals over \$600,000 require Broadening Participation in Computing and collaboration plans. Optional Transition to Education (TTE) plans of up to \$50,000 may be included.
- **Education (EDU):** Focuses on cybersecurity education and workforce training. Projects may request up to \$500,000 for up to three years. Proposals with demonstrated collaboration between cybersecurity experts and education researchers may request an additional \$100,000.
- **Seedling (SEED):** Supports special topics defined in Dear Colleague Letters. Projects may request up to \$300,000 for up to two years.

NSF expects to support 75 awards with proposals submitted by September 29, 2025 (and the last Monday in September each year) to be considered for the fall review cycle and proposals submitted by

January 26, 2026 (and the last Monday in January each year) to be considered for the winter review cycle.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the SaTC program is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/satc-20-security-privacy-trust-cyberspace>.
- The most recent SaTC solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/satc-20-security-privacy-trust-cyberspace/nsf25-515/solicitation>.

Mathematical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence

The Mathematical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence (MFAI) program will support “research collaborations between mathematicians, statisticians, computer scientists, engineers and social behavior scientists to establish innovative and principled design and analysis approaches for AI

technology.” MFAI will be targeted towards research focused on understanding the capabilities, limitations, and emerging properties of AI methods as well as the development of novel and mathematically grounded design and analysis principles for the current and next generation of AI approaches. NSF expects to make up to 15 awards, with award sizes ranging from \$500k to \$1.5M and new awards receiving up to \$8,500,000 per year. Each award is expected to take place for 36 months. Proposals were due October 10, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the MFAI program is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mathematical-foundations-artificial-intelligence>.
- The most recent program solicitation is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mfai-mathematical-foundations-artificial-intelligence/nsf24-569/solicitation>.

Directorate for Engineering

Through investments in engineering research and education, the Directorate for Engineering (ENG) supports the NSF mission by increasing U.S. leadership in engineering and cutting-edge technologies. Its focus areas include:

- Expanding educational opportunities to create a highly skilled engineering workforce
- Promoting partnerships to support the nation's innovation ecosystem
- Investing in transformative engineering approaches that address national challenges.

ENG encompasses a diverse range of programs, including Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET); Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI); Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems (ECCS); Engineering Education and Centers (EEC); Emerging Frontiers and Multidisciplinary Activities (EFMA); and Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP).

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Directorate for Engineering is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=ENG>.

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Humans, Disasters, and the Built Environment:** A program that supported fundamental, multidisciplinary research on the interactions between humans and the built environment within and among communities exposed to natural, technological and other types of hazards and disasters.
- **Leading Engineering for America’s Prosperity, Health, and Infrastructure:** A program that aimed to support research on ‘engineering problems that are too complex to yield to the efforts of a single investigator – problems that require sustained and coordinated effort from interdisciplinary research teams, with goals that are not achievable through a series of smaller, short-term projects.’”

- **Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation:** A program that supported interdisciplinary groups of researchers in tackling rapidly evolving innovations in fundamental engineering research.

Directorate for Biological Sciences

The NSF Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) promotes scientific research which improves the understanding of the principles and mechanisms governing life. Areas of interest include building a resilient planet for crop development and conservation of species; advancing emerging industries through biotechnology and AI; integrating across biological sciences from subdisciplines within and outside of biology; and creating opportunities everywhere by broadening participation.

BIO is divided into five divisions: the Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI); the Division of Environmental Biology (DEB); the Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS); the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB); and the Emerging Frontiers Division (EF).

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about BIO can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/bio/about.jsp>.

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases:** A partnership between NSF, NIH, and USSA on ecological, evolutionary, organismal, and social drivers that influence the transmission dynamics of infectious diseases.
- **Research Coordination Networks in Undergraduate Biology Education (RCN-UBE):** A program that linked biological research discoveries with innovations in biology education.

Office of International Science and Engineering

The Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) leads most international engagement efforts for NSF. OISE “fosters partnerships that connect U.S. researchers and students with international colleagues, enabling the development of solutions to global challenges.” OISE works across NSF to expand international research opportunities and shape international research priorities, globally engaging with the STEM workforce. Major programs that OISE supports have included Global Centers and the Accelerating Research through International Networks (AccelNet). Since the beginning of the Trump Administration, international collaboration has been deemphasized. In July 2025, NSF released updates to NSF Research Security Policies that are effective October 10, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about OISE can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/od/oise/about.jsp>.
- More information about NSF Research Security Policies can be found at <https://promwww.nsf.gov/notices/important/important-notice-no-149-updates-nsf-research-security/in149>

Global Centers

The Global Centers program was launched in 2023 and aims to fund international, interdisciplinary collaborative research centers. The most recent solicitation prioritized team science, community engagement, and use knowledge-to-action frameworks to support Use-Inspired Research Addressing Global Challenges through the Bioeconomy with research funders from Canada, the United Kingdom (UK), the Republic of Korea, Japan, and Finland. The deadline for proposals was June 11, 2024. The program sought to foster convergent, interdisciplinary research collaborations that bring together various topics, including biodiversity, ecology, biofoundries, data, and biological systems. The goal was to develop innovative solutions through interdisciplinary collaboration, international cooperation, and the utilization of science, technology, and policy. The program also emphasized broadening participation and stakeholder engagement to ensure diverse perspectives and inclusive approaches in accelerating scientific understanding of biological systems to develop goods and services.

This solicitation has not been updated since the last deadline in June 2024 and the future of the program is uncertain.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The Global Centers program page is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/gc-global-centers>
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/gc-global-centers/nsf24-556/solicitation>

Accelerating Research through International Network-to-Network Collaborations

The Accelerating Research through International Network-to-Network Collaborations (AccelNet) program is not accepting applications as of October 2025, but the program has yet to be formally archived by NSF. AccelNet aims to “1) leverage prior NSF support for building research capacity towards activities that launch international research network of networks (NoN) that will lead to an accelerated advancement of an area of science after the award period and 2) recruit and foster a diverse and internationally competent US-based workforce trained in conducting and leading multi-team international collaboration.” Proposals funded by this program can address any topic funded by NSF, particularly grand challenges identified within research communities and/or the agency.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about AccelNet can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/accelnet-accelerating-research-through-international-network-network>
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/accelnet-accelerating-research-through-international-network-network/nsf23-619/solicitation>

Office of Integrative Activities

The Office of Integrative Activities (OIA) oversees many of NSF’s cross-cutting and interdisciplinary programs, working “across disciplinary boundaries to lead and coordinate strategic programs and opportunities that: advance research excellence and innovation; develop human and infrastructure

capacity critical to the U.S. science and engineering enterprise; and promote engagement of scientists and engineers at all career stages.” While OIA has ceded some major programming to Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) and other institutes, it remains involved with several major cross-NSF initiatives.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about OIA can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/about.jsp>.

Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure

The Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure program was established at NSF to support projects that do not meet the threshold for the Major Research Instrumentation and Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC) programs but would still significantly advance community-defined needs such as those identified in National Academies [reports](#) and decadal surveys, through research community planning and prioritizing exercises, or in other national priorities. NSF defines Research Infrastructure (RI) as “any combination of facilities, equipment, instrumentation, computational hardware or software, and the necessary human capital in support of the same.” There are two sizes of Mid-scale grants available, Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-1 (Mid-scale RI-1) and Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-2 (Mid-scale RI-2).

Through the Mid-Scale 1, NSF plans to support instrumentation and infrastructure projects in two tracks: “Implementation” (e.g., acquisition and/or construction) or “Design.” The “Design” track is intended to facilitate progress toward readiness for a mid-scale range implementation project. Mid-scale RI-1 is intended to support projects with total costs from \$4 million up to, but not including, \$20 million for implementation projects and \$400,000 up to, but not including, \$20 million for design activities meant to inform a future Mid-Scale RI-1 or larger Mid-Scale RI-2 proposal.

The most recent Mid-scale RI-2 supported projects worth between \$20 million and \$100 million, which is the lower threshold for MREFC proposals. Proposals for the most recent Mid-scale RI-2 were due December 18, 2023, by “invitation only” for the most recent solicitations. Both Mid-scale opportunities support the infrastructure necessary to carry out social and behavioral science research, though social science awardees are exceedingly rare.

Mid-scale RI-1 competitions are intended to be a biennial and the recurrence is dependent on the availability of funds. Most recently, preliminary proposals were due November 18, 2024, with a final proposal deadline of June 5, 2025. Upcoming deadlines include preliminary proposals due September 1, 2026, with final proposals by invitation only on February 8, 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Mid-scale RI-1 can be found at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mid-scale-research-infrastructure-1-mid-scale-ri-1> and the most recent solicitation is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mid-scale-ri-1-mid-scale-research-infrastructure-1>
- More information about Mid-scale RI-2 can be found at <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/mid-scale-research-infrastructure-2-mid-scale-ri-2> and the most recent solicitation is available at

Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships

The Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) the newest NSF directorate, launched in March of 2022, that aims to promote U.S. innovation, research, and education in the fields of science and engineering. The directorate is also designed to shape research in “technological breakthroughs, future job growth and competitiveness.” TIP collaborates with other directorates of NSF to create partnerships with government agencies, nonprofits, and community organizations and is comprised of three specific focus areas: 1) fostering innovation and technology ecosystems; 2) establishing translation pathways; and 3) partnering to engage the nation’s talent.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on TIP can be found at <https://beta.nsf.gov/tip/latest>.

Convergence Accelerator Program

NSF’s Convergence Accelerator program “addresses national-scale societal challenges through use-inspired convergence research.” Some of the characteristics of Convergence Accelerator programs include integrated teams from multiple backgrounds and disciplines, a fixed term focused on deliverables, intensive education and mentorship, and intentional, proactive management. After an ambitious plan in 2024 to expand Convergence Accelerators into a more regional program that addresses societal issues in local communities nationwide, the future of the program appears to be in flux under the current Administration.

In April 2024, NSF announced that over three years, it would be modifying its Convergence Accelerator program. NSF describes the change as a shift from a single national program to ten geographically focused programs in support of advancing regional innovation ecosystems. It planned to take three years to expand to the following regions: “the Northwest, West, Southwest, Mountain, Midwest, South Central, Central, Southeast, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.” NSF has committed to hosting at least two regional expansion events per region over the next three years. Stakeholders including academia, industry, and community organizations were invited to attend initial convergence accelerator expansion events to discuss ways to work as a region to solve large scale societal problems and drive innovation. Under the new structure for the Convergence Accelerator program, each region would have a lead, or anchor, that other stakeholders will engage with in order to participate in the research funded by the program.

Under the Trump Administration, the program’s future is uncertain, as events around the planned expansion have been delayed and some elements of the program have been archived. Further, the most recent budget request greatly deprioritized the Convergence Accelerator program compared to previous years. It remains to be seen whether the program will continue its push for regionalization or if it will focus on societal impacts over technological development, which has been the primary direction of TIP under the Trump Administration. Lewis-Burke will continue to monitor the continued evolution of this and similar programs.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on Convergence Accelerator can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/initiatives/convergence-accelerator> as well as at the program page <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/nsf-convergence-accelerator-phases-1-2-2023-cohort>
- More information on the expansion can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/initiatives/convergence-accelerator/updates>

Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems

The Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems (POSE) aims to “harness the power of open-source development for the creation of new technology solutions to problems of national and societal importance.” This program is focused on creating, sustaining, and growing open-source ecosystems (OSE) and impactful technologies. The POSE program is *not* intended “to fund the development of open-source research products,” but aims to fund new managing organizations that catalyze community-driven development and growth of subject OSEs. The program is comprised of two phases: 1) OSE Scoping and Planning Proposals; and 2) Establishment and Expansion Proposals. Phase 1 projects are designed to scope activities that “will inform the transition of promising research products that are already available in an open-sourced format into a sustainable and robust OSEs.” Phase 2 projects are designed to support the transitions of open-source research products into sustainable OSEs.

NSF anticipates making approximately 30-50 awards through this program for a total investment of \$27,800,000. The number of awards and average award size/duration are subject to the availability of funds. Full proposals for Phase I and Phase II projects were due September 5, 2025, and will be due on the first Thursday in September annually for subsequent competitions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on POSE can be found here: <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/pose-pathways-enable-open-source-ecosystems>
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/pose-pathways-enable-open-source-ecosystems/nsf24-606/solicitation>

Accelerating Research Transition (ART)

ART supports institutions of higher education and non-profit organizations that seek to build capacity and infrastructure for translation of fundamental academic research into tangible solutions that benefit the public. This program focuses on enhancing U.S. higher education institutions' capacity for translational research and their role in regional innovation ecosystems. It also seeks to train students, postdoctoral researchers, and faculty in translational research, preparing them for various career paths. The ART program recently released a revised solicitation in September 2025 that includes five Tracks to address different levels of research translation capacity. Notably, the new solicitation also expands ARTs submission eligibility to include non-profits and non-academic organizations, increasing the types of organizations that can apply to certain Tracks.

NSF anticipates making a total of 40 awards. 20 for Track 1, 10 for Track 2, 5 for Track 3, 4 for Track 4, and 2 for Track 5. The total anticipated funding amount is \$178 million. The final program budget, number of awards, average award size and duration are subject to the availability of funds. Deadlines differ depending on the Track. The deadline for Tracks 2 and 5 is January 15, 2026. The deadline for Tracks 1, 3, and 4, is March 12, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information

- The ART solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/art-accelerating-research-translation/nsf25-548/solicitation>

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Regional Resilience Innovation Incubator (R2I2):** A collaborative program between GEO and TIP that supported community-engaged pilot projects that develop scalable solution(s) to one or multiple regional climate challenges based on interdisciplinary, translational research.
- **NSF Research Coordination Networks (RCN):** A cross-cutting program that involved multiple directorates, including Biological Sciences, CISE, Geosciences, EDU, ENG, and SBE. RCN awards did not support primary research but aimed to “advance a field or create new directions in research or education by supporting groups of investigators to communicate and coordinate their research, training, and educational activities across disciplinary, organizational, geographic, and international boundaries.”

Cross-Cutting NSF Programs

National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research Institutes

NSF has run two National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research Institutes solicitations and is expected to run additional competitions going forward. The first two solicitations included a range of partnership with other federal agencies and industry partners, including the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science & Technology Directorate (S&T), the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), as well as Amazon, Intel Corporation, Google, and Accenture. The purpose of the National AI Research Institutes Program is the creation of AI Research Institutes to enable long-term payoffs and address larger-scale challenges in use-inspired and foundational AI research.

The Administration has constantly evolving priorities around AI and the roles for science agencies, like NSF. As such, as of October 2025, NSF has yet to release a new AI Institutes solicitation and is not currently accepting proposals.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research Institutes program page is available at <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/national-artificial-intelligence-research>. The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/national-artificial-intelligence-research-institutes/nsf23-610/solicitation>

Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation

The Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI) program is cross-cutting that involves multiple directorates, including SBE, CISE, Biological Sciences, EDU, ENG, Geosciences, and Math and Physical Sciences. CSSI seeks to enable opportunities that are flexible and responsive to emerging needs in cyberinfrastructure, including the infrastructure necessary to support social and behavioral sciences.

The current solicitation includes three classes of awards: elements, framework implementations, and transition to sustainability awards. Elements awards will support small groups that deploy “robust services for which there is a demonstrated need that will advance one or more significant areas of science and engineering.” Framework implementations awards target “larger, interdisciplinary teams organized around the development and application of common services aimed at solving common research problems faced by NSF researchers in one or more areas of science and engineering, resulting in a sustainable community framework providing cyberinfrastructure services to a diverse community or communities.” Transition to sustainability awards target “groups who would like to execute a well-defined sustainability plan for existing CI with demonstrated impact in one or more areas of science and engineering supported by NSF. The sustainability plan should enable new avenues of support for the long-term sustained impact of the CI.” NSF anticipates awarding \$10 million to up to 20 elements grants, \$20 million to 10 framework implementation grants, and \$4 million to 5 transitions to sustainability grants for a total of \$34 million. The next deadline for full proposals is December 2, 2025, and annually thereafter.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the CSSI program can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cssi-cyberinfrastructure-sustained-scientific-innovation>.
- The most recent solicitation can be found at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/cssi-cyberinfrastructure-sustained-scientific-innovation/nsf22-632/solicitation>.

