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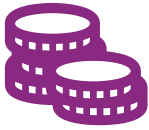
Analysis of the President's FY 2026 Budget Request

Implications for Research, Technology, Education, Workforce, and Health Programs

Prepared by Lewis-Burke Associates LLC

June 5, 2025

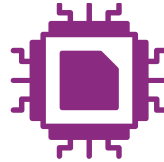
Trump Administration FY 2026 Funding Priorities



Reduce federal funding



Defense



Artificial Intelligence
and Quantum



Border Security

Highlights

Significant Cuts Proposed for Most Federal Agencies and Programs

The budget proposes cutting non-defense spending by \$163 billion or 23 percent compared to FY 2025 with science, clean energy, education, and health programs especially targeted; also proposed are additional reductions to the federal workforce, elimination or major reorganizations of federal agencies, and rescissions of unused prior year funding

Trump Funding Priorities

Increased investments in revitalizing the defense industrial base and nuclear modernization as well as securing the border and deportations; highest R&D priorities are Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Information Science

Note

This analysis is based on the President's fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget request and does not indicate final FY 2026 appropriations levels. This analysis is based on best available budget information at the time of this writing for each federal agency and program. The Trump Administration has not yet released full budget details for most federal agencies, so this analysis is based on the May 2 "skinny" budget, the May 30 Office of Management and Budget Technical Supplement to the FY 2026 budget request, and, if available, budgets-in-brief or more detailed budget justifications from individual federal agencies.

While this document is important for understanding President Trump's funding priorities, it is up to Congress to embrace, modify, or reject budget proposals. Lewis-Burke will continue to provide updates on proposed federal agency priorities and new initiatives as additional budget information is released as well as analyses of congressional appropriations for major federal agencies and programs.

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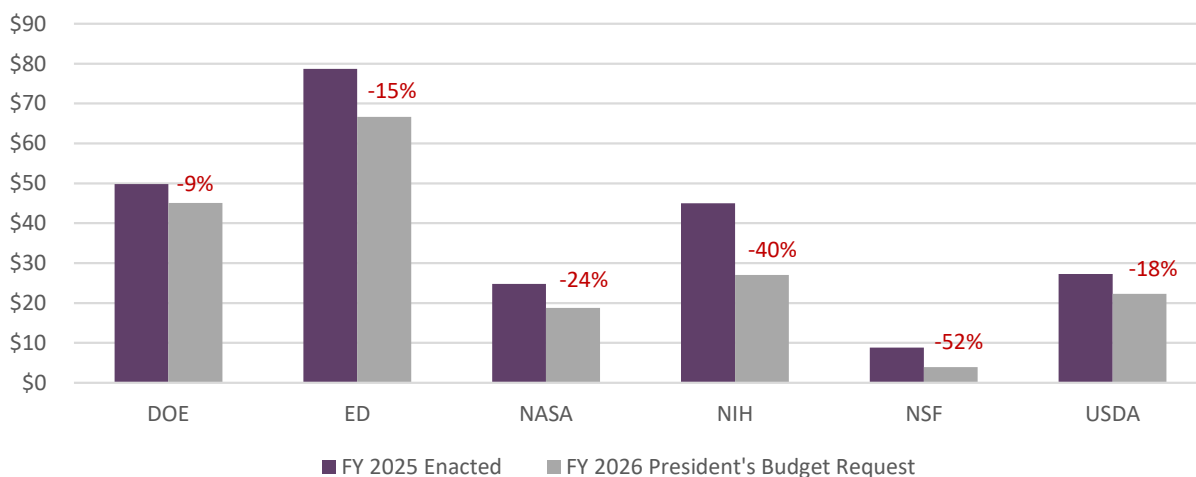
Executive Summary

On May 30, the Trump Administration released additional budget documents beyond the high-level overview provided in the May 2 “skinny budget.” While many budget details are still missing, such as full budget justifications for Departments of Defense and Commerce, and some agencies only have partial information available, such as a Budget-in-Brief for the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Health and Human Services and an [Appendix](#) document from the White House with high level charts, the new budget documents offer a more complete picture of proposed funding increases or cuts, elimination or major reorganizations of federal agencies, and planned reductions in the federal workforce. This analysis provides summaries of funding proposals for federal agencies of interest to the research, technology, education, and healthcare communities as an extension of Lewis-Burke’s May 2 initial fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget assessment. Lewis-Burke will update this analysis as the Trump Administration releases additional budget information.

Specifically, the budget documents released on June 5 provide additional insight on major reductions to science, clean energy, environment, education, and health care programs proposed in the FY 2026 budget request as the Trump Administration seeks to cut \$163 billion or nearly 23 percent from non-defense discretionary programs. The new budget documents also make clear that the top research and development priorities include Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Information Science. In general, funding for these areas would be spared from major cuts, and in some cases, the budget request proposes some targeted increases.

As noted previously, the largest decreases by percentage to science-facing agencies are proposed for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), while other agencies would have their science or research accounts cut dramatically. Cuts at DOE would disproportionately fall on renewable energy programs and Office of Science climate programs. Many Department of Education programs would be terminated or significantly reduced consistent with plans to shutter the Department completely. The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture would see a \$602 million reduction, eliminating programs associated with climate change, renewable energy, and those promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in education. Federal environment and international programs would be cut by at least 50 percent and the budget calls for the elimination of cultural agencies, such as the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts.

KEY AGENCIES AT A GLANCE (IN BILLIONS)



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In addition to the proposed funding reductions for non-defense programs, the Trump Administration also sent Congress a \$9.4 billion rescissions package to claw back unused funding in foreign aid, such as \$900 million for global health programs, and for public broadcasting. Congress has 45 days to vote on the package and it takes a simple majority vote in both chambers to pass it. This is an early test of whether the Republican majority in Congress will support cuts identified by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). The Trump Administration plans to propose larger rescissions packages in future years to claw back additional funds.

The House has already started advancing FY 2026 appropriations bills this week. On June 5, the House Appropriations Committee will review the first two of 12 FY 2026 appropriations bills for agriculture and veterans affairs and plans to wrap up work on all 12 bills by July 24. These bills will provide an early indication of which funding proposals the House, and in particular House Republicans in the majority, plan to accept or reject, such as steep cuts to NSF and NIH. Both Republican and Democratic Members have expressed significant concern about the scope of proposed cuts to the U.S. research enterprise. In addition, with a 60-vote majority needed in the Senate to pass annual spending bills and a final appropriations package, Republicans will need to work with Democrats to find a compromise. Democrats have long insisted on parity between defense and non-defense spending and the Trump Administration proposal significantly deviates from that parity for the first time in close to two decades. The risk of a government shutdown or another full year Continuing Resolution that punts major funding changes to another year remains high.

The analysis below provides additional details on the President's FY 2026 budget proposals based on the most up to date information available at this time. Lewis-Burke will send updates when more complete budget justifications become available from various federal agencies. Also, funding comparisons are based on what were deemed to be the most accurate or available figures at the time of this writing, so tables and charts for each agency may include funding levels from FY 2025 enacted, FY 2025 Continuing Resolution (CR) estimates or FY 2024 enacted.

Department of Agriculture



The President's budget request proposes steep cuts to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Along with an overall 22.6 percent reduction in funding, every Mission Area and most programs would take cuts. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA's extramural research, education, and Extension funding agency, would receive a \$642 million cut, or about 38 percent. The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) would face a less significant, \$145 million cut, or about 8 percent, and three ARS facilities would be slated for closure.

Quick Take: Overall, USDA would receive a 22.6 percent reduction in funding, with every mission area and most programs taking cuts. Research, education, and Extension programs are no exception.

Major cuts/eliminations: Within NIFA, the Hatch Act program, which funds experiment stations at Land-grant universities would be cut entirely along with Smith-Lever Extension funds being cut in half this is said to be in favor of competitive programs, however, AFRI was also cut by 9 percent. Other areas that would see significant reductions include the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which would be reduced by \$839 million, an 88 percent cut. Most Forest Service funding for wildland fire activities would also be cut, as the Administration has proposed moving these efforts to the Department of Interior (DOI) and the creation of a new U.S. Wildland Fire Service.

The Bottom Line:

The President's budget request spares few USDA programs from cuts. While some agencies maintain relatively flat funding, the request proposes steep cuts to research and conservation programs.

Other signature initiatives: Aligned with the Trump Administration's efforts to eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)-related programs and with its skepticism towards climate change, research and education efforts aligned with those efforts were proposed for elimination. Zeroed out programs include Women and Minorities in STEM, Sun Grant, and Multicultural Scholars.

Notably, only a single, small program at NIFA would receive increased funding – an additional \$500,000 to double the Laying Hen and Turkey Research Program, which is possibly aligned with the Administration's stated commitment to combating Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

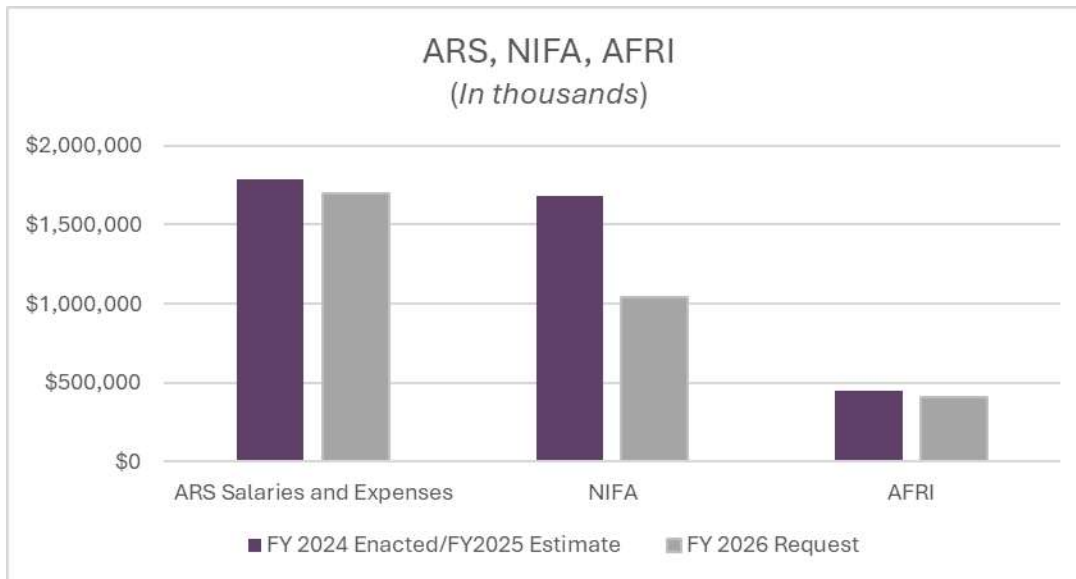
Proposed cuts to the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) budget were less sweeping; the agency would receive \$1.7 billion, a cut of \$145.2 million or 7.9 percent. Three ARS facilities in Urbana, IL, Riverside, CA, and Newark, DE, are proposed for closure with their programs moved to other locations.

Department of Agriculture



Ongoing areas of interest: The “Skinny” budget proposal from April noted that HBCU’s would be “amply funded” in the full request. Indeed, many programs for minority-serving institutions would receive no cuts, including the Centers of Excellence at 1890s, Education Grants for 1890s, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions, Research Grants and Payments to 1994s, New Beginnings for Tribal Students, and Extension at 1994s. Extension at 1890s would receive a cut of \$10 million to \$62 million. Education Grants for Hispanic Serving Institutions would be reduced by \$500,000 to \$15.5 million.

In addition to protecting these programs from cuts, the budget request also outlines priorities for AFRI grants that represent other focus areas for the Administration, including “combatting animal and plant diseases, mitigating effects of natural disasters on agriculture, making America healthy again, and promoting rural prosperity.” AFRI programs specifically mentioned support for Plant and Animal Breeding, programs that support innovations in energy production, the development of technologies that contribute to the economic development of rural communities, and programs that underpin the Administration’s efforts to improve human health. “High priority” areas such as sustainable production agriculture, soil health, biosecurity, food and agricultural microbiomes, nanotechnology, food safety, water quality, food loss and waste, pollinator health, and human health are also specifically mentioned as areas to receive “continued support.”