National Institutes of Health

The primary function of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is to support biomedical and health-related research. Included in this mission is research on the behavioral and social impacts on individuals and society as related to public health. This effort is guided by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) within the Office of the Director (OD) at NIH. Most programs listed below are multi-agency or multi-institute solicitations coordinated by OBSSR. Additionally, most of NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs) have a social and behavioral sciences program or representative to ensure behavioral and social impacts are integrated into many individual solicitations. Please refer to each program's corresponding link to see which of NIH's 27 ICs, as well as which agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are collaborating on each solicitation and to understand the intended social and behavioral sciences research and applications. The focus of the research can and should be specifically geared to reflect the goals of one of the sponsoring ICs.

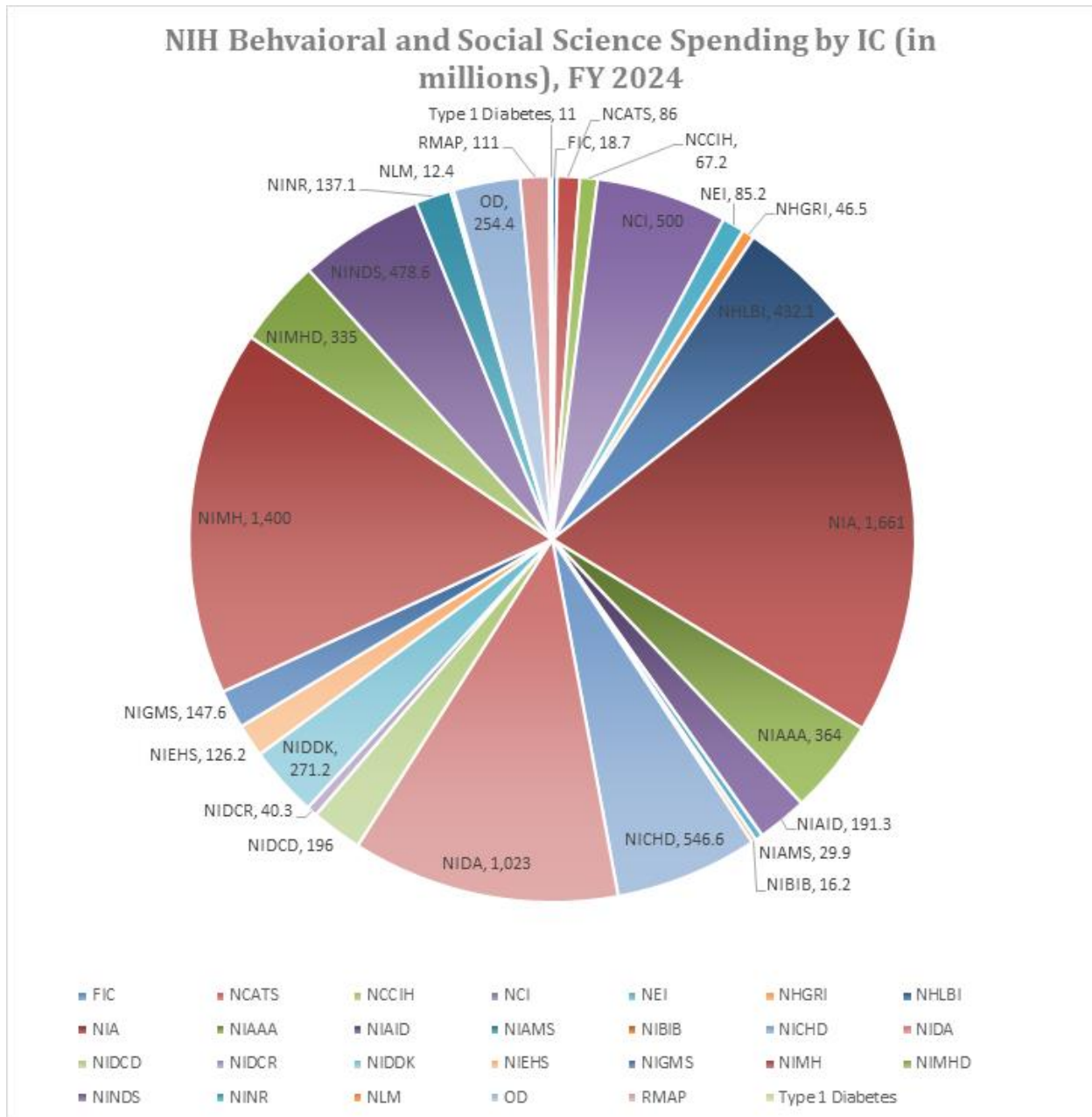
NIH grants are funded through a variety of funding mechanisms (i.e. R01, R03, and R21). NIH typically solicits grant applications three times a year: Cycle I (January through April); Cycle II (May through August); and Cycle III (September through December). The deadlines for grant proposals are published on NIH's Standard Due Dates for Competing Applications page found below. In some instances, programmatic opportunities are best illustrated in a Notice of Special Interest (NOSI), which is NIH's standard announcement that describes research priorities for a given Institute, program, or topical area. In the summer of 2025, the NIH announced the use of Highlighted Topics to guide topics for investigator-initiated grant applications. The highlighted topics represent research priorities for Institutes and Centers and is a resource for additional interest in the behavioral and social sciences.

Interested investigators are also encouraged to explore relevant ICs and their respective funding opportunities, as the solicitations may include social and behavioral sciences research and interventions. Further, while formal, dedicated funding for the Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network (OppNet) concluded in May 2014, NIH ICs have agreed to continue collaborating with OBSSR on a voluntary basis and investing in interdisciplinary projects with unique considerations for and linkages to behavioral and social sciences. Representatives from each IC meet monthly through the NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Coordinating Committee to advance this research.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The NIH's Standard Due Dates for Competing Applications page can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm>.
- Additional information for OBSSR funding opportunities can be found at <https://obssr.od.nih.gov/research-resources/funding-announcements>.

Institutes and Centers (ICs)



Source: <https://report.nih.gov/funding/categorical-spending#/>; search for “Behavioral and Social Science”

In fiscal year (FY) 2024, NIH estimated that \$8.6 billion was invested into research categorized as behavioral and social science; the breakdown of this funding by ICO is displayed in the chart above. Note that individual research projects funded by NIH may be co-categorized with other research areas, so some of the awards captured in this total may feature behavioral and social science as a minor or secondary area of focus. Institutes with major investments in this research portfolio include the National Institute on Aging (NIA), National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child

Health and Human Development (NICHD). Listed below are examples of opportunities from ICOs with major investments in behavioral and social sciences research.

National Institute on Aging (NIA)

Science of Behavior Change (SOBC)

Previously funded through the NIH Common Fund, this program has sought to encourage the acceleration of investigations focused on the wide range of evidence-based interventions to improve treatment and maintenance of behavior changes. Following the conclusion of its Common Fund support, NIA has continued to further the program's goals to "(1) unify the science of behavior change through a focus on mechanisms of behavior change and by strengthening links between basic and applied behavioral science; (2) strengthen behavioral intervention development by implementing the experimental medicine approach to behavior change research and developing the tools required to implement such an approach; and (3) increase rigor, transparency, and dissemination of common terminology, methods, and measures to advance the field of behavior change research."

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Science of Behavior Change can be found at <https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/dbsr/science-behavior-change-sobc>.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Full-Scale Hybrid Effectiveness-Implementation Trials for Mental Health Interventions

NIMH solicits clinical trial applications through a series of notice of funding opportunities (NOFOs) that cover the intervention development pipeline, from first-in-human, early testing of new interventions, confirmatory efficacy trials, through to effectiveness trials. This NOFO seeks to support well-powered clinical trials consistent with NIMH's priorities for: 1) optimizing preventive and therapeutic interventions with previously demonstrated efficacy for use with broader target populations or for delivery routine care, school, community, or online settings, and 2) research on implementation strategies that support the delivery and sustainability of optimized interventions in accessible settings. Applications responsive to this NOFO are hybrid effectiveness implementation trials that examine the effectiveness and clinical impact of interventions to prevent or treat mental illness, implementation challenges and strategies within the intervention setting, and at least one mechanism of action associated with an intervention and/or implementation strategy. The research covered under this announcement addresses practice-relevant questions and must be conducted within accessible intervention settings where the typical consumer can be identified as in need of care and be readily connected to an intervention.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The funding announcements are available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-25-177.html>

Early-Stage Testing of Pharmacologic or Neuromodulatory Device-based Interventions for the Treatment of Mental Disorders

This award supports "early stage testing of pharmacologic interventions with novel mechanisms of action or neuromodulatory device-based interventions for the treatment of symptoms or domains

of altered functions in individuals with mental illness (e.g., schizophrenia, depression, autism, obsessive compulsive disorder, anxiety, bipolar disorder).” As an R61/R33 award, this project involves two parts. In the R61 phase, support “milestone-driven testing, refinement, and/or validation of the intervention's engagement with an empirically supported, measurable molecular/circuit-based target. If milestones are successfully obtained, the grantee can be awarded up to 3 additional years of support (R33 phase) for studies to confirm target engagement in a larger sample and assess the relationship between target engagement and changes in functional outcomes or clinical symptoms/functional domains.” The R61 phase may take up to 2 years, whereas the R33 phase may take up to 3 years to complete. The most recent deadline was October 15, 2025, and the solicitation expires in October 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The funding announcement for the R61/R33 award is available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-184.html>.
- A companion announcement for R33 (Phase II) awards, “Development of Psychosocial Therapeutic and Preventative Intervention for Mental Disorders,” is available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-181.html>.

Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health

This funding announcement supports projects that “identify, develop, and/or test strategies for overcoming barriers to the adoption, adaptation, integration, sustainability, scale-up, and spread of evidence-based interventions, practices, programs, tools, treatments, guidelines, and policies (hereafter referred to as evidence-based interventions). Studies that promote the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based interventions among relevant communities are encouraged.” The next upcoming deadline is November 5, 2025. Standard dates apply with expiration dates in January 2028.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The funding announcements are available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-144.html> (R01); <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-233.html> (R03); and <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-143.html> (R21).

Mood and Psychosis Symptoms during the Menopause Transition

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to encourage applications that will advance mechanistic and translational research on the onset and worsening of mood and psychotic disorders during the menopausal transition (or perimenopause). In particular, NIMH seeks research that will advance understanding of the underlying neurobiological and behavioral mechanisms of mood disruption, emotion dysregulation, and psychosis during the menopausal transition and that will identify novel targets for future mental health interventions or prevention efforts.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The R01 is available here: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-281.html>, while the R21 is available here: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-282.html>.

Development of Psychosocial Therapeutic and Preventive Interventions for Mental Disorders

Through this series of funding announcements, NIMH is seeking research developing and testing innovative psychosocial intervention approaches in which *the target and/or intervention strategy is novel*. This opportunity focuses accelerating the pace of “emergent research on mechanisms and processes underlying mental disorders into promising novel psychosocial preventative or therapeutic interventions.” Projects may be standalone interventions or novel augmentations to efficacious interventions for which there is an empirical rationale by which the augmentation (and corresponding target) is expected to substantially enhance outcomes. Replication studies will be supported for up to three years and must demonstrate change in the intervention target or mechanism to clinical benefit. The most recent deadline for this opportunity was October 17, 2025, and the solicitation expires October 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- These opportunities can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-181.html>.

Advanced Laboratories for Accelerating the Reach and Impact of Treatments for Youth and Adults with Mental Illness (ALACRITY) Research Centers

This notice of funding opportunity supports research centers that contain transdisciplinary teams of clinical and mental health services researchers, behavioral scientists, social scientists, health information, decision scientists, and more. The research centers should support the development, testing, and refinement of novel and integrative approaches for interventions for mental disorders, optimizing mental health services, and improving quality of health care delivery services. The program is focused on maximizing synergies across the mental health research ecosystem. The next available due date for this opportunity is May 18, 2026. The opportunity expires May 19, 2026, and is likely to be reissued based on the history of the program.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-24-210.html>.

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Accelerating the Pace of Drug Abuse Research Using Existing Data

NIDA, in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), invites applications proposing “innovative analysis of existing social science, behavioral, administrative, and neuroimaging data to study the etiology and epidemiology of substance using behaviors (defined as alcohol, tobacco, prescription, and other substances) and related disorders, prevention of substance use and HIV, and health service utilization.” Successful applications should focus on “innovative analysis of existing social, behavioral, administrative, and neuroimaging data that will elucidate the role of substance use and its related behaviors in the evolving dynamics of HIV/AIDS pathogenesis, prevention, treatment, and service delivery, including testing, treatment for individuals who are HIV positive, and Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) adherence to guide the future development, testing, implementation, and delivery of high-quality, effective, and efficient HIV and substance use prevention, care, and treatment services.” This funding opportunity has a maximum project period

of up to five years. This opportunity has an upcoming due date of December 3, 2025, with an expiration date of December 4, 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The funding announcement is available <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-26-055.html> (R01) and <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-26-056.html> (R21).

BRAIN Initiative: Exploratory Research Opportunities Using Invasive Neural Recording and Stimulating Technologies in the Human Brain

This Notice of Funding Opportunity seeks applications for to develop theories, models and methods (TMM) as tools that will advance a quantitative and predictive understanding of brain function across multiple scales, including behavior. Priority will be given to projects that develop novel capabilities for analyzing, integrating, and interpreting the large-scale, complex data emerging from the [Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies® \(BRAIN\) Initiative](#) and related efforts, which includes cell-type specific physiological, anatomical, connectivity, and behavioral data. Proposed experimental work must be limited to model parameter estimation and/or testing the validity of the tools being delivered. It is expected that the TMM tools developed under this NOFO will be made widely available to the neuroscience research community for their use and modification.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-27-004.html>.

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)

Pilot Studies of Biological, Behavioral and Social Mechanisms Contributing to HIV Pathogenesis Within the Mission of NIDDK

Through this opportunity, NIDDK seeks to fund proposals for innovative basic and translational pilot research projects within the mission of NIDDK that are aligned with NIH HIV/AIDS research priorities. Examples of potential topics include, but are not limited to, “elucidation of unique pathophysiological mechanisms contributing to HIV comorbidities, coinfections, and complications (CCCs) affecting organs, tissues, and processes within the mission of the NIDDK.” Projects may also focus on “biological mechanisms underlying HIV reservoirs in NIDDK-relevant tissues are important for developing strategies for long-term viral suppression or eradication” as well as social determinants of health that may affect CCCs or viral reservoirs. Standard dates apply with an expiration date of January 8, 2028. The next due date is January 7, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-25-068.html>.

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)

Advancing HIV/AIDS Research within the Mission of the NIDCD

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to stimulate HIV/AIDS research within the scientific mission areas of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communications Disorders (NIDCD). Applications should address high priority HIV/AIDS research outlined by the NIH Office of AIDS Research (OAR) [<https://www.oar.nih.gov/hiv-policy-and-research/research-priorities>] in the areas of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech, and language. Research should focus on tools used for evaluation, prevention, and detection of hearing disorders. Standard date apply with an expiration date of January 8, 2028. The next due date is January 7, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-319.html>.

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

Risk and Protective Factors of Family Health and Family Level Interventions

This opportunity supports R01 proposals that seek to NIMHD's mission to support basic, clinical, social, and behavioral research related to populations experiencing health disparities. Projects are required to center families from one or more NIH-designated populations that experience health disparities. Proposals are encouraged to include life course perspectives that focus attention on associated risk and protective factors. The most recent deadline was October 5, 2025, and the solicitation expires in May 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity is available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-25-317.html>.

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)

NOSI: Long-term Maintenance of Behavior Change Research

This Notice emphasizes the cross-cutting need for research into methods of promoting long term behavior changes for improving health. Possible topics of interest include types of behaviors that are well maintained, why they were maintained, impact on health outcomes, underlying attributes that may contribute to maintained behavior change, among other areas.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The NOSI can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-19-040.html>.

NIH Highlighted Topics

In August 2025, NIH launched the use of highlighted topics to provide a centralized resource to learn about research areas of interest to NIH. These topics are meant to support investigator

initiated driven research and it's a part of a wider strategy to simplify and streamline the application and funding process. These topics are updated on a regular basis. Highlighted Topics relevant to social and behavioral health can be found below.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Highlighted Topics announcement can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/news-events/nih-extramural-nexus-news/2025/08/introducing-highlighted-topics-a-centralized-and-simple-resource-to-learn-about-research-areas-of-interest-to-nih>
- The list of Highlighted Topics can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics>.
- A list of ICO abbreviations can be found at [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#nih-institutes-and-centers-\(ics\)](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/phs_assignment_information.htm#nih-institutes-and-centers-(ics)).

School Mental and Behavioral Health: Expanding Access to Evidence-Based Interventions and Services

This highlighted topic “encourages research focused on optimizing and testing school-based mental and behavioral health interventions and service delivery models.” Relevant research includes studies focused on improving strategies for detecting risk and recommending care, improving tools to guide approaches in schools based on need and resources, optimizing interventions in school settings, and strategies to promote and sustain the adoption of evidence-based school interventions. Participating ICOs include NIMH, NIAMS, NIDA, NINR, ODP, and ORWH.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be reviewed at <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics/11>.

Research on the Transition from Pediatric to Adult Health Care

Improved rates of survival for childhood conditions has increased the number of children with living with chronic disease. This poses a new challenge: How do we treat children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) as they transition from pediatric to adult care, particularly regarding age-appropriate care access, management of developmental needs, and supporting optimal health? This topic “encourages applications aimed at linking health care transition (HCT) practices to improved health and well-being outcomes for CYSHCN.” The priority for this topic is to link HCT practices to improved outcomes by validating measures applicable across conditions and developmental stages and using community-based research methods while integrating those with lived experiences. Participating ICOs include NICHD, NHLBI, NIAAA, NIDA, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIMH, NINR, OBSSR, ODP, and ORWH.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be reviewed at <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics/2>.

Sleep, Circadian Rhythms, and Substance Use Disorders

This topic is aimed at delineating “the biological mechanisms that underlie the relationship between sleep/circadian rhythms and substance use disorders (SUDs).” The goal of these studies

is to provide clarity regarding the link of SUDs to circadian rhythms, identify “sleep/circadian-based markers for managing risks associated with developing SUDs and/or predicting relapse or recovery” and “identify novel therapeutic targets.” Participating ICOs include NIDA, NIAAA, and ORWH.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be reviewed at <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics/5>.

Understanding and Combating Chronic Disease Burden: The Role of Trauma

The negative impacts of trauma exposure have been a focus of research and the public for the past twenty years, yet the understanding of this issue is still incomplete. There is a need to “improve our ability to identify those individuals at highest risk or who are currently in need of additional care and to rigorously examine interventions to lower risk.” The central aim of this topic is to understand how exposure to traumatic events impacts biological processes. It is topic is informed by the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) report that was released in May 2025 that outlines the lack of evidence in the care of trauma. Participating ICOs include NIMH, NIDA, ORWH, and NIA.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This opportunity can be reviewed at <https://grants.nih.gov/funding/find-a-fit-for-your-research/highlighted-topics/13>.

Future Funding Opportunities

Casual Hypotheses on the Oral-Systemic Health Impacts of Human Behaviors among People with Chronic Conditions

This forecast notice of funding opportunity will solicit applications for research on the linkages between human behaviors and oral-systemic outcomes. Future applications should propose to develop casual hypotheses and/or statistical association for factors that contribute to these linkages. This opportunity will be sponsored by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) and is anticipated for publication on March 2, 2026.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This future funding opportunity can be reviewed at <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/360160>.

Resource and Capacity Building to Advance the Science of Aggression across Species and Disciplines

This forecasted notice of funding opportunity will solicit applications “to advance research on mechanisms of aggressive behavior across species and disciplines.” This opportunity is aligned with OBSSR’s Congressional authorization to develop and coordinate research on violent behavior. Researchers with expertise in neuroscience, psychology, sociology, ethics, and other related disciplines are encouraged to apply for this opportunity. This opportunity was anticipated for publication on October 17, 2025, but is likely delayed due to the current government shutdown.

Sources and Additional Information:

- This future funding opportunity can be reviewed at <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/359820>.

Multiple Chronic Disease Research Centers

This notice forecasts the renewal of the Multiple Chronic Disease Research Centers. The notice of funding opportunity is meant to “support existing and new regional comprehensive research centers to optimize prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of chronic diseases and to improve health outcomes among pediatric and adult populations experiencing health disparities.” Research projects that advance the Make America Healthy Again Commission goals will be prioritized. This opportunity will be sponsored by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). The forecast date for this opportunity has passed but a renewal of this opportunity should be expected in the coming year.

Sources and additional information:

- The forecasted notice for this opportunity can be reviewed at <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/358870>.
- The previous funding opportunity can be found at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-21-007.html>.
- The Make America Healthy Again Commission goals can be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/establishing-the-presidents-make-america-healthy-again-commission/>.

Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the federal department focused on improving “the health and well-being of all Americans” through “sound, sustained advances in the sciences underlying medicine, public health, and social services.” Under the current administration, HHS priorities have shifted toward bolstering behavioral health and crisis intervention systems, expanding substance use prevention and treatment, and strengthening the health workforce, particularly in underserved and rural areas. These areas create both opportunities and challenges for social science research, particularly in understanding the social determinants of health, evaluating workforce development strategies, and assessing the effectiveness of behavioral and community-based interventions. As previously stated, while most of the social and behavioral sciences research funding within HHS is awarded through the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), several HHS agencies which are focused on health care delivery and quality improvement also fund limited and highly competitive research opportunities in the social and behavioral sciences with a current emphasis on alignment with national priorities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on HHS strategic plan can be found at <https://www.hhs.gov/about/strategic-plan/2022-2026/index.html>.
- Information on HHS grant policies can be found at <https://www.hhs.gov/grants/index.html>.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is the primary federal agency focused on providing health care services to underserved and vulnerable populations across the country, training the next generation of health care providers, and improving both the delivery of health care services and the placement of health care providers in geographically underserved areas of the country. Though there are very limited funding opportunities related to social and behavioral science at HRSA, the agency’s Office of Epidemiology and Research (OER) Division of Research within the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) funds one-year and multi-year social and behavioral research projects.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on HRSA can be found at <https://www.hrsa.gov/about>.

Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Office of Epidemiology and Research (OER), Division of Research

The MCHB Division of Research supports maternal and child health (MCH) research, which a particular focus on autism and health equity, while the Division of Epidemiology supports training for maternal and child health (MCH) professionals and administers the National Survey of Children’s Health. Intramural and extramural research supported by MCHB is guided by four key principles: to assure access to high-quality health services to improve the health and well-being for all MCH populations; optimize health for MCH population; strengthen public health capacity and workforce for MCH; and maximize impact through leadership, partnership, and stewardship. There are three primary funding mechanisms at MCHB for researchers: research networks funded

through cooperative agreements, the Field-Initiated Innovation Research Studies (FIRST), and the Secondary Data Analysis Research Studies (SDAR) program.

Field-Initiated Innovation Research Studies

The MCH FIRST program funds research that addresses critical and emerging issues in MCH while incorporating HRSA's clinical priorities and the MCHB Strategic Research Issues. In fiscal year (FY) 2021, the Office funded MCH FIRST projects "to advance the health and well-being of MCH populations by supporting innovative, applied, and translational intervention research studies on critical issues affecting MCH populations." The Autism FIRST program supports investigator-initiated research that addresses "critical issues surrounding the health and well-being of underserved children, adolescents, and young adults with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities (ASD/DD) up to the age of 26, and their families." Autism FIRST projects must generate new data.

MCH and Autism FIRST awards are typically funded every other year, on alternating years; MCH FIRST and Autism FIRST were last awarded in 2024. MCH FIRST had two awardees, while Autism FIRST had one. There are currently no open opportunities.

Secondary Data Analysis Research Studies

MCH SDAR projects support applied MCH research efforts to improve the health and well-being of MCH populations through analysis of secondary, publicly available data. In FY 2021, the Office funded Autism SDAR projects "to determine the evidence-based practices for interventions to improve the physical and behavioral health of children and adolescents" with ASD/DD across the lifespan. The MCH SDAR program presents the opportunity to test new hypotheses using existing data sets to improve the health and well-being of target populations while considering MCHB's Strategic Research Issues, Healthy People 2020 goals, HRSA's clinical priorities, and emerging research topics.

The Autism SDAR projects should "address ASD/DD across the lifespan, with a focus on addressing the needs of underserved populations for whom there is limited evidence of the effectiveness of interventions, and limited access to screening, diagnosis, and treatment for ASD/DD," and contribute to a greater public health impact by improving patient engagement and service delivery. SDAR programs, in contrast to FIRST programs, must exclusively utilize secondary analyses of existing data sets, rather than generate new data. MCH SDAR was last competed in 2020, and Autism SDAR was last competed in 2021. There are currently no open opportunities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Office of Epidemiology and Research is available at <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/about-us/our-offices-divisions/office-epidemiology-research-oer>.
- A list of funding opportunities from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau can be found at <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding?status=All&bureau=645>.
- More information on the MCH FIRST and MCH SDAR programs can be found at <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/hrsa-20-056> and <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/HRSA-22-096>.
- More information on the Autism FIRST and Autism SDAR programs can be found at <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/hrsa-21-053> and <https://www.hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding/hrsa-21-052>.

- Information on all potential funding mechanisms under the Office can be found at <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/research/projects.asp>.
- More information on MCHB's Strategic Research Issues can be found at <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/research/strategic-research-issues.asp>.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is the primary federal agency responsible for improving the safety and quality of the country's health care system. AHRQ's mission is to "fund the most meritorious research, address urgent health needs, and sustain a robust health services research workforce, as we adhere to the President's priorities and those of his administration."

Recent AHRQ funding opportunities have focused on patient-centered outcomes research, combating hospital crowding; improving treatment of menopause; improving care delivery, access, quality, and health outcomes for older adults; and improving healthcare for the disabled. AHRQ has also recently expressed explicit interest in advancing diagnostic safety and quality, and health insurance coverage, access, and affordability in Special Emphasis Notices. AHRQ will expand support for replication studies when appropriate and strengthen their capacity to advance groundbreaking quality, effectiveness and prevention research. At the same time, AHRQ remains dedicated to fostering open, competitive, and accountable science and supporting investigators as they pursue innovative, and sometimes controversial, questions grounded in rigorous methodology.

AHRQ accepts investigator-initiated, unsolicited grant applications, and most program officers within the agency are willing to discuss white papers prior to applying for a grant. AHRQ continues to fund grant applications for its Program Announcements (PAs) in "continuing, new, or expanded programs at the agency." Funding mechanisms for PAs include R01 grants, which are large research projects focused on AHRQ priority areas; R03 grants, which are smaller, short-term, non-renewable grants; and R18 grants, which are research and dissemination grants. Notably, many social and behavioral science grants are jointly funded by the NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR).

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about AHRQ can be found at <https://www.ahrq.gov/cpi/about/index.html>.
- Additional information about AHRQ's interests and priorities can be found at <https://www.ahrq.gov/cpi/about/profile/index.html>.
- Recent AHRQ Special Emphasis Notices can be found at <https://www.ahrq.gov/funding/priorities-contacts/special-emphasis-notices/index.html>.
- Funding priorities for AHRQ can be found at <https://www.ahrq.gov/funding/priorities-contacts/index.html>.
- A complete list of open funding opportunities can be found at <https://www.ahrq.gov/funding/fund-opps/index.html>.

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is an agency dedicated to promoting the economic and social well-being of families, children, youth, and individuals and communities by providing federal leadership, partnership and resources for the compassionate and effective delivery of human services. ACF programs aim to address the needs of vulnerable populations and encourage supportive communities that can improve the quality of life for children and families.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Administration for Children and Families is available at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/>.

Office of Minority Health

The Office of Minority Health (OMH) serves to provide national leadership, resources, and coordination to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations and American Indians and Alaska Natives and eliminate health disparities. Currently, the only initiatives listed on the website are the Center for Indigenous Innovation and Health and sickle cell disease-related initiatives and observances.

Sources and additional information:

- More information on OMH is available at <https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=1&lvlid=1>.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) is tasked with improving the health and well-being of Americans by leading on policy, practices, and programs. This office oversees several public health offices including the Office of Minority Health, Office of Population Affairs, the Office of Research Integrity, and the Office of Women's Health Research among others. In the FY 2025 President's Budget Request 2026, a comprehensive reorganization under the "Make America Healthy Again" (MAHA) framework was proposed, intending to consolidate OASH and several related public health agencies into a new Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) in order to streamline operations, reduce redundancy, and realign programs toward the nation's chronic disease and prevention priorities. As of now, OASH remains its own entity, committed prioritizing gold-standard science, and leveraging rigorous research and policy to improve health outcomes.

Sources and additional information:

- More information on OASH is available at <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/index.html>.

Office of Research Integrity

The Office of Research Integrity (ORI) seeks to enhance the quality and integrity of biomedical and behavioral research through the support of projects aimed at understanding the factors that affect research integrity. We seek applications to conduct social and behavioral research focusing on the identification of the root causes of research misconduct and driving factors for research integrity.

This initiative reflects the broader federal priority of ensuring that research findings are trustworthy, reproducible, and conducted with the highest ethical standards and will result in more efforts to meet this standard within ORI.

Ensuring Research Integrity – Research on Research Integrity

The projects funded under this opportunity should aim to research any combination of the factors below:

1) Explore the financial, cultural, institutional, and individual factors: Studying the impact of institutional culture on research practices and misconduct:

- Studying the day-to-day policies and procedures, such as record keeping, experimental design, bias reducing techniques, and data sharing in research institutions and their impact on research misconduct.
- Examining the influence of team dynamics and leadership styles in fostering research integrity.
- Examining the influence of team dynamics, mentor/mentee relationship, and leadership styles that lead to detrimental research practices and/or research misconduct.
- Examining how time constraints and funding needs influence research misconduct.

2) Assess the effectiveness of policies and training:

- Conducting randomized controlled trials to test the impact of training programs on researchers' understanding and application of ethical standards as well as social responsibility.
- Analyzing longitudinal data to evaluate the long-term effects of policy changes on research integrity.

3) Investigate reporting and response mechanisms: Studying the psychological barriers to reporting misconduct and develop strategies to overcome them

- Researching the effectiveness of different institutional responses to allegations of misconduct and their impact on deterring future issues.
- We expect to fund awards in 12-month budget periods for a total period of performance up to 24 months. Recipients must submit a non-competing continuation (NCC) application for each budget period after the first.

Sources and additional information:

- The full solicitation is available at <https://simpler.grants.gov/opportunity/13432101-8cbc-4700-bb10-b7051b776d64>
- More information on ORI is available at <https://ori.hhs.gov/>.
- More information on OASH is available at <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/index.html>.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is the largest federal funding source for humanities projects and scholarships. Following the passage of the Spring *Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, 2025* ([H.R. 1968](#)) the total NEH budget for fiscal year (FY) 2025 is \$207 million, equivalent to the FY 2024 enacted level. In 2025, NEH underwent a major reorganization to enhance efficiency, alignment, and collaboration within the agency. In August, NEH's previous seven grantmaking divisions and offices were consolidated into four: the Division of Research, Division of Lifelong Learning, Division of Collections and Infrastructure, and the Division of Federal/State Partnership. Additionally, a new Special Projects office has been created that will support NEH's America 250 activities.