Department of Agriculture



U.S Department of Agriculture (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request v. FY 2025 Estimate
Agricultural Research Service, Total discretionary	1,845,227	1,700,000	-145,227 (7.9%)
National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Discretionary	1,678,750	1,036,956	-641,794 (38.2%)
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	445,200	405,306	-39,894 (9.0%)
Hatch Act	265,000	0	-265,000 (100%)
Smith-Lever Act 3(b) and 3(c)	325,000	175,000	-150,000 (46.2%)
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act	38,000	20,000	-18,000 (47.4%)
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen Program)	89,000	50,000	-39,000 (43.8%)
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	5,000	5,000	--
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	72,000	62,000	-10,000 (13.9%)
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	11,000	11,000	--
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	7,000	7,000	--
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions	30,000	30,000	--
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields	2,000	0	-2,000 (100%)
Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture	6,000	0	-6,000 (100%)
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship, and Institution Challenge Grants	10,000	0	-10,000 (100%)
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions	16,000	15,500	-500 (3.1%)

*Enacted level based on the FY 2025 Notional amount provided in the budget documents.

Sources and Additional Information: USDA's NIFA FY 2026 Budget Justification can be found at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/21-2026-CJ-NIFA.pdf>. USDA's ARS FY 2026 Budget Justification can be found at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/20-2026-CJ-ARS.pdf>.

Department of Commerce



The Department of Commerce includes the Economic Development Administration (EDA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Economic Development Administration



Disclaimer: The information provided in this section is based on the May 2 skinny budget. This section will be updated when the agency releases a more detailed budget justification.

The budget request proposes the elimination of the **Economic Development Administration (EDA)** and the recission of unspent funds from the Economic Development Assistance Program. EDA was funded at \$468 million in fiscal year (FY) 2025. The Administration cites a desire to “drive economic decision making out of Washington and back to States and localities” as the reason for the proposed elimination of EDA. As noted in the Appendix document provided by the White House, EDA plans to support competitions like Regional Tech Hubs in the coming years but information from a full budget justification is needed to square this with the elimination of the agency.



National Institutes of Standards and Technology

Disclaimer: The information provided in this section is based on the May 2 skinny budget and the May 30 budget Appendix. This section will be updated when the agency releases a more detailed budget justification.



NIST would be funded at \$912 billion in FY 2026, a roughly \$548 billion or 37.5 percent decrease from the FY 2024 enacted level.

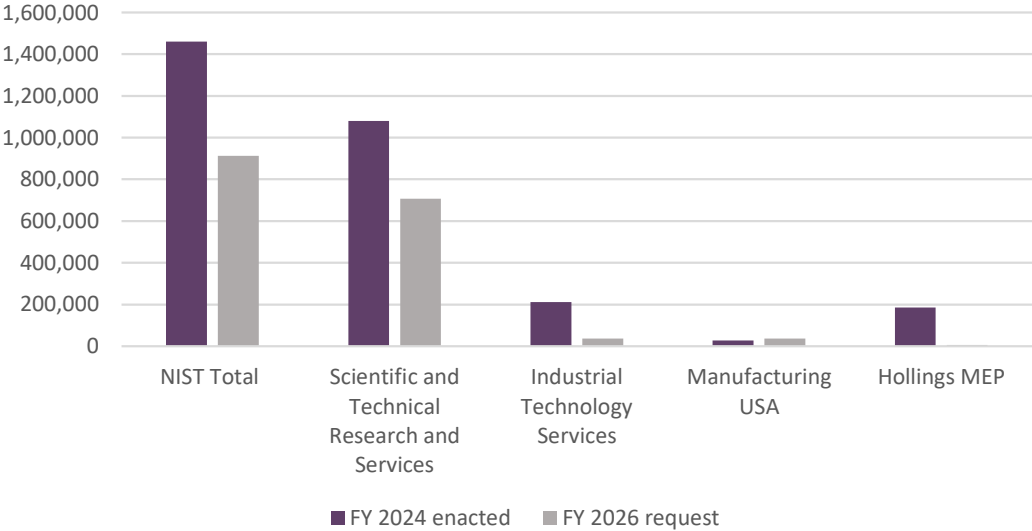
Quick Take: The budget calls for NIST to focus on its historic role in measurement science and continue advancing discoveries in emerging and critical technologies such as “artificial intelligence, quantum information science, biotechnology and other industries of the future.”

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget request would essentially eliminate the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) and significantly reduce funding for the Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) account.

The Bottom Line

The FY 2026 budget request demonstrates NIST’s continued prioritization of emerging technology research and standards, especially AI, quantum, and biotechnology. However, many of NIST’s research and manufacturing programs would see significant cuts as opposed to previous years.

Major NIST Programs





Signature Initiatives

Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)

The budget request would provide \$6 million for the MEP program, a roughly \$180 million cut from the FY 2024 enacted level. For context, MEP’s three strategic goals include mitigating supply chain vulnerabilities, narrowing the workforce gap, and leveraging technology to strengthen U.S. manufacturing, especially for small and medium-sized manufacturers.

Manufacturing USA

Manufacturing USA would be funded at \$37 million for FY 2026, equal to the FY 2024 enacted level. Most notably, the request states “continued network coordination and network support” for the Manufacturing USA Institutes, and that the network of Manufacturing USA Institutes is expected to “stand at two institutes sponsored by the Department of Commerce, nine by the Department of Defense and seven by the Department of Energy,” by the end of 2025.

Ongoing Areas of Interest

Scientific and Technical Research and Services

The Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) account would be funded at \$707 million, a decrease of \$373 million from the FY 2024 level. In line with messaging from the Administration, the budget calls for NIST to return to its core mission of measurement science, stating that measurement services and research provided by NIST “remain critical to national defense, homeland security, trade, and innovation.”

Construction of Research Facilities (CRF)

The budget request would provide \$87.75 million to support “maintenance, repairs, major improvements, and major renovations of facilities occupied or used by NIST.”

National Institute of Standards and Technology (In Millions of \$)

	FY 2024 Actual*	FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Request v. FY 2024 Enacted
NIST, Total	1,460	912	-548 (37.0%)
Scientific and Technical Research and Services	1,080	707	-373 (34.5%)
Industrial Technology Services	212	37	-175 (82.5%)
Manufacturing USA	28	37	9 (32.1%)
Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership	186	6	-180 (96.8%)

*FY 2024 numbers were taken from the Technical Supplement to the 2026 Budget – Appendix

Sources and Additional Information: Further information on the NIST budget is available at [appendix_fy2026.pdf](#), page 217.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Disclaimer: The information provided in this section is based on the May 2 skinny budget and the May 30 budget Appendix. This section will be updated when the agency releases a more detailed budget justification.



The budget request would provide \$4.5 billion for NOAA in FY 2026, a decrease of \$1.8 billion or 28.6 percent below the FY 2025 enacted level. The steep cuts were not evenly distributed and reflect Administration priorities of supporting NOAA’s weather enterprise while significant reducing its external research programs.

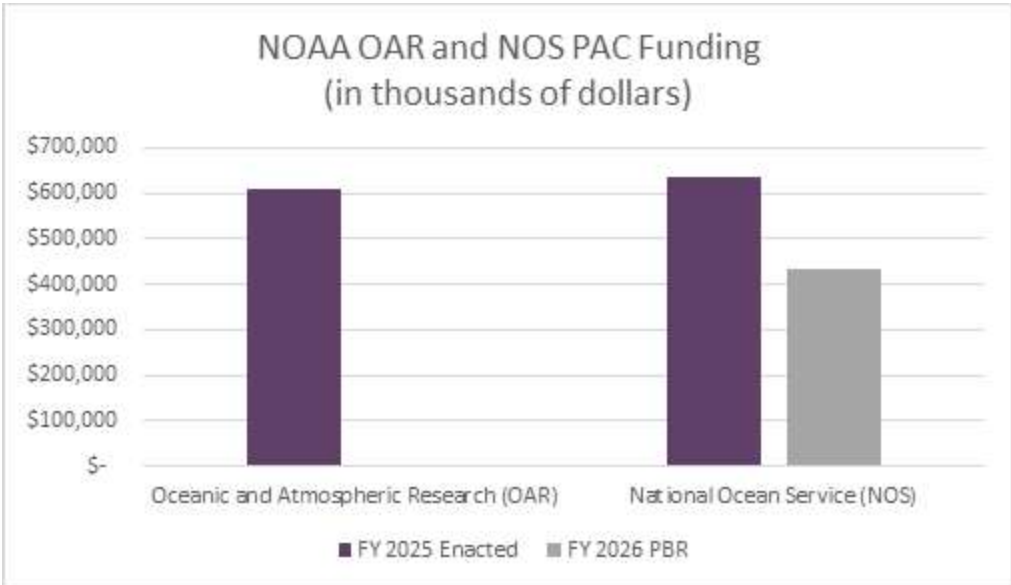
Quick Take: The budget request proposes deep cuts to all NOAA line offices except for the National Weather Service, which would see a slight increase. The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) as well as any remaining Inflation Reduction Act funds would be eliminated entirely.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The request would make deep cuts to nearly every part of the agency including dissolving the main external research line office, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR). There is a possibility that some of OAR’s programs could be moved to other line offices such as the Weather Service and/or National Ocean Service, but will not be clear until full details are released.

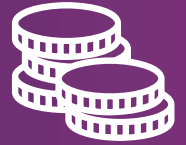
New initiatives/priorities: NOAA has not yet released a detailed budget justification, but Administration priorities are likely to be weather prediction related to extreme events and extraction information, such as ocean mapping for drilling and mining.

The Bottom Line

NOAA will likely face a constant stream of pressure for cuts throughout this Administration; however, the agency’s weather and satellite mission has been protected by public pushback and industry interests. It is likely to follow the trend of several other environmental agencies by dramatically reducing its research scope except for those areas related the Administration’s extreme weather, energy, and natural resource extraction goals.



Department of Commerce



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

(in Thousands of \$)*

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs FY 2025 Enacted
NOAA, Total	6,319,000	4,512,124	-1,806,876 (28.6%)
Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF)	4,548,485	3,057,551	-1,490,934 (32.8%)
Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)	608,000	0	-608,000 (100.0%)
National Weather Service (NWS)	1,247,000	1,318,000	71,000 (5.7%)
National Ocean Service (NOS)	634,000	434,000	-200,000 (31.5%)
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	1,093,000	789,000	-304,000 (27.8%)
Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction (PAC)	1,719,866	1,454,573	-265,293 (15.4%)
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Systems	1,360,000	1,195,000	-165,000 (12.1%)

*Numbers may differ slightly based on available information of FY 2025 funding plans



Disclaimer: The information provided in this section is based on the May 2 skinny budget and the May 30 budget Appendix, which included topline numbers for the Services and defense-wide research and development activities. This section will be updated when the agency releases a more detailed budget justification, expected by the end of June 2025.

The Department of Defense (DOD) would be funded at \$892.6, the same as FY 2025. However, the Trump Administration assumes that Congress will successfully pass the reconciliation bill this year, providing an additional \$133.3 billion (13.4 percent) to DOD for a total of \$961.6 billion.

Quick Take: The budget request would provide flat funding compared to FY 2025 for DOD Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) activities. This is consistent with the Administration’s continued trend of prioritizing acquisition and procurement of weapons systems and other national security capabilities over RDT&E. Despite proposed increases, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Roger Wicker (R-MS), who has been pushing for a \$200 billion increase for DOD spending in the reconciliation bill, released a [statement](#) criticizing flat funding for DOD in the budget request, citing the need for more substantial resources to deter Chinese aggression.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request highlights as major priorities the Golden Dome initiative (next-generation missile defense), modernizing shipbuilding and the nuclear deterrent, and strengthening air and space dominance.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget request proposed ending climate and DEI investments.

The Bottom Line

The budget request advances the Administration’s focus on bolstering national security and prioritizing warfighter lethality. The budget request would prioritize revitalizing the defense industrial base and addressing competition with China. Priorities include the Golden Dome, shipbuilding, the nuclear deterrence and air and space dominance. Overall RDT&E stays flat, but funding is likely to shift even more to later stage development activities.

Defense RDT&E Topline
(in thousands of \$)





Ongoing Areas of Interest

Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

The FY 2026 budget request Appendix provides the following information for DOD RDT&E accounts:

- The Army RDT&E account would be funded at \$14.5 billion, roughly flat with the \$14.3 billion provided in the FY 2025 CR.
 - The request notes an additional \$41.4 million to be made available through September 2026 for expenses related to damage caused by natural disasters provided in the *Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2025*.
- The Navy RDT&E account would be funded at \$25.7 billion, a one percent or \$259 million dollar reduction from the \$25.9 billion provided in the FY 2025 CR.
- The Air Force RDT&E account would be funded at \$52.0 billion, an increase of \$5.2 billion or 11 percent over the FY 2025 CR.
 - The request notes an additional \$69.2 million to be made available through September 2026 for expenses related to damage caused by Typhoon Mawar provided in the *Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2025*.
- The Space Force RDT&E account would be funded at \$15.4 billion, a \$3.06 billion or 16.5 percent cut compared to the FY 2025 CR.
- The Defense-Wide RDT&E account would be funded at \$33.9 billion, a \$1.3 billion or 3.7 percent cut compared to the FY 2025 CR.