Shelly Lowe, Chair of NEH from 2022-2025, a Biden appointee, left with the start of the Trump Administration. Michael McDonald, who most notably served as General Counsel for NEH, was named acting Chair following Lowe's departure. Since taking on this role, Chair McDonald has, with direction from the Administration, prioritized advancing NEH's mission through initiatives focused on American history, culture, and exceptionalism, in addition to public engagement and education. Under his leadership, NEH has awarded over \$10 million, the largest grant award in its history, to Tikvah to support a Jewish Civilization Project and has launched several programs to honor prominent American figures and history and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

The Trump Administration's America 250 Task Force has tasked NEH with playing a central role in funding activities and supporting preparation for the U.S. 250th Anniversary in 2026. As noted above, NEH has issued new and revised solicitations for programs that focus on examining and commemorating the founding of the U.S., promoting public history and civic engagement, and encouraging scholarly and public discussion and reflection on the nation's democratic evolution and revolutionary spirit. In support of these efforts, NEH launched the "Celebrate America!" challenge grant program, which will provide funding for projects that explore and emphasize key moments, figures, and values in American history. The agency also opened a special competition titled "Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition," providing support for projects that preserve and make accessible primary source materials from the Founding Era. The "Public Humanities Projects" grants program has been revised and now encourages proposals that focus on America 250 themes such as American military valor, the American Dream, and the positive global impact of U.S. influence. NEH, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), was also tasked with supporting the creation of the over \$30 million National Garden of American Heroes.

NEH program solicitations are released annually and the application deadlines for each on-going program can be found on the [NEH grants website](#).

Division of Collections and Infrastructure

The Division of Collections & Infrastructure supports projects that preserve and create intellectual access to collections and cultural heritage resources of importance for research, education, and public programming in the humanities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Division of Collections and Infrastructure is available at <https://www.neh.gov/divisions/collections>.

Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition

The Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition program supports activities and projects that preserve and improve access to primary source materials” including archival records, documents, rare publications, art and material culture, photographs, and sound recordings that documents the history of American independence and/or expansion of the nation, or the history of the American government in federal, state, and local contexts. The maximum award for this program is \$350,000 for a period of up to two years for individual institutions, or up to \$750,000 for a period of up to three years for consortiums. Updated guidelines will be posted in advance of the next deadline.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/rediscovering-our-revolutionary-tradition>.

Save America’s Treasures

The Save America’s Treasures (SAT) grant program was established in 1998 to help “preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections that convey our nation’s rich heritage to future generations.” The grant program is divided into two parts: one for preservation projects (Historic Places for national significance or National Historic Landmarks managed by the National Park Service) and another for projects involving collections (artifacts, documents, sculptures, managed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services). The next anticipated deadline will be **December 10, 2025**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/save-america-treasures>.

National Digital Newspaper Program

The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress (LC) to create a national digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1690 and 1963. This searchable database will be permanently maintained at LC and will be freely accessible online. The maximum award amount for this program is \$325,000 for a performance period of two years. The deadline to apply for this applications cycle is **January 15, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/national-digital-newspaper-program>.

Chair’s Disaster Recovery Grants for Humanities Collections

The Chair’s Disaster Recovery Grants for Humanities Collections program helps humanities organizations that “steward collections respond to and recover from local, state, regional, and federally declared disasters, including fires, floods, hurricanes, mudslides, and climate-related disasters.” This current open call only accepts applications from organizations affected by the floods in Central Texas in July 2025. “Emergency response and recovery activities may include

salvaging humanities collections such as rare books, documents, photographs, artwork, sculptures, historical objects, audiovisual media, and digital collections.” Preservation field services networks and consortia that support collecting institutions’ efforts to respond to and recover from emergencies impacting cultural heritage collections are eligible to apply. The maximum award for this program is \$30,000 for a period of up to one year. The deadline to apply is **January 26, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/chairs-disaster-recovery-grants-humanities-collections>.

Preservation and Access Education and Training

The Preservation and Access Education and Training program supports activities that “develop and implement educational programs for professionals who preserve and provide access to humanities collections.” This program provides awards to continuing education opportunities, student and early career programming, and field services, networks, or consortia project activities from “organizations that offer national, regional, or statewide education and training programs.” The maximum award amount for the program is \$350,000 for a performance period of up to three years. The anticipated application will be available April 25, 2026, with an anticipated deadline of **June 15, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-and-access-education-and-training>.

Division of Federal/State Partnership

The Division of Federal/State Partnership serves as the liaison between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the nonprofit network and community of state and jurisdictional humanities councils.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Division of Federal/State Partnership is available at <https://www.neh.gov/divisions/fedstate>

State and Jurisdictional Humanities Councils General Operating Support Grants

The State and Jurisdictional Humanities Councils General Operating Support Grants program provides support to humanities councils in the U.S. and its jurisdictions through tailored grantmaking and programs that meet the needs, resources, and interests of their state or jurisdiction. Additionally, the program extends the reach of NEH-funded projects and further strengthens the agency’s connection to local communities. The anticipated application will be available April 1, 2026, with an anticipated deadline of **May 1, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/fedstate/state-humanities-councils-general-operating-support-grants>

Division of Lifelong Learning

The Division of Lifelong Learning supports a wide range of public humanities projects that target large and diverse public audiences, making use of a variety of formats and mediums including exhibits, public programs, film, radio, and digital media.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Division of Lifelong Learning is available at <https://www.neh.gov/divisions/lifelong-learning>

Public Humanities Projects

This program funds projects that “bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences through public programming.” Projects engage with humanities academia, researchers, and other experts to examine and analyze various themes of significance in history, literature, and other topics.

In support of the America 250 Anniversary, the program has been revised to require proposals to focus on one of the following topics:

- The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- American Military Valor
- The American Dream and Economic Freedom
- America’s Role on a Global Scale

The maximum award amount for planning grants is \$75,000 for a performance period of up to 24 months. The maximum award amount for implementation grants is \$750,000 for a performance period of 12 to 48 months. Updated guidelines will be posted in advance of the next deadline.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Public Humanities Projects is available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>.

Media Projects

This program supports humanities researchers and scholars with projects that focus on “the development, production, and distribution of radio programs, podcasts, documentary films, and documentary film series that engage general audiences with humanities ideas in creative and appealing ways.” Awards of up to \$75,000 are available for a performance period of six to twelve months for development grants. For production grants, maximum funding is \$700,000 for one to three years. Additionally, NEH may award up to \$1 million for the Chairman’s Special Award for “projects of exceptional significance, audience reach, and complexity.” The next anticipated application will be available November 15, 2025, and the anticipated deadline is **January 15, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/media-projects>.

Landmarks of American History and Culture for K-12 Educators and Higher Education

This program provides federal funding for K-12 educators or higher education scholars, such as advanced graduate students and humanities professionals to explore humanities topics focused on specific U.S. sites, areas, or regions of historic and cultural significance. Project outcome goals include expanding participant knowledge and teaching methods of American history and culture. The maximum award amount is \$190,000 for a performance period of 15 months. The next anticipated application will be available November 11, 2025, with an anticipated deadline of **February 11, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Landmarks of American History and Culture for Higher Education program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/landmarks/highered>.
- More information about the Landmarks of American History and Culture for K-12 educators program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/landmarks/k-12-educators>.

Institutes for K-12 Educators and Higher Education Faculty

These institutes are NEH-funded and support the creation of professional development programs that organize the convening and engage with K-12 educators or higher education faculty members. Institutes should focus on developing programs that expand participants' knowledge of various humanities topics, in addition to improving their teaching and scholarship effectiveness. The maximum award amount is \$220,000 for a performance period of 15 months. The next anticipated application for both programs will be available November 11, 2025, with an anticipated deadline of **February 11, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Institutes for K-12 Educators program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/institutes-k-12-educators>.
- More information about the Institutes for Higher Education Faculty program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/institutes-higher-education-faculty>.

Division of Research Programs

The Division of Research Programs supports and provides opportunities for individual humanities scholars and collaborative teams seeking to receive federal funding for research projects that advance knowledge and understanding of the humanities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Division of Research Programs is available at <https://www.neh.gov/divisions/research>.

Public Scholars

This program supports the creation of well-researched nonfiction books in the humanities for a general audience. The program is open to writers with or without an academic affiliation and no advanced degree is required. The program encourages non-academic writers to strengthen their humanities research, and it encourages academic writers to reach wider audiences. Independent

writers, researchers, scholars, and journalists are encouraged to apply. The deadline for this cycle has passed. Updated guidelines will be posted in advance of the next deadline.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Public Scholars program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/public-scholar-program>.

Collaborative Research

This program supports collaborative research teams of two or more scholars jointly working on projects that advance humanistic research. The current FY 2026 competition will support projects either focused on planning international scholarly collaborations or projects that lead to the creation of a manuscript capable of publication. Teams can choose to focus on a single humanities topic or choose an interdisciplinary theme. Planning international collaboration projects is for early-stage planning, including meetings, exploratory workshops, and drafting plans for future research. Examples of manuscript projects that NEH may consider include “co-authored or multi-authored books; themed issues of peer-reviewed journals; or a series of peer-reviewed articles in academic journals or articles in general audience publications or both.” The maximum award amount for planning international collaborations is \$25,000 for six to 12 months, while the maximum award for manuscript preparation is \$250,000 for a performance period of up to 3 years. The deadline to apply is **November 19, 2025**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/collaborative-research-grants>.

Scholarly Editions and Translations

This program provides funding and support to humanities organizations to create collaborative research teams that are “editing, annotating, and translating foundational humanities texts that are vital to generating new scholarship but are inaccessible or only available in inadequate editions or translations.” All humanities topics are eligible for consideration. The maximum award amount is \$300,000, with the option to receive an additional \$150,000 in federal matching funds, for a performance period of one to three years. This program offers a special Chairman’s Award in American History and Culture, which offers a maximum award amount of \$1 million for a performance period of five years. The application opened on July 25, 2024, and the deadline to apply is **December 3, 2025**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/scholarly-editions-and-translations-grants>.

NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure – NEH Documenting Endangered Languages

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is currently operating this co-funded program to support projects that develop and advance infrastructure for languages that are understudied and at risk of falling out of use. The program will support research activities that digitally record and document endangered languages within activities such as digital recording, documentation and analysis, and archiving of endangered language data. The maximum award amount is \$450,000 for a performance period of one to three years. The deadline to apply is **February 17, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/dli-del-nsf-dynamic-language-infrastructure-neh-documenting>.

Fellowships

This program supports individual humanities researchers and scholars seeking to conduct innovative humanities research that can lead to the creation of humanities and scholarly resources such as books, digital projects and materials, and more. NEH provides stipends of up to \$5,000 per month for six to twelve months. The maximum award amount is \$60,000 for a 12-month period. The next application will be available November 20, 2025, with an anticipated deadline of **April 10, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/fellowships>.

Awards for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

This program provides support and funds humanities research opportunities for individual faculty and staff members at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). The program supports a variety of project types including the examination of source materials and development of scholarly resources like books, digital projects, and more; community-based and focused research such as language preservation and revitalization, archives examination and preservation, and the collection of community and local oral histories of significance; and curriculum development and improvement through the creation of humanities resources.

The maximum award amount is \$5,000 per month for a performance period of two to twelve months for a full-time work equivalent. The next anticipated application will be available December 5, 2025, with an anticipated deadline of **April 10, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/awards-faculty-historically-black-colleges-and-universities>.

Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan

This fellowship program is a partnership between the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and NEH. The program aims to “promote Japan studies in the U.S., encourage U.S.-Japanese scholarly exchange, and foster the next generation of Japan scholars in the U.S.” Supported projects should focus on research and writing on a variety of Japan-centric topics, including society and the political economy, foreign policy and relations, and the history and contemporary state of U.S.-Japan relations. Applications from junior scholars are encouraged. NEH supports awarded applicants through six-to-twelve-month stipends of \$5,000 per month. Applications for the next competition are expected to be open on January 15, 2026, with an anticipated deadline of **April 20, 2026**.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/fellowships-advanced-social-science-research-japan>.

Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence

The Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence (AI) program supports the creation of collaborative and multidisciplinary research centers that explore and examine the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on society and the modern world. Each center focuses on a specific humanities-AI related topic. Centers must be led by humanities scholars and researchers but should emphasize and support multidisciplinary collaboration and scholars from varying disciplines. Scholars seeking to submit a proposal may come from one or more institution, including international institutions. NEH is seeking proposals that explore new areas of research and will provide funding for applications that feature work that is already underway. The maximum award amount for the program is \$500,000, with the option to receive an additional \$250,000 in federal matching funds. Centers are funding for a performance period of up to three years. The next application for FY 2027 is anticipated to be available July 10, 2026, with an anticipated deadline of October 1, 2026.

The Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence funding opportunity for FY 2026 initially opened but was cancelled and is not accepting applications.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/humanities-research-centers-artificial-intelligence>

Office of the Chair

Celebrate America! Chairman's Grants in Honor of America's 250th Anniversary

In support of the Trump Administration's America 250 efforts, NEH is soliciting applications that support the event through focusing on related topics such as the founding era of the nation, historical American figures, and the achievements and exceptionalism of the U.S. In NEH is anticipating funding up to 250 projects, with a maximum award amount of \$25,000. Project activities may include (not limited to) the development of discussion/lecture series with relevant speakers, community-based events that engage American families, professional development and training, digital projects, and curriculum development and education for K-12 and higher education. **NEH is accepting and reviewing applications on a rolling basis throughout the year.**

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the program is available at <https://www.neh.gov/program/celebrate-america>.

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- Spotlight on Humanities in Higher Education
- Humanities Connections
- Dialogues on the Experience of War
- Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges
- Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions
- Cultural and Community Resilience
- Research and Development
- Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions
- Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections
- Humanities Collections and Reference Resources
- Digital Projects for the Public
- Mellon Fellowships for Digital Publication
- Summer Stipends
- Digital Humanities Advancement Grants
- Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
- Dangers and Opportunities of Technology: Perspectives from the Humanities
- Climate Smart Humanities Organizations
- Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities
- Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges
- Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is the primary federal agency that supports and provides funding for artistic projects. NEA supports various arts projects across the country through direct grants, state and regional partnerships, prize competitions, leadership initiatives, literature fellowships, and lifetime honors recognition. NEA typically provides funding for a wide array of artistic disciplines including visual arts, music, dance, literature, design, theater, musical theater, opera, folk and traditional arts, and media arts including film, audio, animation, and digital art. Most NEA programs are annual competitions, with NEA awards typically announced several times per year; however, solicitations in the latter half of 2025 have been delayed and slower to release, and many have been cancelled due to misalignment with the Trump Administration priorities and direction for the agency. NEH chair Maria Rosario Jackson stepped down from her position in January following misalignment with the Trump Administration, and a replacement has not yet been selected.

In the FY 2026 President's Budget Request (PBR), the agency was proposed for complete elimination, along with the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH). The only NEA-supported activities not proposed for elimination include those centered on supporting the creation of the National Garden of American Heroes and the United States semi-quincentennial anniversary event (America250). Conversely, both the House and Senate released their FY2026 Interior and Environment appropriation bills which rejected the proposed elimination of the agency. While the House bill would significantly cut NEH and NEA funding to \$135 million, a cut of \$72 million or 35 percent relative to FY 2025 enacted levels; the Senate bill would maintain both agencies at current levels of \$207 million each. Given uncertainty around agency funding and programmatic availability, this document contains annual and regular opportunities at NEA, with slight caveats due to cancellations and developments.

Historically, the bulk of NEA federal funding is allocated to three different grant categories: Grants for Art Projects, Challenge America, and Our Town; however, these grants have been consolidated into the Grants for Arts Projects category for FY 2026. The NEA website provides information on which artistic disciplines are funded, and more information on opportunities under these categories at NEA can be found below.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The FY 2026 President's Budget Request for NEA can be found here: <https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/NEA-FY26-Congressional-Budget-Request.pdf>
- A complete listing of available grant programs offered by NEA with submission deadlines is available at <http://arts.gov/grants>.