Defense Health

DOD medical and health care programs would be funded at \$40.5 billion overall, roughly flat with FY 2025, of which \$972.7 million would be available for RDT&E. Ultimately the majority of RDT&E defense health funding is determined through the annual appropriations process.

Department of Defense



Department of Defense (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request v. FY 2025 Enacted
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Army	14,322,031	14,549,223	227,192 (1.6%)
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Navy	25,967,177	25,708,049	-259,128 (-1.0%)
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Air Force	46,811,425	52,017,288	5,205,863 (11.1%)
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Space Force	18,553,363	15,486,466	-3,066,897 (-16.5%)
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Defense-Wide	35,238,856	33,921,939	-1,316,917 (-3.7%)
Defense Health Program	40,395,072	40,502,123	107,051 (0.3%)



The President’s budget request proposes \$66.7 billion for the discretionary programs within the U.S. Department of Education (ED), which represents a 15.3 percent decrease as compared to the FY 2024 enacted level.

Quick Take: While the FY 2026 budget request would allow some ED programs to continue operations, there are significant proposed cuts and/or eliminations to many student aid and education grant initiatives. The request acknowledges that it reflects the Administration’s goals of dismantling the Department as outlined by President Trump’s March 20 [Executive Order](#).

New Initiatives/Priorities: The Trump Administration’s priorities include moving education funding to state grants and consolidating programs, including a proposed new \$2 billion K–12 Simplified Funding Program (K–12 SFP), which consolidates many “currently funded formula and competitive grant programs for elementary and secondary education into a single State formula grant program.” For higher education, notably the request supports institutional capacity grants for Title III and V Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) programs. Supporting the “reindustrialization” of the United States through effective education and workforce programs is also highlighted as a priority throughout the budget request.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The FY 2026 budget request would reduce the Pell Grant maximum award to \$5,710 for the 2026-2027 school year, a \$1,685 decrease, citing untenable overall funding shortfalls and chronic mismanagement of the program. The budget request would also eliminate funding for numerous programs, including, but not limited to:

- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)
- Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP)
- International Education and Foreign Language Studies (HEA Title VI) programs
- Federal TRIO programs
- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) program
- Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program
- Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program
- Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) program
- Augustus F. Hawkins Centers of Excellence
- Education Innovation Research (EIR) program
- Comprehensive Centers
- Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) program

The budget request also calls for continuing its recent reduced staffing level of around 2,200 employees, which is approximately half of the Department-wide staffing size as compared to 2024 staffing.

The Bottom Line

The budget request proposes significant reductions to student aid and grant programs and reflects the Administration’s interest in eliminating the Department of Education. While it is still unknown which changes Congress will accept, the Department has already begun implementing many of the included proposals by failing to execute on existing program funds and reducing staff that manage those programs.



New/Signature Initiatives and Ongoing Areas of Interest

Student Aid

In addition to the proposed maximum Pell Grant award cut, the request supports working with Congress to expand Pell access to short-term workforce programs. The request would reduce Federal Work Study (FWS) funding by nearly \$1 billion to a level of \$250 million and includes proposed reforms to expand an employer's proportion of student wages to 75 percent and reduces federal contributions to 25 percent. The budget would also change the formula to direct FWS funds to schools that serve the most low-income students. In terms of further loan changes, the request notes the Administration looks forward to working with Congress in the ongoing budget reconciliation process, which will likely attempt to change aid programs further.

Higher Education Grant Programs

For FY 2026, the request would call for \$823 million in discretionary and mandatory funds for Title III programs, which fund HBCU and MSI institutional capacity grant programs, as well as \$356 million for Hispanic-Serving Institutions Title V programs. Unlike the Biden Administration, the budget request does not include any new grant initiatives under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE).

Education Research

Citing poor returns on education research investments at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), the FY 2026 budget request notes the Department is "currently in the midst of reimagining a more efficient, effective, and useful IES to improve support for evidence-based accountability, data-driven decision making, and education research for use in the classroom." The budget request would provide \$261 million, a \$530 million decrease, for the IES. These funds would be used primarily for the statutorily required assessments and some limited data collections as opposed to provision of competitive research funding. The Administration indicates its intent to rebuild IES to focus on academic achievement, improved literacy, and dissemination and development, and expresses interest in working with Congress to pass a reauthorization of the *Education Sciences Reform Act*.

Elementary, Secondary, and Adult Education

The FY 2026 request would level fund Title I Grants to local education agencies and launch a new, \$2 billion K-12 Simplified Funding Program, a consolidation of 18 existing elementary and secondary grant programs, including the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program (21st CCLC), Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP), School Safety National Activities, and Promise Neighborhoods, among others. The budget request proposes a \$150 million set aside within the K-12 Simplified Funding Program for reading instruction and improvement of literacy. The budget would increase funding for Charter School grants and support state expansions of charter schools.

In the Career and Technical Education (CTE) space, the budget request would provide nearly level funding at \$1.45 billion for the CTE programs but cut the CTE National Program by \$2 million to a level of \$10.2 million for FY 2026. The National Programs would support grants "to enhance connections between the education system and registered apprenticeships and support unifying the public workforce system, State career and technical education systems, and the Registered Apprenticeship system to meet the need for competency- and skills-based education and training," largely through the Perkins Innovation and Modernization grant program. The request would provide no funding for Adult Education programs.

Office of Civil Rights

The budget request would provide the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) with \$91 million, a \$49 million cut from FY 2024 enacted levels, which reflects 300 less, or a 50 percent reduction of staff, as compared to 2024.



U.S. Department of Education (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2024 Enacted*	FY 2026 Request	FY 2024 Enacted vs. FY 2026 Request
Elementary and Secondary Education			
Education Innovation and Research	259,000	0	-259,000 (100%)
Special Ed Personnel Preparation	115,000	0	-115,000 (100%)
CTE National programs	12,421	10,200	-2,221 (17.8%)
K-12 Simplified Funding Program (K-12 SEP)	--	2,000,000	2,000,000 (100%)
Student Financial Assistance			
Pell Grant Max Award*	7,395	5,710	-1,685 (22.7%)
Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)	910,000	0	-910,000 (100%)
Federal Work Study	1,230,000	250	-1,229,750 (99.9%)
Higher Education			
Strengthening Institutions	112,070	0	-112,070 (100%)
Developing HSIs	228,890	228,890	--
HSI STEM and Articulation	94,300	100,000	5,700 (6.0%)
Promoting Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans	27,451	27,451	--
Strengthening Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs)	481,121	485,966	4,845 (1.0%)

Department of Education



U.S. Department of Education (in Thousands of \$)

Strengthening AANAPISI	23,397	23,682	285 (1.0%)
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	85,664	0	-85,664 (100%)
TRIO Programs	1,191,000	0	-1,191,000 (100%)
GEAR UP	388,000	0	-388,000 (100%)
GAANN	23,547	0	-23,547 (100%)
Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP)	70,000	0	-70,000 (100%)
Augustus F. Hawkins Centers of Excellence	15,000	0	-15,000 (100%)
Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS)	75,000	0	-75,000 (100%)
Institute of Education Sciences	793,106	261,300	-531,806 (67.1%)
Research, Development and Dissemination	245,000	0	-245,000 (100%)
Research in Special Education	64,255	0	-64,255 (100%)
Regional Education Laboratories	53,733	0	-53,733 (100%)
Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems	28,500	0	-28,500 (100%)
Unallocated Funding to Meet Statutory Requirements	--	123,970	--

* Request includes estimated FY 2025 levels for many education programs, which does not concur with appropriated funds from Congress so for most relevant comparison using FY 2024 enacted as the baseline.

† Proposed new, consolidated K-12 program.

‡ The Pell Grant is listed as the total maximum grant award an individual could receive, including mandatory and discretionary funding. It is *not* listed in thousands of dollars.

Sources and Additional Information: Department of Education's FY 2026 Budget Summary at <https://www.ed.gov/media/document/fiscal-year-2026-budget-summary-110043.pdf>

The FY 2026 budget request would provide the Department of Energy (DOE) \$46.3 billion, a decrease of \$3.48 billion or 7 percent compared to FY 2025. Fundamental research under the Office of Science and applied energy research programs are proposed to be cut by almost 14 percent (\$1.15 billion) and over 37 percent (\$3.2 billion), respectively, while national security programs – primarily under the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) – would increase by more than 17 percent (\$5.6 billion) compared to FY 2025.

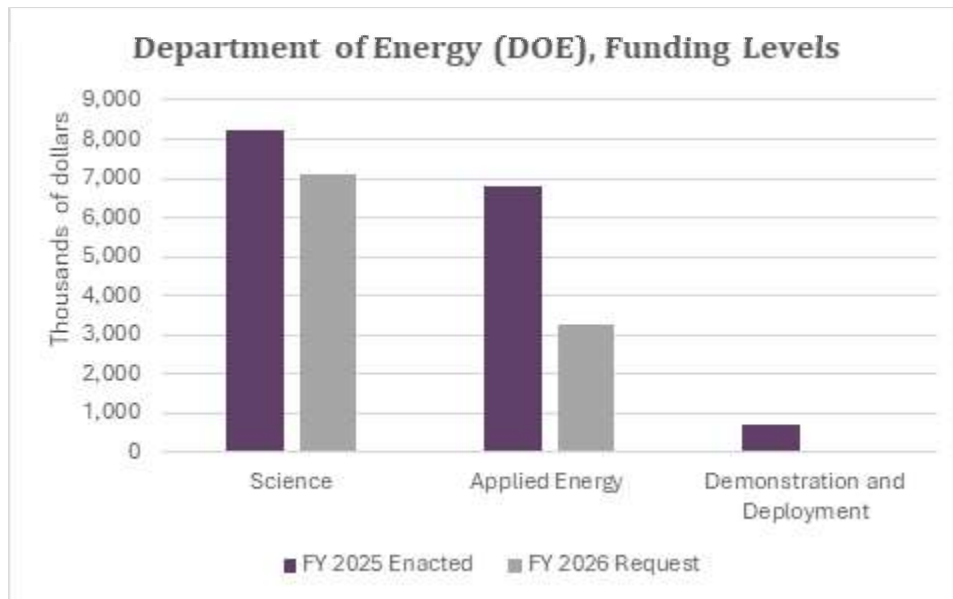
Quick Take: The budget proposal reflects Trump Administration priorities for nuclear and fossil energy, critical and emerging technologies, and nuclear weapons modernization, while also significantly reducing the DOE budget overall. The steepest proposed cuts are for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) with 74 percent and 57 percent cuts, respectively. The highest priority is NNSA’s nuclear weapons program activities, which would see an increase of 29 percent. While full details are not provided, the budget request suggests a reorganization is forthcoming since several offices’ budgets are zeroed out and no mention is made of the Under Secretary of Infrastructure organizational structure, which manages energy demonstration projects.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget request proposes cuts to all major DOE programs, other than NNSA. While the request overall proposes an increase to NNSA’s budget, the Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation program would be reduced by 11 percent. Within EERE, the budget proposes eliminating several offices and programs, including the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies, Renewable Energy Grid Integration, Solar Energy, Wind Energy, State and Community Energy Programs, and the Federal Energy Management Program. The budget request also proposes to eliminate the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations. Within the Office of Science, cuts are proposed to nearly all programs, with the Biological and Environmental Research program experiencing the most significant proposed cut of 56 percent, essentially zeroing out climate and earth systems science activities. The largest proposed decrease in the Office of Nuclear Energy is a 51 percent cut to the Advanced Reactors Demonstration Program. The budget request slashes the Office of Fossil Energy (formerly the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management) by 52 percent, nearly eliminating most carbon capture, sequestration, utilization, and methane reduction programs. The budget request also proposes cancelling a total of \$15.2 billion of unobligated balances from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act that would have funded clean energy projects. DOE proposes to keep \$6.5 billion of the \$15.2 billion for future appropriations and to return the remaining \$8.7 billion to the Treasury.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request formally establishes the Office of Critical and Emerging Technologies to coordinate efforts across DOE and the laboratories for artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, quantum information science, and other critical and emerging technologies. DOE also proposes \$150 million for geothermal energy, an increase of \$32 million or 27 percent, as well as a \$30 million increase for critical mineral production and processing technologies.