Grants for Art Projects

The NEA's largest program supports public engagement, arts education, community well-being, and capacity building across fifteen disciplines, including dance, design, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts. Awards under this program have ranged between \$10,000 and \$100,000 for a two-year performance period. The program now includes the "Our Town" category—previously separate—which funds art, culture, and design projects that advance community and local economic and social outcomes. Those planning to apply to the "Challenge America" program category are encouraged to apply within the bounds of this program. Applications for the latest

competition closed on July 29, 2025, for projects starting in June 2026. A new competition has not yet been announced.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Grants for Art Projects funding category is available at [GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS | National Endowment for the Arts](#).

Research Grants in the Arts

This program funds research that examines the impact and value of the arts and aligns with the agency's 2022-2026 research agenda priorities, including examining arts measurable impact, community revitalization, expanding access for underserved communities, and the impact of changes on the arts ecosystem. Awards ranged between \$20,000 to \$100,000 for a two-year performance period. Applications for the latest competition closed on April 3, 2025, for projects starting in January 2026. A new competition has not yet been announced.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Research Grants in the Arts program can be found at <https://www.arts.gov/grants/research-awards>
- More information on the NEA 2022-2026 strategic research agenda is available at <https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/NEA-research-agenda-12.21.pdf>.

NEA Research Labs

NEA Research Labs support multidisciplinary scholarly teams conducting social and behavioral research in three focus areas: Arts, Health, and Well-Being; Cognition and Learning; and Arts, Economic Growth, and Innovation. Awards ranged between \$100,000 and \$300,000 for a two-year performance period. Applications for the latest competition closed on April 3, 2025, for projects starting in January 2026. A new competition has not yet been announced.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the NEA Research Labs is available at <https://www.arts.gov/initiatives/nea-research-labs> and <https://www.arts.gov/grants/research-awards>.

Creative Writing Fellowships

This program supports published writers and poets seeking federally funded and supported writing, research, and professional development assistance. The program alternates annually between funding fellowships in prose and poetry. Grants have been historically funded to \$50,000. The deadline for applications has passed for this year, and the future of the program is uncertain.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Creative Writing Fellowships is available at <https://www.arts.gov/grants/creative-writing-fellowships>.

Translation Projects Fellowships

This program provides support to and funds literary translations of prose, poetry, and/or drama into English from writers and published work that is currently underrepresented in English translation.

The deadline for application has passed for this year, and the future of the program is uncertain. Please contact us at litfellowships@arts.gov with any questions regarding the program.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Translation Projects is available at [TRANSLATION PROJECT FELLOWSHIPS | National Endowment for the Arts](#).

Department of Education

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) offers some discretionary grant opportunities in the social sciences and humanities as they relate to the enhancement of education policy and practice, educational environments, and educator capabilities. Expectations for solicitation announcements, due dates, and funding amounts vary by program and are included below. At the time of writing, the Trump Administration is undergoing an active effort to close ED, transfer some of its functions either to the States or to other federal research agencies, and substantially change portions of the Department that are authorized by statute, including the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). *Because of these efforts, some standing social science grant programs have been delayed or were not run when they traditionally are.* Updates on the status of each grant program are included below.

A general listing of active grant programs offered by ED with individual submission deadlines is available at <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/apply-grant/available-grants>.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

The ED Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) is responsible for developing and implementing elementary and secondary education policy and increasing quality of and access to education. OESE provides state and local education agencies support to improve student achievement in preschool, elementary, and secondary schools. This includes access to services for students, especially those in low-income, educationally disadvantaged communities, and financial assistance to local educational agencies. OESE grant opportunities are supported through the Office of Discretionary Grants & Support Services and include grant programs such as the Innovation and Early Learning Program and the Supporting Effective Educator Development Program, which support innovations in early learning programs and increased quality of school administration and teaching. The majority of the OESE programs hold competitions every year. Depending on annual congressional funding, OESE may run smaller, pilot competitions for various topics.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education can be found at <https://oese.ed.gov/>
- Past OESE funding opportunities can be found at <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/>

Education Innovation and Research

The Education Innovation and Research (EIR) program supports efforts to create, develop, implement, replicate, or take to scale entrepreneurial evidence-based, field-initiated innovations to improve student achievement, and to evaluate these innovations. There are three tracks within the EIR program: Early-Phase, Mid-Phase, and Expansion. Each track requires a different level of prior evidence of effectiveness, level of scale, and expectations of information generated from these funded projects. The FY 2025 competition closed on October 14, 2025 and accepted new applications for Mid-Phase and Expansion grants, though ED indicated they may fund high-scoring unfunded Early-Phase applicants from the FY 2024 EIR competition. This year, the EIR program supported projects that supported evidence-based literacy. In the past, topics related to STEM Education and Social-Emotional Learning were prioritized.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the EIR program can be found here: <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-discretionary-grants-support-services/innovation-early-learning/education-innovation-and-research-eir/>
- Lewis-Burke's write-up on the most recent solicitation is available [here](#).

Assistance for Arts Education (AAE)

The Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) program aims to develop and improve accessibility to instructional materials and arts-based educational programming for arts specialties. Key priorities include increasing access to arts education for low-income students and students with disabilities, integrating arts education into other subject areas, and enhancing student academic performance in the arts. Eligible applicants include “a Local Education Agency (LEA) or consortium of LEAs” with 20% or more of students served below the poverty line, and these applicants may work in partnership with a State Education Agency, Institute of Higher Education, The Bureau of Indian Education, or a museum or other private institution/organization. This program was last competed in August 2025 and generally opens for new applications every three years. For the FY 2025 competition, the Trump Administration added a new invitational priority for projects related to patriotic education.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the AAE program is available at <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-birth-grade-12/well-rounded-education-grants/assistance-arts-education>
- The most recent solicitation for the AAE program is available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/08/11/2025-15154/applications-for-new-awards-assistance-for-arts-education-program>

Office of Postsecondary Education

The ED Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) is responsible for developing and implementing postsecondary education policy while simultaneously increasing quality access, and completion rates. OPE offers extramural grants, which can focus on institutional service, student service, or global issues, in support of this mission. OPE grant opportunities have been traditionally supported through the Office of Higher Education Programs and the International Foreign Language Education program, which provide grant opportunities to broaden access to higher education, support Minority-Serving Institutions, and strengthen foreign language instruction. However, due to the on-going changes in priorities and to organization of staff at ED, in addition to a currently murky FY 2027 funding outlook, many of these programs are currently archived or have an uncertain future. Previously, many regular OPE programs were not competed annually, and instead competitions were run as award cohorts expire. If ED returns to more normal operating procedure in the years ahead, we anticipate this to be the case again. Depending on annual congressional direction and appropriations, OPE can also run smaller grant or pilot competitions in various topics, such as open textbook development or training for writers.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the OPE is available at <https://www.ed.gov/about/ed-offices/oep#home>

- Past OPE funding opportunities can be found at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/funding-opportunities.html>.

International and Foreign Language Education Office

The International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE) office, which was previously within OPE, supported domestic and overseas activities and training that strengthen the capabilities of U.S. based education institutions in foreign languages and international studies for teaching and research, professional development for educators, and curriculum development in the K-12 through graduate levels. However, during the early Trump Administration, the office was closed after all the staff within IFLE were either fired or accepted early retirement as a part of the efforts of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Because of this, the remaining IFLE programming is being handled by OPE.

The programs listed below and authorized under Title VI of the *Higher Education Act* (HEA) previously provided domestic grants to higher education institutions to support global studies and language training. However, their future is very uncertain given the ED website now only lists two of the eight IFLE programs and the FY 2027 House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies bill proposes no funding for IFLE programs. Given many of these programs ran in FY 2022 and most IFLE domestic grant opportunities are traditionally competed on a four-year cycle, we had previously expected many of these programs to be recompeted in FY 2026. *Because of this uncertainty, it is highly recommended interested applicants check the IFLE website for further details on whether programs become available and the timing of the next competition for specific programs of interest.*

Domestic programs previously included:

- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships
- Language Resource Centers
- American Overseas Research Centers
- Business and International Education
- Centers for International Business Education
- International Research and Studies
- National Resource Centers
- Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

Of these programs, only the Foreign Language and Area Studies and the Language Resource Centers programs are currently listed on the ED webpage dedicated to funding opportunities for international and foreign language education.

The Fulbright-Hays programs support overseas experiences for individual educators to improve K-12 and postsecondary teaching and research on languages and cultures. These programs tend to focus on less commonly taught foreign languages and areas of the world defined as a high priority by ED. Like the IFLE programs, these programs have an uncertain future, as the Notice Inviting Applications for the 2026-2027 competition was published and subsequently revoked in the first half of 2025. The overseas programs, which previously had been competed annually, include:

- Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowships;
- Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad (FRA) Program;
- Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program; and

- Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad - Bilateral Projects.

While references to these programs are still available on U.S. Department of State and the Department of Education's International Resource Information System websites, there are no longer dedicated webpages to any of these programs on the main ED website and they are no longer included on the overarching list of potential grant opportunities published by ED. *While it is possible new solicitations will be released after the Administration adjusts them to match their priorities, it remains unclear if or when this will happen.*

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the IFLE programs can be found at <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-higher-education/international-and-foreign-language-education>.

Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN)

The GAANN program provides funding for institutions of higher education to provide fellowships that assist graduate students in pursuit of the highest degree available in a designated field of national need. The Department of Education sets the designated areas, and past examples in the humanities have included American Political Development, Foundations of Western Civilization, American History and Institutions, or the American Founding. While this program is open to those in the humanities, most grants have historically been awarded in engineering, according to the awards reports on the official ED site for this program. In 2023, there were 90 continuation awards made, totaling nearly \$24 million. The FY 2024 GAANN competition closed in June 2024. Awards have not been released though approximately 60 are expected. Social science research fields for the FY 2024 competition included various psychology related topics such as industrial-organizational psychology, developmental and child psychology and clinical psychology. Many education fields, including bilingual and special education, were also included.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the GAANN program can be found at <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/gaann/index.html>.
- The most recent Notice Inviting Applications is available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-04-24/pdf/2024-08771.pdf>.
- Information on the FY 2024 GAANN areas of national need are available at <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/gaann/graduate-assistance-in-areas-of-national-need.pdf>.

Institute of Education Sciences

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES), the research arm of ED, strives to “support research that contributes to school readiness and improved academic achievement for all students, and particularly for those whose education prospects are hindered by inadequate education services and conditions associated with poverty, race/ethnicity, limited English proficiency, disability, and family circumstance.” IES offers funding opportunities at different points throughout the year and funds a range of education related research, research training, and evaluation and intervention studies. IES has traditionally run the Education Research and Special Education Research grant programs annually, with most deadlines for competitions in September each year, though these competitions notably did not occur in 2025. ED is currently undertaking an effort to reenvision IES. This is being led by a senior advisor to the Secretary of Education, Dr. Amber Northern, who is

working with Acting IES Director Matt Soldner to “return IES to its core mission to provide national leadership in expanding fundamental knowledge and understanding of education from early childhood through postsecondary study,” as a part of the Secretary of Education’s ongoing effort to “return education to the states.” At the time of writing no details have been provided by the Department about what a reenvisioned IES will look like, though it is anticipated that there will be a focus on student-centered research that is actionable and easily attainable for education practitioners and stakeholders.

Prior to the change in presidential administrations, IES had been taking steps to fund more research that is considered high-risk, high reward. In the FY 2023 *Consolidated Appropriations Act*, Congress directed IES to “invest in quick-turnaround high-reward, scalable solutions intended to improve education outcomes for all students.” To comply with this directive and in support of former IES Director Mark Schneider’s goal to establish a center to fund this type of research, the Accelerate, Transform, and Scale (ATS) initiative was established. The Trump Administration has continued to compete some of the ATS programs, as noted below, and there is a chance this initiative will have a role to play under the re-envisioned IES given its focus on actionable, highly impactful education research. Grant programs relevant to the social and behavioral sciences within ATS are highlighted below.

Included below are specific research topics generally supported by IES that are most related to behavioral research. *Unless noted otherwise, the programs were not run in 2025 but also have not been listed as archived or cancelled.* Many of the topics highlighted below are included as the research topic areas for both general education research, through the National Center for Education Research (NCER), and special education research, through the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSEER). Others are run through the ATS initiative. IES can also compete special, targeted research areas for NCER and NCSEER that can change from year to year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Institute of Education Sciences’ current and future funding opportunities is available at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding/>.
- Information regarding Dr. Amber Northern’s IES Reformation plan can be found at <https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-education-welcomes-dr-amber-northern-senior-advisor> Additional information on the National Center for Education Research is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/>.
- Additional information on the National Center for Special Education Research is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncseer/>.
- More information about the Accelerate, Transform, Scale Initiative can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/ats-initiative/index.asp>.

Transformative Research in the Education Sciences Grants Program

The Transformative Research in the Education Sciences grant program, which is a part of the IES Accelerate, Transform, and Scale (ATS) initiative, supports “innovative research that has the potential to make dramatic advances towards solving seemingly intractable problems and challenges in the education field and/or to accelerate the pace of conducting education research to facilitate major breakthroughs.” In the FY 2025 competition, which closed on September 12, 2024, this program focused on learning acceleration and reduction of education inequities by pairing and leveraging evidence-based principles with new technology to create high-reward, scalable technology solutions.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Transformative Research in the Education Sciences Grants Program can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=2115>
- The most recent solicitation is available at https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2025_84305T.pdf.

Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking

Since Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, IES has competed the Using Longitudinal Data to Support State Education Policymaking grant program to support research on “what [a] specific State agency wants to know about how to improve learners’ access and achievement.” Proposed projects should “have practical implications for the State agency’s decision making on programs and policies relevant to learners.” The FY 2025 competition, which closed on August 15, 2024, maintained previous years’ focus on “learners least likely to access high-quality education” and added emphasis on chronic absenteeism and how it can be used to measure the “academic outcomes of learners.” Eligible applicants include state agencies or state postsecondary systems applying alone or in conjunction with universities, research organizations, and/or other appropriate organizations.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The most recent Request for Applications is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=112>.

Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice

NCER supports projects to better understand and further research education practice and policy that are of high national priority through the Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program. IES solicits a variety of proposals through this program, including for research teams to join the existing research networks (as they did in FY 2023) and, as they did in the most recent competition, in support of ATS Initiative Hubs to support and coordinate programs within the ATS initiative. *The most recent competition closed in August 2024.*

Institutions of higher education, public and private nonprofit organizations, and scientific research institutions are eligible to apply for grants under this program.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The most recent solicitation for this program is available at https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2025_84305N.pdf.

From Seedlings to Scale

In response to Congressional interest in IES supporting more high-risk, innovative education research,, IES “is carving out a set of innovative, risk-informed high-reward activities that fit within [their] existing legislative authority” through the From Seedlings to Scale (S2S) program. S2S “invest(s) in innovative ideas within an identified focus area through three phrases of increasing funding and duration to support ideas as they grow from seedlings to scale solutions.” Proposals to the most recent solicitation, which closed on August 15, 2024, were required to address a “Seamless Personalized Education Experiences Delivered at Scale (SPEED at Scale)” focus area that aimed at developing solutions that allow teachers to provide personalized instruction for Pre-K through 12th grade students.

Organizations that have the ability and capacity to conduct rigorous R&D are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants include nonprofit and for-profit organizations, public and private entities, and institutions like colleges and universities. IES also encourages non-traditional organizations like community-based entities and small businesses that are committed to an “evidence-based approach to solution development” to apply.

Sources and Additional Information:

- The most recent Request for Applicants is available at https://ies.ed.gov/funding/pdf/2025_84305J.pdf.
- More information on the From Seedlings to Seeds Program from former IES Director Mark Schneider’s can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/director/remarks/01-23-2024.asp>.

Education Research

IES through its [National Center for Education Research](#) (NCER) traditionally competes an annual Education Research grants program. *The FY 2025 competition closed in September 2024, but at the time of writing IES has not had a FY 2026 competition in 2025.* The Education Research Grants Program has supported community-driven research to expand education practice and policy knowledge and improve outcomes for learners in the US. Awards have ranged from \$300,000 to \$800,000 per year for a period of performance of five years. Applications for the FY 2025 competition included focus on the following topics related to behavioral sciences:

- **Cognition and Student Learning**
 - Traditionally competed annually within NCER’s Education Research Grants competition, the Cognition and Student Learning (CASL) topic supports research in cognitive sciences “that capitalizes on our understanding of how the mind works to inform and improve education practice in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and study skills.” The program’s goal is to develop tools and strategies to improve student learning in a variety of education settings across the K-12, vocational, adult education, or remedial context for underprepared college students.
 - More information about the Cognition and Student Learning Program can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=5>.
- **Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Context for Teaching and Learning**
 - NCER’s Social, Emotional and Behavioral Context for Teaching and Learning topic within the Education Research Grants program supports research on social skills, attitudes, and behaviors, and the development of these behaviors for students and teachers as they relate to improving student achievement and progress through K-12. Measures of both academic achievement and social, emotional, and behavioral competencies are required. There were 8 awards given for this program in FY 2024.
 - More information about the Social, Emotional and Behavioral Context for Teaching and Learning topic is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=21>.
- **Civics Education and Social Studies**
 - The Civics Education and Social Studies topic within the Education Grants Program at NCER funds research to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of learners related to intricate social and economic issues. Projects funded by this topic will

address the current student knowledge of social studies and increase the level of understanding and intellectual skills in civics, government, geography, history, economics, and social studies. There was one award given for this program in FY 2024 for \$3.9 million.

- More information about the Civics Education and Social Studies topic can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=111>.

- **Teaching, Teachers and the Education Workforce**

- NCER's Teaching, Teachers and the Education Workforce topic within the Education Research Grants program supports research on approaches to improve teaching to promote student learning and success. More specifically, this program aims to identify and understand the essential knowledge and skills a teacher must possess to help promote student success, effective strategies in assessing teacher knowledge and skills, ways in which teachers can obtain the knowledge and skills they need to help improve student learning outcomes, and programs that help with teacher recruitment, retention, certification, and evaluation. This topic was previously called Effective Instruction. There were five awards last given for this program in FY 2022.
- More information on the Teaching, Teachers, and the Education Workforce topic is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/funding/research/programs/education-research-grants/teaching-teachers-and-the-education-workforce>

- **Early Education Programs and Policies**

- The Early Education Programs and Policies program within the Education Research Grants program supports research investigating the improvement of school-readiness skills of Pre-K children. Through this program, IES hopes to reduce the academic disadvantage many children experience when they begin their formal education. Projects may also examine the associations between “characteristics of early childhood educator workforce and educator and learner outcomes.” There were two awards given under this topic in FY 2024 totaling nearly \$8 million.
- More information on the Early Education Programs and Policies topic is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=7>.

- **Improving Education Systems: Policies, Finance, Organization, Management, and Leadership**

- NCER's Improving Education Systems: Policies, Finance, Organization, Management, and Leadership topic under the Education Research Grants competition supports research that focuses on “system-level education improvements at the school, district, state, or national level.” System projects should explore, develop, or evaluate specific practices, programs, and policies that intend to systematically improve education. This program focuses on broad, systems-level interventions at the school, district, state, and national levels. In FY 2024, there were 15 awards made for this program equaling nearly \$15 million.
- More information on the Improving Education Systems: Policies, Finance, Organization, Management, and Leadership topic is available at <https://ies.ed.gov/funding/research/programs/education-research-grants/improving-education-systems>

Unsolicited Applications for Research

IES considers unsolicited applications for “research, evaluation, and statistics projects” in line with the mission of the organization to expand knowledge and understanding of American education to the public. This opportunity considers projects not eligible under the existing fiscal year grant competitions that are relevant to U.S. schools. Applicants must demonstrate that the project was not eligible under any funded program in the fiscal year in their proposal. Over the last five years, the average award for an unsolicited application for research was approximately \$400,000 with a performance period of 1-3 years. [*IES is no longer considering new FY2025 unsolicited prospectus submissions.*](#) Interested applicants should refer to the IES website for future funding opportunities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Unsolicited Applications for Research can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/funding/unsolicited.asp>.
- Details on the FY 2025 unsolicited applications funding program can be found at <https://ies.ed.gov/sites/default/files/ies/document/2024/10/FY%202025%20Unsolicited%20grant%20submissions.pdf>.

Department of Defense

The Department of Defense (DOD) maintains a limited portfolio of social science work to better understand the cultures, environments, and geopolitical climates in which it operates. The continued presence of emerging threats on the global stage, including competition from near-peer adversaries and instability among non-state actors, has reinforced the need for DOD to have a holistic and well-informed approach to international security challenges. The Minerva Research initiative historically served as the DOD's signature program to support social science discoveries relevant to national security concerns. However, these programs have been cancelled under the Trump Administration, making the social science research landscape at DOD even more limited.

DOD also supports social science research and related issues through its [Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative](#) (MURI), jointly supported by the Army, Air Force, and Navy, which focuses on interdisciplinary basic research, which are currently still running.

Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR)

While many of its programs support research on physical sciences and engineering, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) Information and Networks scientific division manages programs that incorporate behavioral and social science research. Within the division, AFOSR's **Trust and Influence** program promotes a research interest in multidisciplinary approaches to improving "trust in autonomous systems, socio-digital influence, and computational methods in social science." Additionally, the **Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience** program involves cognitive psychology to understand the mechanisms responsible for cognition and behavior. Topics of interest to the program include brain-inspired computing and bio-inspired sensing, which seek to better automate and train revolutionary technologies.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about AFOSR is available at <https://www.afrl.af.mil/AFOSR/>.
- Additional information on AFOSR's Information and Networks division, including detailed information about individual topics and relevant program officer contact information, can be found at <https://www.afrl.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Fact-Sheet-Display/Article/2282109/afosr-information-and-networks/>.

Army Research Institute (ARI) and Army Research Laboratory (ARL)

The Army primarily funds behavioral and social science research through the **Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences** (ARI), with the objective to "create and provide innovative behavioral and social science solutions that enable the Army to provide ready forces and force capabilities." In May 2023, ARI released its Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Basic, Applied and Advanced Research, which will remain open from 2023 through 2028, and outlines social science research topics across basic research (6.1), applied research (6.2), and advanced technology development (6.3). Topic areas relate to personnel management, improving warfighter performance, improving training methods and theories, and maximizing unit efficiency. Additionally, the **Army Research Laboratory** (ARL) supports a Social and Cognitive Networks BAA that seeks to understand human behaviors and social networks through computational social science and advanced modeling. The BAA released in November 2022, is engaged in three focus areas: Community Cognitive Resilience, Human Behavior and Interaction, and Information and Knowledge Management. The ARL BAA is set to sunset in November 2027.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Army Research Institute is available at <https://research.ari.army.mil/>
- The ARI BAA is available on grants.gov under opportunity number “W911NF-23-S-0010” or at <https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00281438-instructions.pdf>.
- More information on the ARL BAA is available at <https://cftste.experience.crmforce.mil/arlex/s/baadatabaseentry/a3Ft0000002Y39C/opt0026>.

Office of Naval Research (ONR)

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) operates a significant portion of its social and behavioral science programs under Code 34: Warfighter Performance, which is broken up into three divisions: Human and Bioengineered Systems, Warfighter Protection and Applications, and Research Projections. The Human and Bioengineered Systems Division in particular seeks proposals in basic through applied research for social and organizational sciences. ONR invests in social science research to better understand decision-making processes; support warfighter engagement with autonomous systems; and improve models to account for the social and cultural factors across environments the Navy operates in, among other interests. Programs under Code 34 relevant to the social science community include:

- “Cognitive sciences
- Computational neurosciences and bio-robotics
- Human factors, organizational design and applied decision-making research
- Social, cultural and behavioral modeling and mission-relevant case studies
- Cyber-social science and social cybersecurity
- Training, education and human performance”

Sources and Additional Information:

- Further information about Code 34: Warfighter Performance can be found here: <https://www.nre.navy.mil/organization/departments/code-34/division-341>.
- Additional information on the Human and Bioengineered Systems Division, including specific information on individual programs and program manager contact information, can be found at <https://www.nre.navy.mil/organization/departments/code-34/division-341>.

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is charged with supporting high-risk, high-reward research to make transformational advances for national security. While much of what DARPA funds is technical, DARPA’S Defense Sciences Office (DSO) highlights collective intelligence and emerging threats as key thrust areas in their 2025 Office-wide Broad Agency Announcement (BAA). For instance, “Complex, Dynamic, and Intelligent Systems” includes a focus on traditional reductionist, foundations of intelligence, and human-AI ecosystems among other topics. Though this BAA is now closed, DARPA is likely to release another solicitation that highlights similar topics.

As with other DOD offices and programs, DARPA program managers oversee and develop focus area solicitations. Successful investigators often build relationships with program managers to participate in program agenda setting and to better understand how to adapt proposals to meet DARPA's needs. Therefore, it is essential that interested investigators connect with relevant program managers to discuss their research ideas and proposals. Lewis-Burke routinely updates a database of all current DARPA program managers and can connect interested investigators to the proper point of contact.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on DARPA and DSO is available at <https://www.darpa.mil/about-us/offices/dso>.
- For reference, the full DSO BAA, which includes descriptions of the thrust areas and relevant program managers, is available on sam.gov under the solicitation number "HR001125S0013".

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Minerva Research Initiative (Minerva) University Research Grants:** This program sought to address future challenges in coordination between the Department and social science communities by bringing together universities, research institutions, and individual scholars to broaden the understanding of social, cultural, behavioral, and political forces that shape U.S. strategic interests across the world.
- **Minerva Research Initiative (Minerva) Defense Education and Civilian University Research Partnership (DECUR):** DECUR supported partnerships between civilian universities and Professional Military Education (PME) institutions to conduct social science research of interest to DOD, including areas critical to the national defense strategy, like the security of cyber spaces and clean energy supply chains.

Department of Justice

The Department of Justice (DOJ) provides financial assistance to states, local communities, and non-profit organizations to “conduct research, support law enforcement and public safety activities in state, local and tribal jurisdictions, assist victims of crime, provide training and technical assistance, and implement programs that improve the criminal justice system.” Awards are provided through block grants to state and local entities, as well as discretionary accounts.

DOJ primarily funds extramural grants through its Office of Justice Programs (OJP). Under the Trump Administration, most OJP funding opportunities had been archived while the Department conducted a review to identify programs that no longer aligned with Administration priorities and ensure opportunities and materials are in accordance with Executive Orders and guidance. While some OJP offices have begun releasing new grant solicitations, funding and engagement opportunities remain limited overall.

Under President Trump’s first term, some DOJ offices sought to require compliance with immigration laws to qualify. This did not apply to research-focused programming at the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Interested researchers are encouraged to play close attention to eligibility language as the second Trump Administration begins to release engagement and funding opportunities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Additional information about DOJ is available at <https://www.justice.gov/about>.
- Additional information on opportunities within DOJ is available at <http://www.justice.gov/business/>.
- More information on JustGrants, where DOJ releases all its solicitations, can be found at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/about>.
- A list of JustGrants funding resources can be found at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/resources/funding>.

Office of Justice Programs

The Office of Justice (OJP) partners with the justice communities in states, cities, and neighborhoods to identify pressing crime-related challenges, and provides grants to implement unique solutions to tackle crime. There are several components within OJP that carry out targeted criminal justice objectives, including the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), which is the research, development and evaluation agency; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), which supports a wide range of juvenile justice programs; the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), which supports the development of criminal justice policy, planning, and programs in local communities; Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), which collects and analyzes criminal justice data; Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), which provides direct support to victims in the aftermath of crimes; and other miscellaneous bureaus and offices. While there are opportunities to partner with most of these components through relationships with state and local organizations or discretionary funding opportunities, OJP’s key entities for research and university engagement are NIJ, BJA, and OJJDP. Across OJP, most public-facing materials are under review, resulting in a delay in funding opportunities and limited access to information regarding current office priorities.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Current OJP funding opportunities are available at <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/explore/current-funding-opportunities>
- Additional information about OJP is available at <https://www.ojp.gov/>.

National Institute of Justice

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is OJP's primary extramural research arm with a core mission to improve knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science. According to NIJ, the office "provides objective and independent knowledge and tools to inform the decision-making of the criminal justice community to reduce crime and advance justice, particularly at the state and local levels." Each year, NIJ releases dozens of solicitations usually between December and May (subject to change depending on the budget cycle), covering a wide range of topics with the overall goal of strengthening science and enhancing justice. Solicitations cover several disciplines from big data analyses to social and behavioral sciences. Funding amounts, durations, and deadlines depend on the individual grant opportunity.

Recurring topics that NIJ addresses include corrections, courts, crime prevention, drug-related crime, equipment and technology, juvenile justice, forensic science, justice system reform, law enforcement, tribal crime and justice, and victims of crime. The specific research focus for the agency shifts each year to address emerging gaps in available information for policymakers and practitioners, and to evaluate and transform Administration priorities for criminal justice reform.

NIJ program managers generally do not answer questions on research topics or proposals, and decline to meet with or provide feedback to interested researchers. In recent years, NIJ has hosted research conferences and convenings, which provide an opportunity to engage with program managers and learn more about NIJ's grantmaking process and priorities.

Some topics change based on the make-up of the White House. Democratic Administrations have emphasized firearm injury prevention, prison reform, alternatives to incarceration, and racial disparities in the justice system. Under the first Trump Administration, priorities included preventing gang violence, addressing perceived links between immigration and crime, and promoting health and wellness in the criminal justice system. The NIJ Acting Director has not yet released information about current priorities. NIJ has removed all funding opportunities from its website pending further review. As of now, NIJ has not released any funding opportunities for FY 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Additional information about NIJ awards is available at <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding>.
- Additional information about NIJ events is available at <https://nij.ojp.gov/events>.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) examines multiple aspects of juvenile justice issues, including efforts to protect children, strengthen youth criminal justice systems, and prevent delinquency. The office's priorities include treating children "as children," serving young children in their communities, and ensuring that all youth have the same opportunities. OJJDP typically funds state-level support streams, but also occasionally offers extramural funding opportunities geared toward specific juvenile justice concerns, for which researchers can directly apply. Examples of recent OJJDP awards have included support to develop

programs for opioid affected youth, implementation of evidence-based recidivism-reduction policies for states, development of new mentor programs, and enhancing school capacity to address violence, among several other topics.

While OJJDP still has some discretionary funding streams, in recent years, most of the office's research programs have moved to NIJ. To be successful, researchers should consider ways to partner with states and local institutions to provide evidence-based findings as sub-awardees for core OJJDP solicitations.

OJJDP recently released a series of funding opportunities for FY 2025. A complete list of OJJDP opportunities is available at <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/current>.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Additional information about OJJDP is available at <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/>.

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) supports the strengthening of state and local criminal justice systems. Recent grants have supported community-based innovations related to the transition from jail to the community; forensics; drug abuse; innovative violence prevention programming; intellectual property theft; policing tactics; gun crime prevention; managing individuals with mental disorders in the criminal justice process; human trafficking prevention; and more. Traditionally, since the Bureau's mission primarily concerns the delivery and implementation of innovations, there are fewer opportunities expressly focused on research and development when compared to other OJP offices and universities are often required to apply as sub-awardees. While this is still largely the case, there has been an upswing in programs that could be led by research institutions outright in recent years. Regardless of what group leads an award, to be successful in competing for most funding offered by BJA, applicants should forge strong partnerships with targeted criminal justice entities and community leaders to ensure the delivery of evidence-based findings. As with other programs at DOJ, topics of interest change significantly based on criminal justice priorities in the White House and Congress.