The Bottom Line:

DOE is planning to significantly reduce its non-Defense funding, while increasing its Defense funding. Priority investments include nuclear energy, fusion energy, geothermal, artificial intelligence, quantum information science, and critical minerals and materials.



New or Signature Initiatives and Programs

Nuclear Energy: DOE would focus on the rapid deployment of next-generation nuclear technology, including small modular reactors and other advanced reactors. The FY 2026 budget request includes \$1.37 billion for the Office of Nuclear Energy and \$750 million of credit subsidy for the Loans Program Office to accelerate the innovation and deployment of commercial nuclear technologies. However, the budget request proposes a \$11 million or 8 percent cut to the university research program.

Fossil Energy: The FY 2026 budget request provides \$595 million for the Office of Fossil Energy, restoring the office’s central role of supporting the production of fossil energy, including coal, oil, gas, and critical minerals for the U.S. The budget request would prioritize funding for mineral production and processing technologies. The request proposes \$100 million, an increase of \$30 million or 43 percent above FY 2024, to prioritize research in the “use of unconventional resources such as coal, coal production and combustion wastes, and other waste streams such as acid mine drainage, mine tailings, and produced water from oil and gas production” to produce domestic critical mineral and materials and rare earth elements as well as support for advanced mining technologies to significantly reduce the amount of waste material produced on the surface at a mine site.

Geothermal Energy: Geothermal research and development is the only renewable energy program that would receive an increase in funding in the budget request. The budget would prioritize research and development in geothermal power and heat production, including demonstrations of enhanced geothermal technologies.

Critical and Emerging Technologies: The Office of Critical and Emerging Technologies would have a budget of \$2 million to support technical staff. Its primary purpose will be to coordinate efforts across DOE, the labs, and with the White House. The office would also house the Chief AI Officer who will be responsible for implementing AI-related federal directives and fostering collaboration.

Ongoing Areas of Interest (including cuts or terminations)

Office of Science: The budget request would provide \$7.1 billion for the Office of Science, a cut of \$1.1 billion or 13.9 percent compared to the FY 2025 enacted funding level. Priorities include fusion energy, quantum information sciences, microelectronics, high-speed computing, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. The only proposed increase is for isotope research, development and production—a \$32.1 million or 24.7 percent increase—to reduce U.S. reliance on foreign isotope supply chains and continue producing needed isotopes for science, energy, biomedical, and national security applications. The budget request asks for continued support for large research centers, including Energy Frontier Research Centers and Microelectronics Science Research Centers, as well as continued investments in user facility operations and maintenance and construction. The budget request does not propose a significant reorganization of Office of Science, other than moving Accelerator Research and Development and Production back under High Energy Physics.

Nuclear Security and Modernization: The budget request proposes to provide NNSA with just over \$30 billion, an increase of 24.5 percent compared to the 2025 enacted funding level. This would include \$4.8 billion in reconciliation funding to modernize the nation’s nuclear deterrent. This includes support for the current nuclear stockpile, warhead modernization production programs, production facilities, and capabilities modernization efforts. Academic Programs is referenced in budget-in-brief, but proposed budget levels are not included. The budget request also outlines efforts to reshape NNSA’s workforce in line with the Administration’s DOGE initiative to use attrition and streamlining mission support to do more with fewer personnel.

Department of Energy (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 26 Request v. FY 25 Enacted
DOE, Total	49,806,924	46,319,000	-3,487,924 (7.0%)
Science	8,240,000	7,092,000	-1,148,000 (13.9%)
Advanced Scientific Computing Research*	1,016,000	1,016,000	--
Basic Energy Sciences*	2,625,625	2,241,000	-384,625 (14.7%)
Biological and Environmental Research*	900,000	394,920	-505,080 (56.1%)
Fusion Energy Sciences*	790,000	744,780	-45,220 (5.7%)
High Energy Physics*	1,200,000	1,112,836	-87,164 (7.3%)



Department of Energy (in Thousands of \$)

Nuclear Physics*	804,000	767,860	-36,140 (4.5%)
Isotope R&D and Production*	130,193	162,330	32,137 (24.7%)
Accelerator R&D and Production*	29,000	0	-29,000 (100%)
Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists †	42,100	N/A	N/A
Science Laboratories Infrastructure †	293,918	N/A	N/A
Critical and Emerging Technologies	0	2,000	2,000 (N/A)
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)	3,460,000	888,000	-2,572,000 (74.3%)
Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies*	170,000	0	-170,000 (100%)
Bioenergy Technologies*	275,000	70,000	-205,000 (74.5%)
Solar Energy*	318,000	0	-318,000 (100%)
Wind Energy*	137,000	0	-137,000 (100%)
Geothermal Technologies*	118,000	150,000	32,000 (27.1%)
Water Power*	200,000	90,000	-110,000 (55.0%)
Vehicle Technologies*	450,000	25,000	-425,000 (94.4%)
Building Technologies*	332,000	20,000	-312,000 (94.0%)
Industrial Efficiency & Decarbonization*	237,000	80,000	-157,000 (66.2%)
Advanced Materials & Manufacturing Technologies*	215,000	70,000	-145,000 (67.4%)

Department of Energy



Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)	460,000	200,000	-260,000 (56.5%)
Electricity	280,000	193,000	-87,000 (31.1%)
Nuclear Energy	1,525,000	1,210,000	-315,000 (22.7%)
University and Competitive Research Programs	140,000	128,841	-11,159 (8.0%)
Fossil Energy	865,000	595,000	-270,000 (31.2%)
Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response	200,000	150,000	-50,000 (25.0%)
Clean Energy Demonstrations	50,000	0	-50,000 (100%)
Grid Deployment	60,000	15,000	-45,000 (75.0%)
Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains †	19,000	15,000	-4,000 (21.1%)
State and Community Energy Programs	493,000	0	-493,000 (100%)
Federal Energy Management Program	57,000	0	-57,000 (100%)
National Nuclear Security Administration	24,135,000	30,042,000	5,907,000 (24.5%)
Weapons Activities	19,293,000	24,856,400	5,563,400 (28.8%)
Defense Nuclear Non-proliferation	2,396,000	2,284,600	-111,400 (4.7%)

* FY 2024 Enacted

† FY 2024 Annualized Continuing Resolution (CR) - <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/doe-fy-2025-budget-in-brief-v2.pdf>

‡ Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains is funded at \$15M in FY 2026 and the account will be used to support EERE and Fossil Energy to address supply chain analysis of vulnerable areas such as critical minerals and materials

Sources and Additional Information: Department of Energy FY 2026 Budget in Brief
<https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/doe-fy-2026-bib-v4.pdf>



The FY 2026 budget request proposes \$4.16 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a \$10.9 billion or 54 percent cut from the FY 2025 enacted level.

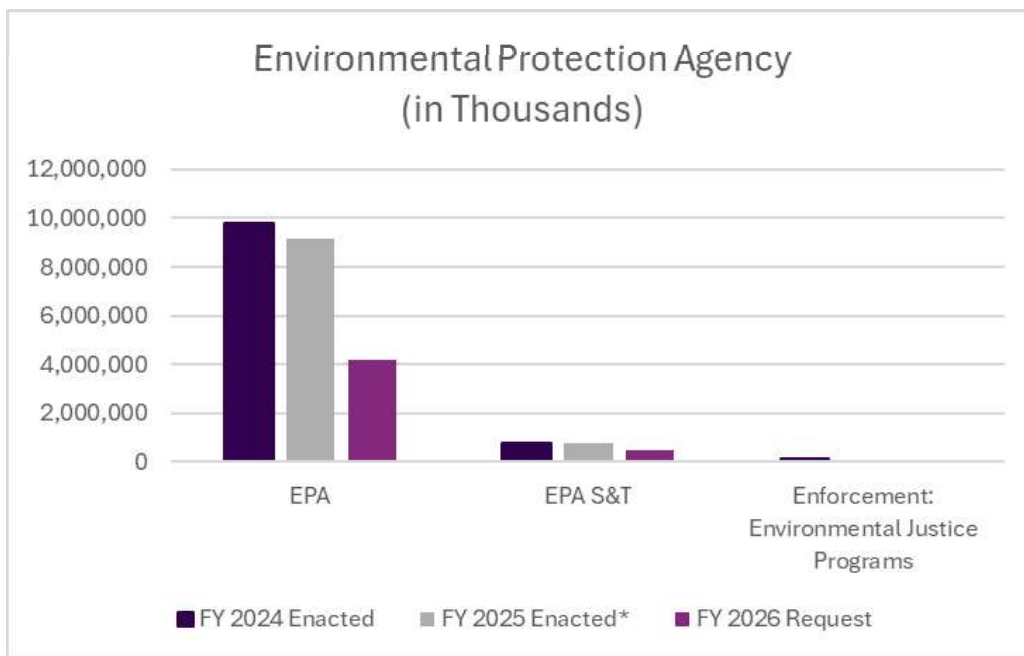
Quick Take: The request proposes deep cuts to nearly all EPA accounts, including those that fund scientific research and enforce existing environmental regulations. It also calls for reducing EPA staffing from 14,130 to 12,856—a 9 percent decrease.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The FY 2026 budget request would fund the EPA Science and Technology (S&T) account at \$500.8 million—a \$281.9 million, or 33.8 percent, decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. As part of broader cost-saving measures, the proposal includes closing several EPA facilities, including the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C., and the Office of Research and Development (ORD) facility at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The request also calls for the elimination of long-standing, widely supported programs that assist states in enforcing air, water, and chemical regulations, as well as environmental justice initiatives in which many universities have actively participated. The budget request also prioritizes re-evaluation of regulations intended to address greenhouse gas emissions.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request supports the EPA's *Powering the Great American Comeback Initiative*, announced by Administrator Lee Zeldin to achieve EPA's mission while also boosting the American economy which is based around five strategic pillars: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American; Restore American Energy Dominance; Engage in Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership; Develop Artificial Intelligence (AI) Capabilities; and Protect American Auto Jobs.

The Bottom Line

In FY 2026, the Trump Administration positions the EPA as a vehicle to promote economic growth and curb perceived federal overreach by scaling back environmental regulations. The request reflects an effort to reverse Biden-era climate change and environmental justice initiatives. While Republicans hold the majority in both chambers of Congress and the White House, the proposed deep cuts to core EPA programs—including those with historically strong bipartisan support—render the proposal likely dead on arrival. Senior Republican appropriators have criticized the proposal as “unserious,” framing it more as a starting point for negotiations than a definitive policy direction. Nevertheless, EPA is still expected to face a significantly reduced budget in FY 2026 compared to recent years. This could substantially affect research funding and other programs vital to the academic and scientific communities.



Proposed Reductions and Terminations

Of most relevance to the research community, the request proposes dramatic cuts to EPA’s S&T account, proposing total spending \$500.8 million—a \$281.9 million, or 33.8 percent, decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. All research sub-accounts are slated for significant cuts, with a disproportionate reduction to the **Air and Energy Program** (65.1 percent) and the **Sustainable Communities Program** (55.7 percent) relative to the 2025 enacted levels. The primary rationale for these cuts is to “focus explicitly on core statutory requirements, legal requirements, and Agency priorities.” The request also includes a request for \$10 million to support the implementation of the proposed re-organization of EPA’s Office of Research and Development, which is proposed to result in its elimination. The Administration does not reference EPA’s major extramural research effort, the **Science to Achieve Results (STAR)** Program. Congress has provided flat funding for this program at the \$28.6 million level for approximately ten years. The proposal also proposes the elimination of the Environmental Justice program, which is estimated at \$94.1 million in FY 2025 despite EPA terminating all awards and laying off nearly all affiliated program staff.

New and Signature Initiatives

The FY 2026 EPA budget request proposes increases to several programs that align with public health, environmental, and national security concerns. These targeted funding boosts reflect ongoing federal support for clean water, climate resilience, data transparency, and national security—areas that often involve significant collaboration with academic and research institutions:

- The **Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program** would see a \$27 million increase (to \$31 million , a 675 percent increase) to improve water and sanitation infrastructure on tribal lands.
- A new \$10 million **Water Sector Cybersecurity** program would be intended to bolster protections in the drinking water and wastewater systems highly vulnerable to cyber attack.
- The **Drinking Water Program** would receive an additional \$8.8 million, enabling better emergency response and technical assistance on contaminants.
- The **Stratospheric Ozone Program** would grow by \$4.4 million to further efforts under the *Clean Air Act* to curb ozone-depleting substances.