BJA recently released a series of funding opportunities for FY 2025. A complete list of BJA opportunities is available at <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/current>.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on BJA is available at <https://bja.ojp.gov/about>.

Community Oriented Policing Services Office

The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office programs support community policing efforts at the state and local level by providing resources, such as information and grants, to law enforcement agencies with the overall goal of addressing public safety concerns. The Community Policing Development (CPD) program is a key recurring opportunity for the research and higher education community to engage with the COPS Office. CPD funds are used to advance the practice of community policing in law enforcement agencies through training and technical assistance and the development of innovative community policing strategies, applied research, guidebooks, and best practices that are national in scope and responsive to the solicitation topic requirements.

Sources and Additional Information:

- A list of solicitations is available at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/grants>.

- More information about COPS is available at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/aboutcops>.

Department of Homeland Security

Within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) is responsible for fulfilling DHS research needs, while the Office of Strategy, Policy and Plans (Policy) coordinates engagement and policy development across the agency. Although both of these offices have traditionally supported DHS social science initiatives related to countering terrorism and violent extremism, the Department itself has not been a major driver of social and behavioral research. With the Trump Administration's reduced focus on the field, DHS has placed even less emphasis on applying this discipline to advance security objectives and improve agency operations.

As part of the broader agency reorganization and realignment, non-operational programs within DHS, such as S&T and Policy, have seen dramatic cuts to personnel and programs in the last few months. In similar fashion, DHS began discontinuing funding this past April for grants and cooperative agreements aimed at exploring a range of national security threats and solutions, including those involving social and behavioral sciences like the Targeting Violence and Terrorism Prevention Program and various Centers of Excellence (COE).

In further developments, the S&T Directorate has articulated its return to priorities more closely aligned with Trump's first term in office, which include Securing and Managing Air, Land, and Maritime Borders; Enforcing U.S. Immigration Laws; Countering Transnational Criminal Organizations and Other Illicit Actors; and Expediting Lawful Trade and Travel. As part of this restructuring, the S&T Social Science webpage has been [archived](#), and the Social Sciences Technology Center (SS-TC), which supported programs by identifying requirements to assess human impacts of proposed technologies, has been removed.

The following section reflects information aligned with these updated Administration priorities.

Broad Agency Announcements

DHS S&T leverages two distinct broad agency announcements to support its homeland security related research needs: the **Long-Range Broad Agency Announcement (LRBAA)**, and the **Targeted Broad Agency Announcement (TBAA)**. The LRBAA is a standing, open invitation for the scientific and technical community to propose pioneering R&D projects in support of national security. Unlike traditional BAAs, which are more narrowly focused, the LRBAA covers a broad range of subjects allowing the S&T office to consider original research ideas that fall outside the scope of other solicitations. The current topics of interest to S&T do not include social or behavioral sciences but focus on higher technology readiness level solutions related to border technology, countering unmanned aerial systems, supply chains, cyber, explosive detection, artificial intelligence and data analytics. The **TBAA** focuses on delivering practical solutions to address specific DHS Component technology needs, often with shorter timelines and an emphasis on higher technology readiness levels. There are currently no open TBAA solicitations.

For the LRBAA, applications should clearly articulate the research problem being addressed and explain how the proposed concept improves upon existing solutions. Proposals are peer reviewed and evaluated based on their potential impact, as the LRBAA does not allocate pre-set funding levels. Only original research or unique prototypes requiring proof of concept are eligible.

Centers of Excellence

DHS S&T also houses the Office of University Programs, which administers the Department's Center of Excellence (COE) Program. Since 2004, the COEs have operated as DHS's primary collaborative research initiative for universities, bringing together academic institutions and private-sector partners to conduct basic and applied research that delivers innovative technologies and processes for the homeland security and public safety community.

As part of recent changes to the S&T Directorate, DOGE canceled awards worth nearly \$30 million dollars associated with six Centers of Excellence, including centers with research missions in social sciences.

Congress has since expressed disapproval with the Administration's shift away from collaborative research, vowing to reinstate funding for the Centers of Excellence. In June, the House Appropriations Committee approved its version of the FY 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, noting the COE program as DHS's primary research account for universities and recognizing its role in supporting the development of new technologies. The Committee expressed concerns about DHS's communication regarding its COE review and its decision to terminate certain centers in April 2025. The bill would provide \$45,880,000 to restore funding to COEs funded in FY24 and directs DHS to brief the Committee on its FY26 COE funding plan within 30 days of enactment. The Senate is yet to pass their version of this legislation, and the willingness of Congress to compromise on a final bill appears questionable at this time.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about DHS S&T's innovation funding programs can be found here: <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/funding-innovation>.
- For more information about LRBA, visit the S&T site here: <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/st-lrba>.
- The DHS BAA solicitation portal can be found at <https://oip.dhs.gov/baa/public>.
- Additional information on the COE program, including a list of current COEs can be found at <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/centers-excellence>.
- For more information about the FY2026 House Appropriations bill for Homeland Security, please visit the Committee press release here: <https://appropriations.house.gov/news/press-releases/committee-approves-fy26-homeland-security-appropriations-act>.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) places an emphasis on the preservation of and access to American cultural artifacts. Proposals for funding from IMLS programs are accepted on a rolling basis. Deadlines for individual awards are listed on the website.

In March 2025, President Trump signed an executive order directing the permanent closure of IMLS. As a result, there have been a significant number of award terminations and staff layoffs at the agency. There are currently no open funding opportunities at IMLS. There are two programs that have announced awards in the past six months: “[Native American Library Services Basic Grants Awards](#)” and America250’s mobile exhibits known as “[Freedom Trucks](#).”

Sources and Additional Information:

- Grant programs are available at <https://www.imls.gov/find-funding/funding-opportunities/grant-programs>.
- The Executive Order directing permanent closure of IMLS is available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/continuing-the-reduction-of-the-federal-bureaucracy/>.

Collections Assessment for Preservation Program (CAP)

The Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) Program helps small-to-medium-sized museums assess and improve current collections activities. In a joint effort with the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation, the CAP Program assessment aims to support museums by providing care recommendations for collections, developing a long-range preservation plan, and serve as a fundraising tool for future projects. Museums that have been affected by natural disasters are eligible for Emergency CAPs funding. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Collections Assessment for Preservation Program is available at <https://www.imls.gov/find-funding/funding-opportunities/grant-programs/collections-assessment-for-preservation>.
- More information on the Emergency CAP Program Funding is available at: <https://www.culturalheritage.org/resources/collection-care/cap/cap-emergency>.

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program

The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian (LB21) Program strives to support “the training and professional development of library and archives professionals; developing faculty and information leaders; and recruiting, educating, and retaining the next generation of library and archives professionals in order to develop a diverse library and archival workforce and meet the information needs of their communities.” Grants from this program will range up to \$1 million for implementation grants, up to \$150,000 for planning and national forum grants, and up to \$750,000 for research grants. These grants will last for up to two or three years, depending on the type of grant, except for doctoral program projects which may run for an additional year. There is no cost sharing requirement for LB21 grants, except for implementation grants that are more than \$249,999. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program is available at <https://www.imls.gov/find-funding/funding-opportunities/grant-programs/laura-bush-21st-century-librarian-program>

National Leadership Grants for Libraries

IMLS looks to support projects with the potential to library practice through its National Leadership Grants programs. Through the National Leadership Grants for Libraries (NLG-L), IMLS supports “projects that develop, enhance, or disseminate replicable practices, programs, models, or tools to strengthen library and archival services for the American public.” NLG-L offers planning, national forum, implementation, and research grants, ranging from \$25,000 to \$1 million with a grant period of up to three years. One to one cost sharing is only required on implementation grants over \$249,999. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about National Leadership Grants for Libraries is available at <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-libraries>.

National Leadership Grants for Museums

IMLS looks to support projects with the potential to elevate museum practice through its National Leadership Grants programs. Through the National Leadership Grants for Museums (NLG-M), IMLS supports “projects that address critical needs of the museum field and that have the potential to advance practice in the profession to strengthen museum services for the American public.” NLG-M offers non-research, research, and rapid prototyping grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$750,000 with a grant period of up to three years. There is a one-to-one cost sharing requirement from non-federal sources unless otherwise indicated in FY 2024 NOFO. The IMLS website states the next deadline for applications is November 15, 2025. However, the FY 2026 funding opportunity has not been posted on the IMLS website or Grants.gov.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about National Leadership Grants for Museums is available at <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums>.

Museums for America

The Museums for America Program utilizes museums of all sizes to support projects that “serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, digital learning resources, professional development, community debate and dialogue, audience-focused studies, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation.” When developing projects, applicants should focus on components of the institution’s strategic plan, indicate understanding of the current practice and subject matter, and the generation of measurable results that reflect the challenges being addressed. There are three categories that projects can fall under that include:

- Lifelong Learning;
- Community Engagement; and
- Collections Stewardship and Access.

IMLS expects to fund awards ranging from \$5,000 up to \$250,000. The project duration is one to three years. There is a one-to-one cost sharing requirement from non-federal sources. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Museums for America including two pre-recorded information webinars is available at <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america>.

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums aims to support museums of all sizes to support projects that serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, digital learning resources, policy development and institutional planning, technology enhancements, professional development, community outreach, audience development, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation.” When developing projects, applicants should focus on components of the institution’s strategic plan, indicate understanding of the current practice and subject matter, and the generation of measurable results that reflect the challenges being addressed. This program has three project categories:

- Lifelong Learning;
- Institutional Capacity; and
- Collections Stewardship and Access.

IMLS expects to fund awards ranging from \$5,000 up to \$75,000. Applicants must provide funds from non-federal sources in an amount equal to or greater than their IMLS request if their request amount is between \$25,001 and \$75,000. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Inspire! Grants for Small Museums including two pre-recorded information webinars is available at <https://www.imls.gov/find-funding/funding-opportunities/grant-programs/inspire-grants-for-small-museums>.

Museums Empowered

As a special initiative of the Museums for America grant, Museums Empowered strives to support projects that “use the transformative power of professional development and training to generate systemic change within museums of all types and sizes.” Projects should involve staff, leadership, and volunteers from multiple levels and should also include “a set of logical, interrelated activities tied directly to addressing a key need or challenge; reflect a thorough understanding of current practice and knowledge about professional development; and generate measurable results.” This grant has four program goals and categories:

- Digital Technology;
- Diversity and Inclusion;
- Evaluation; and
- Organizational Management.

IMLS expects to award a total amount of \$3.6 million with awards ranging from \$5,000 up to \$250,000. 22 awards are estimated to be awarded with a project period from one to three years

starting in 2024. There is a one-to-one cost sharing requirement from non-federal sources. The FY 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity is not yet available.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Museums Empowered including a pre-recorded information webinars is available at <https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/museums-empowered-professional-development-opportunities-museum-staff>.

National Archives and Records Administration

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is the grant-making division of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The NHPRC promotes the preservation and use of documents essential to the understanding of American history and culture. Grants are made by the NHPRC to assist non-federal institutions, including universities and colleges, in efforts to preserve and make other records of historical value broadly accessible.

Under the Trump Administration, several NHPRC programs have been removed from the website's "Funding Opportunities" page. While information is still accessible, it's unclear if these programs will be competed again in the future. Programs that have been removed from this webpage are noted below.

Sources and Additional Information:

- A complete listing of grant programs offered by NHPRC with submission deadlines can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement>.
- More information about the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and what projects the Commission supports is available at <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/about/> and <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply/eligibility.html>.

Archival Projects

This program provides funding for proposals seeking to "promote the preservation and use of historical records collections to broaden understanding of our democracy, history, and culture." The program features special encouragement for projects that focus on "collections of America's early legal records, such as the records of colonial, territorial, county, and early statehood and tribal proceedings that document the evolution of the nation's legal history." Funding will support a variety of activities including:

- Arrange or re-house and describe collections;
- Convert existing description for online access;
- Create new online Finding Aids to collections;
- Digitize historical records collections and make them freely available online

Awards for the Archival Projects program are one or two years in duration with a maximum funding level of \$150,000. It is expected that NHPRC will distribute up to 12 grants under this program during the current application cycle. U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply for these grants. This program requires cost sharing between the NHPRC and applicant organization. The Final Deadline is November 5, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Archival Projects Grant Program is available at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/archival.html>.

Publishing Historical Records in Collaborative Digital Editions

This program provides funding for projects that "publish online editions of historical records, including documents, photographs, born-digital records, and analog audio. Projects may focus on

broad historical movements in U.S. history, including any aspect of African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American history, such as law (including the social and cultural history of the law), politics, social reform, business, military, the arts, and other aspects of the national experience.”

Awards under this program are for one year and up to \$125,000. It is expected that the NHPRC will award 28 grants in the next awards cycle. For this program, U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply, and NHPRC will provide no more than 75 percent of total project costs, requiring at least a 25 percent cost share. The deadline for applications for this program has passed.

This program has been removed from the NHPRC website’s “Funding Opportunities” page.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on the Publishing Historical Records in Collaborative Digital Editions Program is available at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/editions.html>.

Discovery and Access to Congressional Records Collections

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission’s (NHPRC) Discovery and Access to Congressional Records Collections program supports “collaborative teams of archivists and other practitioners to develop and promote models for addressing key challenges in the processing, long-term preservation, discovery, access, and research use of Congressional Records collections.” Competitive proposals will center on one or more of the following areas:

- State of the Field and Policy Studies
- Education and Training
- Processing and Digitization Grants
- Collaborative Initiatives for Discovery, Access, and Research Use
- Hybrid Congressional Records Collections

NHPRC is anticipated to fund 8 grants for up to three years, with award sizes ranging from \$100,000 to \$350,000. For this program, U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

This program has been removed from the NHPRC website’s “Funding Opportunities” page.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Discovery and Access to Congressional Records Collections program is available at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/congressional>.

Major Collaborative Archival Initiatives

This program seeks to fund projects that improve the public discovery and use of historical records collections. Projects are encouraged to “focus on broad movements in U.S. history, such as law, politics, social reform, business, military, the arts, and other aspects of the national experience, or on the papers of individual figure(s) in American history.” Eligible applicants must work on either of the below project activities:

- “digitize and publish as a “virtual” collection online historical records housed at multiple repositories but center on a common theme, organization, or important historical figure(s); or
- create and test new tools and methods for the archival field to enhance public access, especially for born-digital records.”

Awards for the Major Initiatives FY 2025 program are one to three years in duration, with funding ranging between \$150,000 and \$350,000. Cost sharing for program funding is required. It is expected that NHPRC will distribute up to five grants in this category. U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply but must be invited to apply to the full program after submitting preliminary proposals. There have not been any funds allocated for the 2025 program year.

This program has been removed from the NHPRC website’s “Funding Opportunities” page.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about the Major Initiatives FY 2025 program can be found at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/major-25>.

The following programs have been archived and are not expected to make future awards at this time. They are included here for context:

- **Archives Collaboratives:** This program funded projects that feature three or more repositories collaborating to make collections more accessible for public discovery and utilization.

Smithsonian Institution

The Smithsonian Institution (SI) does not typically support independent extramural projects. However, the Institution does offer fellowship and internship opportunities to the extramural community for collaborative projects with the SI, which may be of interest to university faculty and students. Humanities scholars have also collaborated directly with Smithsonian Institution researchers and staff.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Additional information on the Smithsonian Institution is available at <http://www.si.edu/>.

Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program

The Smithsonian Institution (SI) offers a variety of fellowships and internships for graduate, pre-doctoral, post-doctoral students, and senior investigators to conduct research and study related to Smithsonian collections, facilities, and/or specific discipline and research areas of interest to Smithsonian staff. Programming can be Smithsonian-wide, a virtual fellowship, or sponsored by a specific Smithsonian unit. Areas of research and study for the program include:

- Animal Behavior, Ecology, and Environmental Science
- Anthropology
- Astrophysics and Astronomy
- Earth Sciences and Paleobiology
- Evolutionary & Systematic Biology
- Folklife
- History of Science and Technology
- History of Art
- Materials Research
- Molecular Biology
- Social and Cultural history of the United States

The fellowship programs have varying application deadlines, program durations, and stipends based on the program division. Applications for SIFP were due by October 15, 2025.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information about Smithsonian Fellowship and internship opportunities is available at <https://fellowships.si.edu/opportunity/smithsonian-institution-fellowship-program-sifp>.