- The **Homeland Security Program** would receive a \$1.9 million increase to expand EPA’s emergency preparedness and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear response.
- Modest increases of \$1.2 million each are proposed for the **Toxics Release Inventory/Right to Know** (a 10 percent) and **NEPA Implementation** (a 6 percent) programs, supporting improved data systems and accelerating environmental permitting, respectively.
- The budget request outlines plans to expand EPA’s use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to modernize operations, enhance regulatory efficiency, and foster environmental innovation. As a cross-cutting priority, there was not a specific funding level provided for these activities, and we expect investment across all EPA Offices in AI to digitize permitting, streamline administrative workflows, and improve coordination across federal, state, and local government. AI Applications highlighted in the request include tracking irrigation, fire control, power generation, and ecological outcomes.

Ongoing Areas of Interest

The future of EPA-funded extramural research programs under the S&T account remains uncertain. Nonetheless, there were a few areas mentioned that indicate continuation of existing priorities worth highlighting:

- \$7 million for **Wildfire Smoke Preparedness Grants**, the same level as what was enacted in FY 2025; request emphasizes the EPA’s priority in clean air for all Americans.
- \$282.7 million for EPA’s Superfund activities, which focus on cleaning up severely contaminated land and responding to environmental disasters across the nation. In addition, EPA allocated \$17.6 million for the **Superfund Research Program (SRP)**, which is critical for lowering the cost of cleanup effort and contaminated sites and discovering better technologies to remove pollution. The SRP has previously been funded through appropriations to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and was funded at \$79.7 million in FY 2025. The budget request for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposes moving all NIEHS activities, including the SRP, into a new Administration for a Healthy America and funding the program at \$52 million. Combining the EPA and HHS proposed funding, SRP would be funded at \$69.6 million, a 12.7 percent decrease compared to FY 2025.
- The request highlighted EPA’s goal of addressing many different **per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)** compounds in surface water, groundwater, and wastewater through regulatory clarity and advanced technology methods. The request does not specify specific funds to combat PFAS in the environment and also highlights EPA’s actions to challenge Biden-era policies that put in place PFAS requirements in drinking water.

Source: EPA’s FY 2026 Budget in Brief document, on which this analysis is based, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-05/fy-2026-epa-bib.pdf>. Further budget details will be posted at <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/cj>.

Environmental Protection Agency



Environmental Protection Agency

(In Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted*	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2025 Enacted
EPA, Total	9,135,171	4,160,720	-4,974,451 (54.5%)
Science and Technology	756,073	500,780	-255,293 (33.8%)
National Priorities Program (Research Total)	19,530†	N/A	N/A
Science to Achieve Results (STAR Program)	N/A ‡	N/A§	N/A
Research: Air and Energy	96,000	33,543	-62,457 (65.1%)
Research: Chemical Safety for Sustainability	127,037	91,646	-35,391 (27.9%)
Research: Sustainable Communities	132,205	58,597	-73,608 (55.7%)
Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources	111,500	78,948	-32,552 (29.2%)
Enforcement: Environmental Justice Programs	94,124	0	-94,124 (100.0%)

*The Agency notes that FY 2025 levels are estimates and subject to refinement based on Administration priorities.

† The agency lists National Priorities Research as being funded at \$19.53 million in FY 2025 but does not account for the termination of most open awards.

‡ While the continuing resolution that provided funding to the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program in FY 2025 at a specified a funding level of \$28.6 million, the EPA has recently cancelled all ORD-funded awards and has not provided details regarding plans to issue new STAR award competition during this fiscal year and did not indicate a FY 2025 actual funding level in this budget request.

§The budget request is silent on the STAR Program.

**The numbers provided are in reference to regularly appropriated funds and excludes one-time funds provided via the Inflation Reduction Act or the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Department of Health and Human Services



The FY 2026 budget request would provide the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with \$95.7 billion in discretionary budget authority, a decrease of over \$32 billion from FY 2024 enacted level. The budget proposes to substantially reorganize HHS to focus on the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) agenda with the goal of combating chronic illness, while the proposal also reduces personnel and overall funding.

Quick Take: The budget request would reorganize and reduce the size and discretionary funding level of HHS. As part of the Administration's reorganization, the budget would combine multiple agencies, including the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and select programs from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), into a new agency called the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA). As proposed, AHA would receive \$14 billion in discretionary budget authority, which represents a \$6.1 billion reduction in total funding for the included agencies compared to the FY 2024 enacted level. The budget would also fold the Administration for Community Living (ACL) into the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to create a new HHS operating division, the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC). ACFC would receive \$29 billion in discretionary budget authority, a \$7.2 billion reduction for those agencies when compared to the FY 2024 enacted level.

The budget would provide \$500 million for the Secretary to implement the President's Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Initiative, established by a February [executive order](#) that created the MAHA Commission, which in turn released its first report in May. The report connects the rise of chronic disease incidence rates with ultra-processed foods, environmental toxins, use of social media, and use of medications including vaccines. Of note, within the total amount allotted to the HHS Secretary, \$260 million would target reducing chronic illness. An additional \$119 million for the Office of the Secretary is dedicated to promoting reliable broadband.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget would reduce 28 HHS operating divisions to 15 and close five regional offices. In addition to the budget cuts for the reorganized agencies, the budget request proposes to reduce funding for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by over \$400 million, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) program management by \$673 million, among smaller cuts for other agencies. The request, if enacted, would also cancel more than 5,000 contracts across HHS and consolidate the three largest mental health and substance abuse programs into the Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant program.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request would significantly overhaul HHS by consolidating divisions and agencies and significantly cutting agency budgets. While the goals of the MAHA initiative are framed as new programs, much of it is a continuation of previous priorities. One noteworthy proposal in the budget is an increase by nearly \$1 billion in discretionary funding for the Indian Health Service and a reauthorization of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians with \$159 million in mandatory funding.

The Bottom Line

Congress will ultimately decide if the changes to HHS should be enacted into law. While there is some congressional support for the MAHA agenda, particularly from Republican Members of Congress, the significant proposed funding cuts across HHS are unlikely to withstand the 60-vote threshold needed to pass appropriations bills in the Senate.

Department of Health and Human Services



New and Signature Initiatives

Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC)

Under the HHS reorganization plan proposed in budget request, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) would be consolidated into the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC). ACFC would be funded at \$23.3 billion in total budget authority for FY 2026. Within this new structure, Head Start programs would receive level funding of \$12.3 billion compared to FY 2025. The budget request would provide \$100 million for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), a cut of \$19 million or 16 percent. In addition, Developmental Disabilities Programs would receive \$125 million, a cut of \$66.4 million or 34.7 percent, and Independent Living programs would receive \$228 million. The proposed budget eliminates NIDILRR University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) grants.

Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF)

Under the proposed HHS reorganization in the budget request, activities of the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) would be combined under a new Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF). The mission of the proposed ASHF would be to support “the development of high-impact solutions to society’s most challenging health problems and prepare for and respond to public health emergencies and disasters.”

Advanced Research Projects Agency - Health

Under the budget request, ARPA-H would receive \$945 million in FY 2026, a \$555 million or 37 percent reduction from FY 2025 levels. The budget request also highlights the agency’s five focus areas as they align with HHS and Trump Administration priorities: “Addressing Chronic Disease; America-Made Manufacturing and Rural Access; Proactive Approaches to Healthy Well-Being; Healthcare Security, Efficiency, and Transparency; and American Leadership in Frontier Health Technologies.” While these focus areas closely mirror the goals of ARPA-H’s existing mission offices, they can serve as a guide for the agency’s potential future programs and research funding priorities.

Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority

Within the new ASHF and under the activities of ASPR, the budget request would fund the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) at \$654 million, a \$361 million or 36 percent reduction from FY 2025 levels.

Office of Strategy

The budget request proposes \$240 million to establish a new Office of Strategy within the HHS Office of the Secretary to “oversee the Department’s development and coordination of federal health and human services policy, strategic planning, and accountability practices to improve health outcomes for the American people.” The office would consolidate core programs from the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), National Center for Health Statistics currently housed within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Office of Research Integrity currently housed within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH).

Proposed funding levels in the budget request include \$43 million in Public Health Service Evaluation funds currently administered by ASPE to coordinate strategic planning and programmatic evaluation of cross-Department activities that aim to help HHS achieve its mission of optimizing taxpayer resources. The budget request would provide \$66 million for health services research, data, and dissemination, as well as \$43 million for research to prevent diagnostic and medical errors and promote patient safety. (Continue on next page).

Department of Health and Human Services



The budget would eliminate funding for digital healthcare and patient-centered outcomes research supported by AHRQ. Additionally, it would provide continued support for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, which is an independent panel of volunteer experts that issues recommendations for screening and other prevention services.

Administration for a Healthy America (AHA)

The budget request would provide \$19 billion for a new operating agency called the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), which includes \$14 billion in discretionary funding and \$4.8 billion in mandatory funding. It would consolidate key functions of the Office of Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and several programs from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) into the new agency. In particular, the budget request targets programs across major federal health agencies that the Administration considers duplicative, including programs related to HIV/AIDS, behavioral health, opioids, and maternal health that are funded across multiple agencies. The proposed consolidation aims to establish one primary federal agency focused on prevention that is “data-driven, innovative, patient-centered, and transparent so that patients and the public are empowered to make informed decisions for themselves and their families.”

AHA would receive \$260 million to carry out priority activities related to the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Initiative. In particular, the budget request would provide \$119 million for a Prevention Innovation Program that would aim to support efforts promoting nutrition, physical activity, and healthy lifestyles, as well as elucidate the effects of technology, environmental exposures, and “over-reliance on medication and treatments” to address the burden of childhood chronic disease. Additionally, the budget request would provide \$20 million for a Chronic Care Telehealth Centers for Excellence program and \$8 million for a Telehealth Nutrition Services Network grant program. It would also include \$30 million for expert consultation with the HHS Secretary on cross-Departmental efforts related to women’s health research.

The budget request would preserve the following research programs from existing federal agencies under AHA oversight:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- \$35 million to address Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD) research previously administered through CDC;
- \$56 million for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention program and Lead Exposure Registry to establish technical support for states during lead-related crises, particularly those with disproportionate impacts to low-income communities;
- \$550 million for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, which is currently administered by CDC, to support consolidated block grants that can address activities related to domestic and sexual violence, as well as rape education and prevention programs. Additionally, the budget request would continue support for the National Violent Death Reporting System, as well as suicide and opioid overdose prevention and surveillance activities;
- \$158 million for health activities related to birth defects, developmental disabilities, and other disability work currently supported by CDC;
- \$9 million for safe water activities currently operated by CDC;
- \$67 million for mining research activities to promote the health and safety of miners, \$6 million for the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer, and \$1 million for the National Mesothelioma Registry and Tissue Bank, which are currently operated through the CDC’s National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).
- (Continue on next page).

Department of Health and Human Services



The budget would eliminate CDC's Youth Violence Prevention program, Adverse Childhood Experiences program, Firearm Injury and Mortality and Prevention Research program, and Injury Control Research Centers program, as well as Total Worker Health research programs at NIOSH.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- \$6.1 billion for Health Centers, including \$1.8 billion in discretionary funding and \$4.3 billion in mandatory funding;
- \$284 million for grant and technical assistance programs related to the needs of rural communities, which includes \$145 million for the Rural Communities Opioid Response program currently operated by HRSA;
- \$897 million to support maternal and child health programs that are currently administered by HRSA, with a specific focus on block grant programs that allow states to identify and respond to tailored needs. This does not include the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, which would receive \$767 million in FY 2026;
- \$2.5 billion for Ryan White HIV/AIDS programs that have historically operated through HRSA, including \$165 million for the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative;
- \$948 million in mandatory and discretionary funding to support key health workforce programs, including \$474 million for the National Health Service Corps, \$175 million in mandatory funding for the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education program, and additional support for NURSE Corps, Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment program, and Centers of Excellence; and
- \$129 million for Behavioral Health Workforce Development Programs, including the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program (BHWET), Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program.

The budget request would eliminate existing HRSA programs, such as Healthy Start; Newborn Screening for Heritable Disorders; and 15 nursing workforce, health professions, and Medical Student Education programs.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- \$5.8 billion in discretionary funding for mental health services, suicide prevention, and substance use prevention and treatment with an increased focus on increasing state flexibilities to address the mental health crisis;
- \$520 million for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, including sustained investments in services for Spanish speakers, as well as \$28 million for the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, \$63 million for the Garret Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention programs, and \$4 million for the American Indian and Alaskan Native Suicide Prevention Initiative.
- \$121 million for Project AWARE, \$99 million for the Child Traumatic Stress Network, \$125 million for Children's Mental Health, \$67 million for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, \$21 million for Assisted Outpatient Treatment, and \$2 million for disaster response focused on mental health promotion;
- \$385 million for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics to carry out comprehensive and coordinate behavioral health care services;
- \$4 billion to establish a new Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant program that aims to maximize state flexibility for substance use and mental health services by consolidating funding for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Support Services Block Grant, and State Opioid Response grants;
- \$80 million for a new Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Resources for Native Americans Grant program to improve mental health and substance use services across tribes; and
- \$67 million to support existing behavioral health data collection systems and public awareness activities currently supported by SAMHSA.
- (Continue on next page).

Department of Health and Human Services



The request proposes to eliminate many key SAMHSA programs, including those focused on mental health awareness training, infant and early childhood mental health, primary and behavioral care integration programs, homelessness prevention, prescription drug and opioid overdose-related deaths. It would also eliminate the Peer Support Technical Assistance Centers, Minority Fellowship Program, and Project LAUNCH.

Office of Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)

- \$53 million discretionary budget authority currently executed by OASH to set national health goals, including health promotion and prevention activities that can identify conditions early on to avoid disease progression.
- OASH programs like the Office of Population Affairs, Teen Pregnancy Prevention programs, the Secretary's Minority HIV/AIDS Fund, Kidney X, the Stillbirth Taskforce, and the Sexual Risk Avoidance programs would be eliminated.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

- \$646 million to support research on how the environment impacts human health.

Ongoing Areas of Interest

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Under the budget request, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) would receive \$6.8 billion in total directed appropriations, a \$270 million reduction from its FY 2025 estimated enacted level. The agency's total budget would include \$3.2 billion in discretionary budget authority and \$3.6 billion in user fees. The agency is at the forefront of HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) agenda that focuses heavily on nutrition, chronic disease, and childhood health. In particular, the proposed budget aims to prioritize MAHA food-related initiatives that aim to "address the nation's chronic disease epidemic, restore public trust in our food system, and strengthen our nation's nutritional and food safety."

Included as part of the \$500 million proposed additional investment at HHS for the MAHA Initiative, \$240 million would be allocated to the FDA for investment in additional nutrition, food safety, and laboratory operations activities. Of the total amount, \$49 million would be specifically for "combatting the growing risks associated with ultra-processed foods by removing unsafe additives," a key priority of the recently launched MAHA Commission that was highlighted in its initial [report](#) focused on childhood chronic disease. Some of this funding would be used to support "studies to establish a reassessment FDA framework for food chemicals and initiate safety reviews of top concerns such as synthetic food and phthalates." In addition, an increase of \$33 million would be provided to expand current agreements for states to conduct "routine inspections of domestic food facilities to cover all applicable domestic facilities, to the extent feasible."

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The CDC budget is dispersed throughout the proposed reorganized structure of HHS, with several programs shifting to the new AHA. The budget request would provide the agency with \$3.5 billion in discretionary budget authority, a \$673 million reduction from the FY 2024 enacted level, under the current HHS structure. The budget request notes that CDC would receive \$4.1 billion under the new HHS reorganization due to the inclusion of funding for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Under the proposed budget, the HHS Secretary would have authority to transfer funds between CDC accounts to address "emerging issues or emergencies."

The budget request would provide \$588 million for a new Center for Preparedness and Response and \$300 million for a new grant program to provide states more flexibility to address sexually transmitted infections, viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis. (Continue on next page).

Department of Health and Human Services



However, the request would eliminate domestic and global HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis prevention programs, as well as programs to promote vaccinations in developing countries. HIV treatment programs focused on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) would be maintained in other parts of the request.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

In 2025, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is estimated to have spent approximately \$1.6 trillion in mandatory funds for qualified individuals in Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D and the federal share of state Medicaid programs. In addition, CMS also oversees federal and state-based health exchanges. In 2024, nearly 68 million people were enrolled in Medicare and approximately 78 million were enrolled in state Medicaid and CHIP programs. Under the HHS reorganization outlined in the budget proposal, management of the 340B drug pricing program, currently under HRSA, would shift to CMS. While enrollment in these programs continues to grow, the budget request would provide \$3.5 billion for CMS, a \$673 million reduction from the FY 2024 enacted level. Discretionary funds for CMS are used for agency operations and to manage programs.

The budget would eliminate discretionary funding for health equity programs, some community outreach activities, and “unnecessary administrative costs” to implement the *Inflation Reduction Act*. The budget would also seek to revamp the approval of 1115 waiver programs in Medicaid. According to CMS, as demonstrations become more complex, post-approval deliverables increased 47 percent. To address compliance, the agency is seeking to develop standardized performance assessments and reporting tools, among other strategies. The budget request would increase funding for the Vaccines for Children program by over \$700 million from the FY 2024 enacted level. In addition, as part of the HHS overall strategy to increase investments in Tribal communities, the budget request would continue Tribal consultation, training, and outreach.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

(in thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted vs. FY 2026 Request
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Discretionary Total	126,012	94,668	-31,344 (24.9%)
Administration for Healthy America (AHA)	--	19,015	--
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	8,910	0	-8,910 (100%)
Primary Care* ¹	--	7,176	7,176
Rural Health ¹	--	284	284
Telehealth ¹	--	42	42

Department of Health and Human Services



Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

(in thousands of \$)

Health Workforce* ¹	-	948	948
Maternal and Child Health* ¹	-	1,092	1,092
Make America Health Again Initiative (MAHA)	-	260	260
Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	1,434	119	-1,315 (91.7%)
Environmental Health* ²	243	728	485 (199.6%)
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) ²	363	73	-290 (79.9%)
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	7,376	0	-7,376 (100%)
Mental and Behavioral Health*		5,777	
Mental Health ³	2,809	1,463	-1,346 (47.9%)
Substance Use Treatment ³	4,159	20	-4,139 (99.5%)
Substance Use Prevention ³	237	89	-148 (62.5%)
Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC)⁴, Discretionary Total	-	23,300	23,300
Administration for Children and Families (ACF)	52,748	34,025	-18,723 (35.5%)
Administration on Community Living (ACL)	2,520	2,606	86 (3.4%)

Department of Health and Human Services



Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

(in thousands of \$)

National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) ⁵	119	100	-19 (16.0%)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	9,222	9,739	517 (5.6%)
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	7,141	5,941	-1,200 (16.8%)
Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF)	-	3,672	3,672
Advanced Research Projects for Health (ARPA-H) ⁶	1,500	945	-555 (37.0%)
Administration for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) ⁶	3,635	0	-3,635 (100%)
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) ⁸	1,015	654	-361 (35.6%)
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)	369	0	-369 (100%)
Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC)	69	0	-69 (100%)

*Represents new organizational components of the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA); some of which have been relocated from programs and initiatives previously in various HHS agencies.

¹Consists of programs and initiatives located in HRSA prior to the proposed HHS reorganization.

²Consists of programs and initiatives located in CDC prior to the proposed HHS reorganization.

³Consists of programs and initiatives located in SAMHSA prior to the proposed HHS reorganization.

⁴Formerly known separately as ACF and ACL; consists of programs and initiatives located in these agencies prior to the proposed HHS reorganization.

⁵Previously located within ACL prior to the HHS reorganization; now located within the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF).

⁶Formerly existed individually prior to the proposed HHS reorganization; now located within the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF).

⁷Previously located within ASPR prior to the HHS reorganization; now located within the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (ASHF).

Sources and Additional Information: The FY 2026 HHS Budget in Brief is available at <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-budget-in-brief.pdf>



The President’s proposed FY 2026 budget request (PBR) for NIH is \$27.5 billion, a nearly 42 percent reduction from the FY 2025 estimated level.

Quick Take: The President’s proposed FY 2026 budget request (PBR) for NIH is \$27.5 billion, a nearly 42 percent reduction from the FY 2025 estimated level. The proposal also includes significant reorganization of the Agency, reducing the number of Institutes and Centers (ICs) from 27 to 8 through elimination, movement, and consolidation. While light on details, the HHS Budget in Brief does describe some new priorities in line with the Make American Health Again (MAHA) agenda, including chronic disease, uncovering the causes of autism, and examining the impacts of environmental exposures on health.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The PBR proposes eliminating 4 NIH ICs – the National Institute of Nursing Research, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, and the Fogarty International Center. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences would move to a new HHS Agency, the Administration for a Healthy America, with a budget reduction of 35 percent. In addition, 16 ICs would be consolidated into five larger institutes – the National Institute on Body Systems, the National Institute on Neuroscience and Brain Research, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the National Institute for Child and Women’s Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication, and the National Institute of Behavioral Health – leaving only three ICs in their current form – the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Aging, and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. All ICs would be funded at significantly (~30-40%) lower levels than their equivalents were in FY 2024.

The proposed budget also continues the Administration’s effort to cap Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs at 15 percent and proposes to “expand the number of fully-funded research project grants in 2026.”

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget document reflects the stated priorities of new NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya, including emphasizing reproducibility, academic freedom, transformative research, and suspending “federally funded dangerous gain-of-function research, pending final administration guidance;” although none of these priorities are associated with specific dollar amounts. New research priorities reflecting alignment with the MAHA agenda include advancing nutrition research, understanding the root causes of autism, and mapping the human “exposome;” although, again, no specific budget levels are proposed for these priorities.

The Bottom Line

The President’s proposal for NIH in FY 2026 represents a substantial cut in agency funding and would bring NIH to a budget level below that of the beginning of the effort to double the NIH budget (FY 1998-2003) in inflation-adjusted dollars.¹

National Institutes of Health (NIH)



National Institutes of Health (NIH) (in millions of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2025 Enacted
NIH, Total	46,801	27,506	-19,575 (41.6%)
National Cancer Institute (NCI)	7,224	4,531	-2,693 (37.3%)
National Institute on Aging (NIA)	4,508	2,687	-1,821 (40.4%)
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	6,562	4,175	-2,387 (36.4%)
National Institute on Body Systems*¹		4,311	-2,667 (38.2%)
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)	3,982		
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)	685		
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)	2,311		
National Institute on Neuroscience and Brain Research*		2,445	-1,576 (39.2%)
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)	520		
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)	2,604		
National Eye Institute (NEI)	897		
National Institute of General Medical Sciences*		3,677	-2,108 (36.5%)



National Institute of Health (NIH)

(in millions of \$)

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)	441		
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)	928		
National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)	3,245		
National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)	663		
National Library of Medicine (NLM)	498		
National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication*		1,414	-879 (38.3%)
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)	1,759		
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communications Disorders (NIDCD)	534		
National Institute of Behavioral Health*		2,785	-1,661 (37.4%)
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)	2,188		
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)	1,663		
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)	595		
National Institute on Nursing Research (NINR)	198	0	-198 (100.0%)



National Institute of Health (NIH)

(in millions of \$)

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)	534	0	-534 (100.0%)
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)	170	0	-170 (100.0%)
John E. Fogarty International Center (FIC)	95	0	-95 (100.0%)
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) ²	914	594	-320 (35.0%)
Office of the Director (OD)	2,606	1,650	-943 (36.4%)
Building Facilities	350	210	-140 (40.0%)
21 st Century Cures Innovation Account	127	31	-96 (75.6%)

*FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2025 Enacted for these ICs compares the FY 2025 sum of the ICs proposed to be consolidated (listed below the name of the newly proposed IC) to the FY 2026 proposed total for the new entity.

¹Includes Special Type 1 Diabetes Proposed Law Mandatory Funding.

²The budget request proposes moving NIEHS to the new Administration for a Healthy America and the FY 2026 request topline for NIH therefore does not include these funds.



The President’s FY 2026 budget request would provide \$63.6 billion in adjusted net discretionary funding for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which reflects a \$1.4 billion or 2 percent decrease compared to the funding enacted in the estimated FY 2025 continuing resolution (CR).

Quick Take: The President’s budget request for FY 2026 attempts to discontinue certain programs championed by the previous Administration, while placing emphasis on components more closely aligned to border security and homeland defense, such as Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Secret Service and the U.S. Coast Guard. For the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), the Department requests \$758.8 million, a 2.3 percent increase compared to the FY 2025 enacted level.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request proposes \$52.4 million for a new National Continuity Program Strategic Partner Program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The request provides minimal program specifics and limited information on partners FEMA is seeking to engage but indicates efforts will center on communication systems and technology procurement and installation. The Department also requests more than \$150 million for Transportation Security Administration (TSA) procurement technologies, as well as \$20 million in new funding for TSA research on biometrics technology.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The Administration followed through with campaign promises of proposing increases to top line budget authority and border-securing programs while aiming to cut unfavored programs, such as the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s (CISA) election security, mis- and dis- information programs, and the chemical security “CFATS” program. Also citing an absence of statutory authority, the budget proposes to eliminate the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) office and re-assign critical personnel and functions to CISA and elsewhere. Other reductions proposed include certain non-disaster federal assistance funding, such as Targeting Violence and Terrorism Preventions grants, emergency food and shelter programs, and the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium.