Additional Funding Agencies

Several other agencies and departments offer limited funding for research in the social and behavioral sciences. However, this funding is often irregular, without annual solicitations or deadlines. While some of the below programs are not likely to be reissued in FY 2026, it is still valuable to keep these agencies in mind as potential funding sources in the future due to the interdisciplinary nature of mission driven research agencies.

Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides leadership on food, nutrition, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues through its 29 agencies and offices. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is the primary extramural research and grant-making agency of the Department. Through NIFA's grants, USDA funds research and Extension critical to farmers, consumers, and communities. While NIFA offers solicitations for relevant programs that incorporate the social sciences on an annual basis, the social sciences are not among NIFA's main priorities. Past solicitations incorporating the social sciences have investigated agricultural systems, consumer behavior, decision making, demographic changes, and agricultural education.

NIFA awards Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) research, education, and Extension grants to improve rural economies, increase food production, ensure food safety and security, enhance human nutrition, and train the next generation of the agricultural workforce. AFRI's Education and Workforce Development (EWD) program is an annual grant program focused on professional development for agricultural literacy; training of undergraduate students in research and extension; fellowships for predoctoral candidates; and fellowships for postdoctoral scholars. Historically, awards for EWD have been granted up to \$750,000 with an estimated total funding of \$49 million. This program is anticipated to be announced in FY 2026. Another annual solicitation out of AFRI, the Foundational and Applied Science program (FAS), focuses on bolstering AFRI's mission areas to create a more sustainable, productive, and economically viable plant and animal production system. While not explicitly focused on social sciences, the FY 2026 solicitation is currently open and calls for proposals focused on Small and Medium-Sized Farms; Economics, Markets, and Trade; Social Implications of Food and Agricultural Technologies; Rural Economic Development; and Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, among others. There is \$300 million available in FY 2026 to support projects, and applications are considered on a rolling basis through December 31, 2026.

- Additional information about EWD is available at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/agriculture-food-research-initiative-education-workforce-development>.
- The FY 2026 RFA for the Foundational and Applied Science program is available at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2025-08/FY26-AFRI-FAS-RFA-2P.pdf> and additional information about the program is available at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/agriculture-food-research-initiative-foundational-applied-science>.

USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) is the Department's premier agency for agricultural economic analysis and research. ERS publishes economic reports on topics that include behavioral economics, healthy choices, and policy research. ERS offers limited competitive grants and cooperative agreement opportunities. For example, ERS houses the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics Program (RIDGE) program. This program, administered through a partnership with Tufts University and the University of Connecticut, "encourages new and innovative research on food and nutrition assistance issues and broadens the participation of social science scholars in such research." Although administered by these two universities, RIDGE funding opportunities are available to applicants from other private and public institutions of higher education. RIDGE is a longstanding program that was not competed in FY 2025, and the likelihood of a FY 2026 competition is unknown.

- Additional information about the RIDGE program at ERS is available at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-assistance-data-collaborative-research-programs/ridge-program/#partnership>.

Through the establishment of the [Make America Health Again \(MAHA\) Commission](#), an interagency group chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and including USDA, the Trump Administration is signaling its prioritization of programs and initiatives across health, agricultural, environmental, and economic sectors that address chronic disease in adults and children. The [MAHA Strategy](#), a report prepared by the Commission, highlights the need to develop educational campaigns about the importance of physical activity and nutrition, reform advertising across the food and pharmaceutical industries, and understand prescribing patterns, all of which have social science research implications. While neither the Commission itself nor its member agencies have rolled out specific programs to address these priorities, the Commission's prominence in the Administration will likely influence the funding directions of future programs in areas pertaining to social sciences. MAHA-inspired opportunities could come from a variety of agencies, including USDA.

- Additional information about the MAHA Commission is available at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/establishing-the-presidents-make-america-healthy-again-commission/>
- Lewis-Burke's analysis of the Administration's MAHA Strategy is available at: [Policy Update Make America Healthy Again Commission Releases.pdf](#)

Sources and Additional Information:

- A complete listing of grant programs offered by NIFA with submission receipt deadlines can be found at <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities>.

Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) maintains limited humanities and social science research in support of their diplomatic and development missions. The department has relatively few re-occurring opportunities mostly in the form of fellowships or cultural exchange programs, with other awards released as needed basis to inform advances in U.S. foreign policy and strengthen relations with international partners. Successful applicants for State awards typically have pre-existing partnerships with in-country institutions.

The DOS Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs ([ECA](#)) has historically prioritized funding for educational and cultural exchange programs, including the Fulbright Program, among others. The Fulbright Program has an annual application cycle which enables competitively selected American citizens including students, scholars, teachers, professionals, scientists, and artists to receive funding to conduct research including in the humanities and social sciences, teach, or study internationally – and enables international citizens to do the same in the United States. Applications for the 2026-2027 cycle were due October 7, 2025. Another Fulbright-affiliated exchange, the Humphrey Fellowship Program, is also of interest to higher education institutions since the Department of State selects universities to develop subject-specific leadership programs and to host international fellows. Upcoming topics for host universities in 2026 and 2027 relate to the humanities and social sciences.

- Details on programs administered by ECA are available at <https://www.state.gov/eca-programs/>.
- The U.S. Fulbright Program Page is available at <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/>.
- Information about becoming a host university under the Herbert Humprey Program is available <https://www.humphreyfellowship.org/our-network/host-universities/>.

Although Education and Cultural Exchange (ECE) Programs within ECA are long-standing opportunities with a strong history of bipartisan support as a critical component of soft power diplomacy, the Trump Administration has proposed to do a complete review of the effectiveness of ECA and its programs. The President’s Budget Request for FY 2026 reduced funding for ECE programs by over 93 percent which, if enacted, would eliminate academic opportunities like the Fulbright Program and other academic, professional, and cultural exchanges.

Other social science opportunities exist but are conducted through technical and regional bureaus – and U.S. Embassies. Because funding for research-related activities is limited, faculty conducting research that may be relevant to U.S. foreign policy priorities can consider connecting with DOS personnel, including those at Embassies, to discuss opportunities in targeted areas to expand international networks and raise awareness for their research.

On July 1, 2025, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) officially shut down, resulting in a reduction in force of the approximately 1,600 USAID employees and the halting or suspension of more foreign assistance programs that were not already fired or terminated earlier this year. Following a series of Executive Orders (EO), most notably the EO from January 20 “[Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid](#)”, DOS has absorbed the remainder of USAID’s previous operations and programming.

Reorganization within DOS is still ongoing and the former USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance has now moved to Office of Foreign Assistance Oversight (formerly Office of Foreign Assistance) at DOS. It is possible that this office may have future needs to support work on populations, refugees, migration, food assistance, and other humanitarian efforts.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Some DOS Bureaus have pages dedicated to programs and funding opportunities. While the Administration has not yet posted new social science-focused research programs, these offices have had opportunities in the past. Relevant bureaus include:
 - Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor: <https://www.state.gov/statements-of-interest-requests-for-proposals-and-notices-of-funding-opportunity/>
 - Office of Global Food Security: <https://www.state.gov/announcements-office-of-global-food-security/>
- Office of Population, Refugees, and Migration: <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-foreign-assistance-humanitarian-affairs-and-religious-freedom/bureau-of-population-refugees-and-migration>

Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a regulatory agency whose mission is protecting human health and the environment. EPA's activities are authorized through legislation such as the *Clean Air Act*, the *Clean Water Act*, and the *National Environmental Policy Act*. EPA's research and development agenda has traditionally supported technological innovation and the formulation of evidence-based regulations on water, air, soils, chemicals, emerging contaminants, and hazardous waste. While EPA's programming is largely intramural, the agency has historically been congressionally directed to provide some limited grant funding for academic research and training, some of which includes social science components or other community engaged work.

In the past, EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD), the agency's scientific research arm, conducted and funded research to support environmental decision-making and inform regulations. With a primary focus on environmental health-focused regulatory science, there have been several aspects of ORD programs that have either focused on or incorporated social sciences. Extramural research proposals have typically been supported through the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Program. STAR Requests for Applications (RFAs) have typically been posted throughout the year on a rolling basis on the EPA website and have offered grant funding in targeted areas intended to complement EPA's in-house capabilities. In addition, there have also been other Congressionally directed national priorities programs focused on water research, which also have social science components, and which are also posted on the ORD website. ORD had also historically offered postdoctoral research programs lasting up to four years. ORD postdoctoral research programs are housed in four distinct Centers at EPA, of which the most relevant to social sciences are the Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment (CPHEA) and the Center for Environmental Solutions and Emergency Response (CESER). Participants are typically placed at different EPA research center locations across the U.S., depending on their research focus.

Although Congress allocated funding in fiscal year (FY) 2025 to support the STAR Program and the National Priorities Program for research, the Trump Administration has not released new, publicly competed research opportunities to date. At the same time, the Administration has proposed major organizational changes to the agency, including the elimination of ORD. Instead, they have proposed a new, smaller Office of Applied Science and Environmental Solutions (OASES) that would report directly to the EPA Administrator. EPA has not announced what will happen with the ORD managed research centers or research programs if they move ahead with the re-organization, over the objectives of bipartisan members of Congress.

Sources and Additional Information:

- A list of current research opportunities and notices of intent is available at <https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/research-funding-opportunities>.
- Information about the Science to Achieve Results Program is available at <https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/star>.
- Information about the EPA's water-focused research grants is available at <https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/water-research-grants>.
- Information about opportunities for students and post-docs is available at <https://www.epa.gov/careers/research-opportunities-recent-students-and-postdocs>.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) funds research and technology development related to spaceflight, planetary science, astrophysics, aerospace, biological science, and human space exploration. NASA primarily focuses more on technology and innovation than social and behavioral sciences, and mainly does behavioral health research internally. However, the agency's Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate (ESDMD), formerly part of the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, does examine certain aspects of social and behavioral sciences related to astronauts living and working in space. More information about ESDMD can be found at <https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/exploration-systems-development>.

Technology development conducted at NASA, including any social science research, is influenced by a technology taxonomy. The NASA technology taxonomy is a "roadmap" that guides cross-agency technology investments to enable future space missions and advance the interests of the agency. The 2024 taxonomy includes "17 distinct technical discipline-based Taxonomies (TXs)." Of note, TX06, Human Health, Life Support, and Habitation Systems, defines the research needs in specific areas such as "Behavioral Health and Performance." More information can be found at <https://www.nasa.gov/otps/2024-nasa-technology-taxonomy/>.

Human Exploration and Research Opportunities

The Human Exploration Research Opportunities (HERO) solicitation supports research related to the goals of the Human Research Program (HRP), which aims to ensure human health and productivity in deep space exploration. Research areas of interest for HRP include space radiation, human health countermeasures, exploration medical capability, and human factors and behavioral performance. The solicitation aims to complete objectives such as:

- "Quantification of the crew health and performance risks associated with human spaceflight for the various exploration missions;
- Development of countermeasures to provide mission planners and system developers with strategies for mitigating crew health and performance risks; and
- Development of technologies to provide mission planners and system developers with strategies for monitoring and mitigating crew health and performance risks."

A specific mechanism for social sciences within the HERO solicitation is the [Translational Research Institute for Space Health](#) (TRISH). Led by Baylor College of Medicine's Center for Space

Medicine, TRISH is a consortium that funds “game-changing space health countermeasures and technologies” to reduce human health risks in deep space exploration.

The 2025 HERO solicitation has yet to be released. HERO awards typically range in value from \$150,000 to \$1.5 million per year depending on the complexity of the project.

Sources and Additional Information:

- More information on HRP is available at <https://www.nasa.gov/hrp>.
- More information about TRISH can be found at <https://www.bcm.edu/academic-centers/space-medicine/translational-research-institute>.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) offers extramural funding related to its mission to support ocean, coastal, atmospheric, and climate change research. Under the Biden Administration, NOAA continues to prioritize the enhancement of its social science capabilities as they relate to its mission of protecting natural resources, responding to climate-related challenges, and building resilience to weather events with an increased focus on environmental justice and equity. While NOAA does not currently have a direct social science portfolio, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) continues to incorporate more social and behavioral research in its existing portfolio.

OAR’s Climate Program Office (CPO) hosts an annual competition with a set of 5-10 individual solicitations on varying topics. Usually, at least one of the competitions focuses on a social science aspect of weather prediction, resilience, or climate. Solicitations are released in the late summer, however, reporting on NOAA’s unreleased FY 2025 spend plan has indicated the program may face significant cuts or funds will not be released.

More information on the CPO programs is available at <http://cpo.noaa.gov/> and <https://cpo.noaa.gov/Funding-Opportunities>.

The Weather Program Office (WPO) also operates an annual competitive program, which supports research focused on weather prediction technology, but occasionally includes one competition relevant to applications of social, behavioral, and economic sciences. Similarly, solicitations are released in late summer, but the likelihood of an FY 2025 solicitation is unclear.

More information on the WPO programs is available at <https://wpo.noaa.gov/> and <https://wpo.noaa.gov/fy24-notice-of-funding-opportunity-nofo/>.

The **NOAA Office of Education** offers an **Environmental Literacy Program (ELP)** competed approximately every two years. The ELP seeks to fund projects which promote environmental literacy in communities so that they can build resilience to extreme weather and climate change “in ways that contribute to community health, social cohesion, and socio-economic equity.” This program, which started in FY 2015, has previously funded projects related to youth leadership in sustainability, increasing resilience to rising sea levels, citizen science, and civics, as well as projects targeted towards underserved communities. The program has not run a solicitation since

FY 2022. While the Trump Administration has yet to officially recognize the future of the program, solicitations for future ELP cycles remain unlikely.

Additional information on the Environmental Literacy Program is available at [Environmental Literacy Program | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(noaa.gov\)](#)

NOAA has a competitive **National Coastal Resilience Fund** grants program offered through the Office for Coastal Management. This is competed on an annual basis and addresses the interdisciplinary components of resiliency, including socioeconomic benefits, hazard mitigation planning, and disaster preparedness. Administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in partnership with NOAA, and with addition funds from the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, the program provided \$140 million in 2024 for projects that focus on regional priorities and work closely with local communities. Proposals to this program are required to demonstrate the benefits to coastal community resilience, and in the 2024 competition, were encouraged to meaningfully involve local partners and engage with underserved communities as well as consider community impact and engagement.

Reporting on NOAA's unreleased FY 2025 spend plan has indicated the program may face significant cuts or funds will not be released.

More information about the National Coastal Resilience Fund grants program is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/noaa-coastal-resilience-grants> and <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund>.

NOAA Fisheries hosts an annual competition called the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Competition which awards grants of a maximum of \$500,000 for research on fishing and aquaculture communities, socioeconomic impacts of depleting fish stocks, and other issues relevant to seafood communities. Priority areas for the FY 2025 competition included:

- Promotion and marketing
- Development, infrastructure, and capacity building
- Science or technology that enhances sustainable US fisheries

Additional information about the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Competition is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/saltonstall-kennedy-grant-competition>.

Sources and Additional Information:

- Information on the CPO programs is available at <http://cpo.noaa.gov/> and <https://cpo.noaa.gov/Funding-Opportunities>.
- Information on the WPO programs is available at <https://wpo.noaa.gov/> and <https://wpo.noaa.gov/fy24-notice-of-funding-opportunity-nofo/>.
- Information on the Environmental Literacy Program is available at [Environmental Literacy Program | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(noaa.gov\)](#)
- Information on the National Coastal Resilience Fund grants program is available at <https://coast.noaa.gov/resilience-grant/> and <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund>.
- Information about the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Competition is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/grant/saltonstall-kennedy-grant-competition>.