While the budget requests an increase overall to DHS S&T funding compared to FY 2025, the Office of University Programs would take a significant cut, as the budget calls for eliminating six out of eight Centers of Excellence and reducing the budgets of the two remaining Centers, focused on Counterterrorism and Arctic research respectively, nearly in half. The office also previously managed the Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) Program, which would be zeroed out in the FY 2026 proposal.

The Bottom Line

The FY 2026 budget request proposes a decrease in net discretionary funding for DHS and showcases revitalized mission prioritization in the areas, such as immigration enforcement; border security systems and technology; coastal vessel acquisitions; disaster prevention, mitigation, and response capabilities; and increased hiring and training for the U.S. Secret Service. In alignment with the Administration’s efforts to narrow the scope and mission of DHS components and prioritize private sector engagement, the request deemphasizes research initiatives in favor of procurement, proposing significant cuts to offices and programs that have historically promoted academic partnerships and engagement.



Ongoing Areas of Interest

Despite cuts to discretionary funding, the Administration continues to highlight historical increases for DHS consistent with the President's prioritization of border security and immigration enforcement initiatives; however, much of this stated growth is attributed to an expansion of overall budget authority – to include increases in offsetting fees – and expected surges for limited mandatory programs through the reconciliation process.

The budget request proposes \$67.7 million for **research and development (R&D) activities at the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)**, a \$60.2 million increase above FY 2025 enacted levels. The request would also provide funding for all prior year USCG R&D accounts, including Space Based Operations, Polar Operations, and Uncrewed Systems, with increases proposed for Waterways Management and Environmental Response and Operational Performance Improvements and Modeling. The request also provides funding for new R&D activities including Transformational R&D, Technical Forensics, and Detection Capability Development.

R&D funding at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) would receive \$35 million, a \$20.4 million increase above FY 2025 enacted levels. Included in this budget account would be \$20 million in new funding for biometric technology R&D to enhance security effectiveness and improve passenger screening processes and efficiency.

In contrast to proposed cuts to the non-disaster assistance programs, the budget request proposes flat funding for several **disaster-related federal assistance grant programs at the FEMA**, including Assistance to Firefighters Grants, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants, Emergency Management Performance Grants, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, and the Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis Program (RiskMAP).

The budget requests a cumulative increase of \$15.4 million in funding for **DHS research, development, and innovation (RD&I) thrust areas**, which are administered and supported by the S&T Directorate. S&T thrust areas prioritize R&D by topic area and support a variety of activities and efforts at DHS that address current and emerging threats.

- The **Border Security Thrust Area** would receive \$142.7 million in FY 2026—an increase of \$71.8 million, or 101.4 percent, over FY 2025 enacted levels. This funding supports efforts to strengthen port of entry and air security, advance maritime security, develop counter-unmanned aircraft systems (C-UAS), combat fentanyl trafficking and human smuggling, and expand the use of biometric technologies.
- The **Chemical, Biological, and Explosive (CBE) Defense Thrust Area** would receive \$11.3 million in FY 2026, a decrease of \$2.5 million or 18.3 percent below FY 2025 enacted levels. CBE supports the development of detection, mitigation, and response strategies to bolster defenses against chemical, biological, and explosive threats.
- The **Counter Terrorist Thrust Area** would receive \$39.3 million, a reduction of \$3.5 million or 8.1 percent from FY 2025 enacted levels. Funding would be utilized to support the research and development of technologies and strategies to counter and prevent terrorism threats.
- The **Cyber Security/Information Analysis Thrust Area** would receive \$20.5 million for FY 2026, an increase of \$1 million or 5.1 percent from the FY 2025 enacted level. This thrust area would support the enhancement of law enforcement cybersecurity capabilities, cyber data analytics research, and critical infrastructure security.
- The **First Responder/Disaster Resilience Thrust Area** would receive \$16.7 million in funding for FY 2026, a modest reduction of \$545,000 or 3.2 percent from FY 2025 enacted levels. Funding would support the development of technologies and tools for first responders to increase disaster resilience and response capabilities.

Department of Homeland Security



- The **Innovative Research and Foundational Tools Thrust Area** would receive \$62.6 million for FY 2026, a \$4.7 million or 7 percent decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. This thrust area supports the identification of DHS capability and knowledge gaps, and funds innovative solutions to close those gaps. Innovative Research and Foundational Tools supports **Technology Centers**—teams within DHS S&T that focus on immediate technological needs and processes in priority areas and assist stakeholders within the homeland security enterprise with implementation. Technology Centers are allocated \$36.5 million for FY 2026, \$4 million below the FY 2025 enacted level, with a proposed cut to one of the three focus areas: Enduring Sciences. The other two topics, Advanced Computing and Innovative Systems, are proposed to receive flat funding. Prioritized areas for Technology Centers in the budget request include continued artificial intelligence (AI), quantum, and advanced computing R&D, and the integration of “next generation and emerging” communication, sensor, and identification technologies.
- The **Physical Security and Critical Infrastructure Resilience Thrust Area** would receive \$26.2 million for FY 2026, a reduction of \$2.1 million or 7.5 percent from the FY 2025 enacted level. This thrust area focuses on advancing technologies to enhance TSA security screening, strengthen public safety and violence prevention efforts, and improve the resilience of critical and physical infrastructure.

Department of Homeland Security *(in Thousands of \$)*

	FY 2025 Estimate (CR)	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs FY 2025 Estimate (CR)
Department of Homeland Security, Total*	65,044,766	63,678,218	1,366,548 (2.0%)
Science and Technology Directorate (S&T)	741,634	758,754	17,120 (2.3%)
Office of University Programs (OUP)	51,037	7,000	44,037 (86.3%)
Centers of Excellence (COE)	45,880	7,000	38,880 (84.7%)
Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)	5,157	--	5,157 (100%)

* Adjusted net discretionary funding, as provided in the FY2026 DHS Congressional Justification
 Source: DHS’s FY 2026 budget justification documents for each of the DHS components and agencies can be found at <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/congressional-budget-justification-fiscal-year-fy-2026>.

Department of Justice



Disclaimer: The information provided in this section is based on the May 2 skinny budget and the May 30 budget Appendix. This section will be updated when the agency releases a more detailed budget justification.

The budget request would provide the Department of Justice with \$33.2 billion, a reduction of \$2.7 billion or 7.6 percent compared to estimated FY 2025 enacted levels. The budget request proposes \$55 million for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (RES) account, with \$22 million for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and \$33 million for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The details that have been provided at the time of writing do not include information on proposed priorities for grants at NIJ or OJP.

Quick Take: The levels provided in the budget would represent a \$10 million or 31.3 percent reduction for NIJ and an \$8 million or 32 percent increase for BJS, resulting in a \$2 million or 3.5 percent reduction for OJP RES overall, compared to FY 2025 estimated final spending levels. The budget request proposes consolidation of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), and the Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ) within OJP. The budget request would provide \$344 million for the COPS Office, a cut of \$73 million or 17.5 percent compared to FY 2025 estimated levels. The budget request would provide \$506 million for OVW, a reduction of \$127 million or 20 percent compared to FY 2025 estimated final spending levels.

Department of Justice (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request v. FY 2025 Enacted
DOJ, total*	35,900,000	33,200,000	-2,700,000 (7.5%)
Research, Evaluation, and Statistics*	65,000	55,000	-10,000 (15.4%)
<i>National Institute of Justice</i>	32,000	22,000	-10,000 (31.3%)
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services	417,000	344,000	-73,000 (17.5%)
Office on Violence Against Women	633,000	506,000	-127,000 (20.1%)

*Based on FY25 Enacted

Sources and Additional Information: A top-level overview of the budget request, including high-level information on DOJ funding priorities can be found at: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/appendix_fy2026.pdf?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email

Department of Labor



Discretionary programs within the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) would be funded at \$9 billion, \$4.5 billion less than FY 2025, a 33 percent decrease.

Quick Take: The FY 2026 budget request would consolidate 11 DOL workforce development programs into a single Make America Skilled Again (MASA) grant program. Nearly \$3 billion in funding would support MASA, of which, at least 10 percent would go to support “Registered Apprenticeship activities, guaranteeing funding for this highly effective training model.”

Major Cuts/Eliminations: Eliminates Job Corps, Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) Susan Harwood Training Grant program and proposes reorganizing the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at the Department of Commerce.

New Initiatives/Priorities: MASA funding would be provided directly to states, and consolidates several funding streams including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker funding; Dislocated Worker National Reserve, including Strengthening Community Colleges, Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities; Apprenticeship; YouthBuild; Reentry Employment Opportunities; and Workforce Data Quality Initiative, among other Employment and Training Administration (ETA) funding streams.

The Bottom Line

The Trump Administration proposes a massive consolidation of workforce development programs and funding.

New and Signature Initiatives

According to the summary the “MASA grant program gives States and localities the flexibility to respond to their workforce needs in a way that makes sense without having to apply for and manage multiple Federal programs. MASA grantees will be held accountable for the employment outcomes of the American workers they serve, which the Department will support by collecting employment and earnings outcome data for all MASA grants.”

Department of Labor



U.S Department of Labor (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Requested	FY 2025 Enacted vs. FY 2026 Requested
Training and Employment Services			
Adult Employment and Training Activities Formula Grants	885,649	0	-885,649 (100%)
Youth Activities Formula Grants	948,130	0	-948,130 (100%)
Dislocated Workers Employment and Training Activities Formula Grants	1,092,553	0	-1,092,553 (100%)
National Dislocated Workers Grants	300,859	0	-300,859 (100%)
Apprenticeship Program	285,000	0	-285,000 (100%)
Workforce Data Quality Initiative	6,000	0	-6,000 (100%)
Consolidated Make America Skilled Again (MASA) programs	3,898,587	2,965,905	-854,682 (23.9%)

Sources and Additional Information: DOL's FY 2026 Budget Summary and Background Information is available at

<https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/general/budget/2026/FY2026BIB.pdf> and supporting budget explanatory information can be found at <https://www.dol.gov/general/budget>.

Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Agencies



The FY 2026 budget request proposes the elimination of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS), and the National Archives and Records Administration’s National Historical Records and Publications Commission (NHPRC).

Quick Take: Consistent with budget requests during the first Trump Administration, NEH, NEA, IMLS, and NHPRC would be eliminated under this request. NEH would receive \$38 million, and NEA would receive \$29 million in FY 2026 for an “orderly closure” of each agency.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: With the elimination of NEH and NEA, existing awards would be allowed to continue until prior-established termination dates or September 30, 2026, whichever is sooner. This would also apply to federal matching funds. The budget request would eliminate all funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the main extramural grantmaking entity within the National Archives and Records Administration, currently funded at \$10 million. As of this writing, a detailed budget breakdown for IMLS has not been issued; however, the high-level budget overview released last month called for elimination of IMLS, but did not detail how much funding would be provided for closure activities.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The budget request mentions that remaining grant funding at NEH and NEA will continue to support the National Garden of American Heroes project and the White House Task Force on Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday (Task Force 250). The agencies will continue to manage current grants and advise on planning and activities related to these two efforts until the closure of the two agencies.

The Bottom Line

During the first Trump Administration when NEH, NEA, and other cultural agencies were proposed for elimination, Congress rejected the request and maintained stable funding for these agencies. Given the new political climate and significant reductions of staff at each of the agencies, the future for these cultural agencies is more uncertain than under the first term.

Proposed Funding for Existing Programs of Note: The NEH budget request includes \$11.2 million for grant activities, directed towards supporting the National Garden of American Heroes and Task Force 250 efforts. The NEA budget request includes no funding for direct grants or state and regional partnerships.

Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Agencies



Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Agencies (in millions of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Requested	FY 2025 Enacted vs. FY 2026 Requested
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)	207	38	-169 (81.6%)
National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)	207	29	-178 (86.0%)
Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS)	295	0	-295 (100%)
National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) *			
National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)	10	0	-10 (100%)

* Home agency for NHPRC, included for ease of reading the chart.

Sources and Additional Information:

- NEH’s FY 2026 Budget Request is available at <https://www.neh.gov/sites/default/files/NEH%20FY%202026%20Congressional%20Justification.pdf>.
- NEA’s FY 2026 Budget Request is available at <https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/NEA-FY26-Congressional-Budget-Request.pdf>.
- NARA’s FY 2026 Budget Request is available at <https://www.archives.gov/files/about/plans-reports/performance-budget/2026-nara-congressional-justification.pdf>.
- The White House’s high-level Budget Request overview is available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Fiscal-Year-2026-Discretionary-Budget-Request.pdf>.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



NASA would be funded at \$18.8 billion, a 24 percent or \$6 billion decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level.

Quick Take: The Trump Administration’s FY 2026 budget proposal would reduce NASA’s overall funding by almost a quarter. The majority of proposed decreases are to Science, Aeronautics and Space Technology Mission Directorates, which would each be cut by approximately 50 percent.

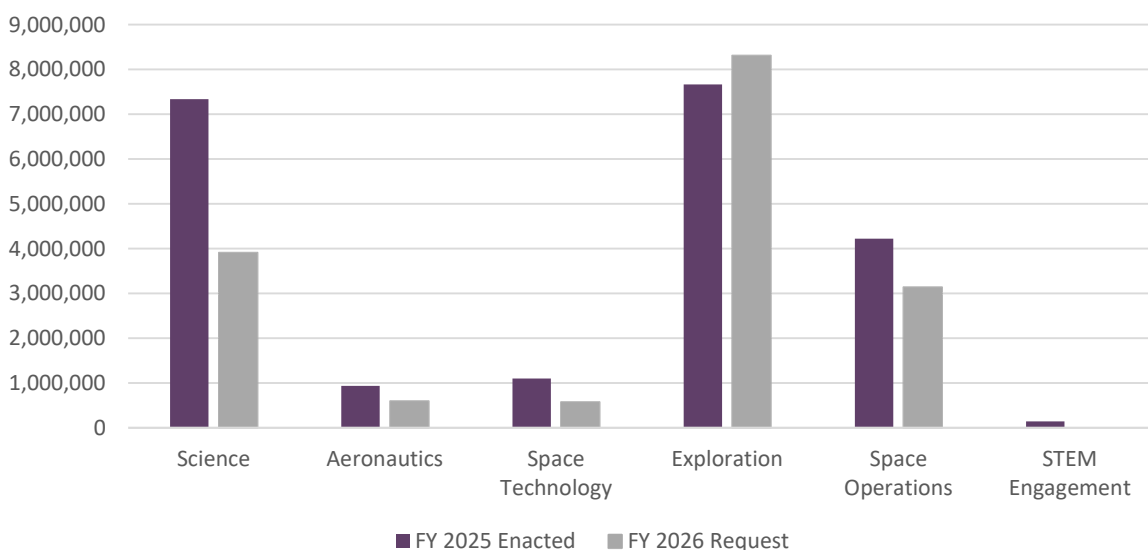
Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget proposes significant cuts to Science, Space Technology, Aeronautics and several human spaceflight programs. The request would terminate many Science missions, especially those in early stages of development or extended operations. The budget would also cancel major elements of the Artemis program and would speed up the decommissioning of the International Space Station. In addition, the budget would end funding for the Office of STEM Engagement including eliminating Space Grant and NASA EPSCoR.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The FY 2026 proposal increases Human Mars exploration missions at the expense of sustained lunar missions which would have occurred after the human lunar landing mission of Artemis III.

The Bottom Line

The FY 2026 request is the largest ever proposed one year cut to NASA’s budget. The proposal would significantly shift the Agency from a balanced portfolio of robotic and human exploration programs into an Agency focused on Human Mars exploration above other activities.

NASA Funding - Fiscal Year 2026
(In Millions)



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



New and Signature Initiatives

The FY 2026 budget signifies a monumental shift away from Science and Technology missions and programs toward Mars-focused human spaceflight endeavors. Human spaceflight would receive a \$665 million increase, although many elements of the current lunar Artemis program would be cancelled after the Artemis III lunar landing mission, such as the Space Launch System, the Orion spacecraft and the Lunar Gateway space station. In their place, the Agency would shift focus away from a sustained presence on the Moon to funding the development of various small missions and technologies to support human missions to Mars.

The **Earth Science Division** (ESD) would receive \$1.03 billion in FY 2026, a 52 percent cut from the FY 2024 enacted level. ESD would restructure their competitive research portfolio around five major Earth systems: Atmosphere, Biosphere, Cryosphere, Geosphere, and Hydrosphere, with interdisciplinary connections emphasized throughout every solicitation. The Integrated Earth System Modeling project would also be reorganized as a virtual institute coordinated by the Goddard Space Flight Center. The current Landsat Next mission would be cancelled and instead NASA would study alternative, cheaper, mission architectures. The request would continue the Earth System Explorers missions but would only select one of the Phase-A concepts to move forward. The request would also delay the next Earth Science Venture class mission competition until FY 2028.

The **Planetary Science Division** (PSD) would receive \$1.89 billion in FY 2026, a 32 percent cut from the FY 2024 enacted level. The budget proposal would cancel the Mars Sample Return mission as well as the Venus bound missions of DAVINCI and VERITAS, EnVision, the OISIRIS-Apophis Explorer, the Juno mission and end NASA's partnership with the European Space Agency on the Rosalind Franklin Mars rover. The budget request would support an increase in developing new, low-cost Mars missions and hosted instruments, while maintaining funding for Europa Clipper, Dragonfly and NEO Surveyor missions as well as increased funding for Planetary Defense.

The budget request would provide NASA's **Space Technology Mission Directorate** (STMD) with \$568 million in FY 2026, a cut of 49 percent from the FY 2025 enacted level. The budget would restructure STMD away from basic technology development and into capability focused research that is driven by mission and agency needs. These capabilities would include research into space transportation, surface and in-space infrastructure capabilities, as well as research into advanced materials, avionics, structures and power. The budget would eliminate Nuclear Thermal and Electric Propulsion projects which have not yet been attached to any deep space mission architectures, while nuclear surface power projects would be transferred to Exploration. The SBIR and STTR programs would be reduced by 25 percent in proportion to the cut to overall Agency funding. Early Stage Innovation and Partnerships moves into Catalysts & Innovative Mechanisms and the total funding for the program remains unclear but no significant cut is apparent.

Ongoing Areas of Interest

The budget provides \$3.9 billion for **the Science Mission Directorate**, a 47 percent cut from the FY 2025 enacted level. This reduction would be spread out across all of the Divisions and would target mission development, operations, as well as research and analysis programs.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



The **Astrophysics Division** would receive \$523 million in FY 2026, a 66 percent cut from FY 2024 enacted level. The budget would maintain funding for major telescopes including Hubble, James Webb, Nancy Grace Roman, and the Habitable Worlds Observatory, however their budgets would be significantly reduced. Support for other missions such as LISA, ULTRASAT, Euclid, Fermi, and Chandra would be terminated. The proposal would terminate the Probe class missions and would delay future explorer and pioneer competitions to no early than 2027.

The **Heliophysics Division** (HPD) would receive \$432 million in FY 2026, a 47 percent cut from the FY 2024 enacted level. Consistent with previous plans, no funding is provided for the Geospace Dynamics Constellation and the request also proposes cancelling several HPD missions in extended operations as well as delaying the upcoming Heliophysics Explorer's competition. Instead, the request would prioritize the space weather program with a focus on transitioning technologies to operations, increasing training opportunities, and expanding interagency partnerships.

Biological and Physical Sciences (BPS) would receive \$25 million in FY 2026, a 72 percent cut from the FY 2024 enacted level. This budget would include \$4 million for space biology, \$13 million for physical science, and \$4 million for Commercially Enabled Rapid Space Science (CERISS). The budget would reduce crew and capacity for ISS experiments as NASA transitions to commercial facilities. BPS will support five major areas of study in alignment with the Decadal Survey: Precision Health, Space Crops, Quantum Leaps, Foundations, and Space Labs. Due to the reduced budget, BPS will only fund one to two flight experiments per year, the CERISS project will be slowed, and new solicitations and support for ground facilities will be reduced or terminated. Funding for international collaborations will also be terminated. Available funds will be prioritized for research on the Artemis II and III missions.

The administration would provide \$588 million in FY 2026 for the **Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate** (ARMD), a 37 percent decrease from the FY 2025 enacted level. The budget would maintain funding for the development of the Low Boom Flight Demonstrator and thin wing technology development while prioritizing work with FAA on air traffic management tools intended to increase safety and grow national air space capacity. The largest cut in the budget would be for the funding of environmental or 'green aviation' related research. In addition, the budget would reduce flight and wind tunnel testing in favor of simulations and cut support for vertical lift and electric aircraft. The University Leadership Initiative, the University Student Research Challenge and the Gateway to Blue Skies competition in the University Innovation Project will either be defunded or paused in the budget.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

(In Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted vs. FY 2026 Request
NASA, total	24,838,300	18,809,100	-6,029,200 (24.3%)
Science	7,334,200	3,907,600	-3,426,600 (46.7%)
Earth Science*	2,138,900	1,035,900	-1,103,000 (51.6%)
Planetary Science*	2,764,300	1,891,300	-873,000 (31.6%)
Astrophysics*	1,529,700	523,000	-1,006,700 (65.8%)
Heliophysics*	805,000	432,500	-372,500 (46.3%)
Biological and Physical Sciences*	87,500	25,000	-62,500 (71.4%)
Aeronautics	935,000	588,700	-346,300 (37.0%)
Space Technology	1,100,000	568,900	-531,100 (48.3%)
Deep Space Exploration Systems	7,666,200	8,312,900	646,700 (8.4%)
Space Operations	4,220,000	3,131,900	-1,088,100 (25.8%)
STEM Engagement	143,000	0	-143,000 (100%)
Space Grant*	58,000	0	-58,000 (100%)
EPSCoR*	26,000	0	-26,000 (100%)
MUREP*	45,500	0	-45,500 (100%)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

(In Thousands of \$)

Safety, Security, & Mission Services	3,092,300	2,118,300	-974,000 (31.5%)
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration	300,000	140,100	-159,900 (53.3%)
Office of Inspector General	47,600	40,700	-6,900 (14.5%)

* NASA FY 2025 enacted funding is operating at FY 2024 levels, as established by a full-year continuing resolution signed by President Trump on March 15, 2025. Certain accounts are compared to the FY 2024 enacted funding level due to lack of details on the final FY 2025 funding amount.

Sources and Additional Information: National Aeronautics and Space Administration FY 2026 Technical Assistance <https://www.nasa.gov/fy-2026-budget-request/>



NSF would be funded at \$3.9 billion in FY 2026, a 56.9 percent or \$5.16 billion decrease below the FY 2024 enacted level.

Quick Take: The Trump Administration has proposed a massive cut to NSF for FY 2026, which “reflects a strategic alignment of resources in a constrained fiscal environment.” The budget request would focus on aligning investments with private sector research and development (R&D) with the aim of enhancing economic growth and strengthening U.S. technological leadership. The budget request highlights the Administration’s priority to “invest in programs that serve all Americans equally” and increase commercialization of federally funded research. Note that NSF was authorized to be funded at \$17.83 billion in FY 2026 in the bipartisan *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022*.

New Initiatives/Priorities: Research and education in areas related to Artificial Intelligence (AI), Quantum Information Sciences (QIS), and Advanced Biotechnology are highlighted in the request as priorities to support national security and enhance U.S. global competitiveness. However, these prioritized research areas would not see significant funding increases. The Office of the Chief of Research Security, Strategy, and Policy (CRSP) has been added to the Research and Related Activities (R&RA account) as a standalone Program Activity, and would be funded at \$10 million in FY 2026, a reduction of 25.9 percent, compared to the FY 2024 level for research security activity.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget request for FY 2026 would lead to significant cuts and many programs eliminated across NSF. The request states that NSF would make 2,300 new awards in FY 2026, compared to 9,600 in FY 2024, meaning the agency’s estimated funding rate would drop from 26 percent to 7 percent. The budget request also states that the number of people involved in NSF activities would drop from 330,100 in FY 2024 to 90,000 in FY 2026. As aligned with Trump’s White House priorities, Clean Energy Technology and the U.S. Global Change Research Programs would essentially be eliminated. The Directorate for STEM Education (EDU) would be cut by 75 percent and EDU would be consolidated into the R&RA account. Most programs that support Broadening Participation would be eliminated except for those focused on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

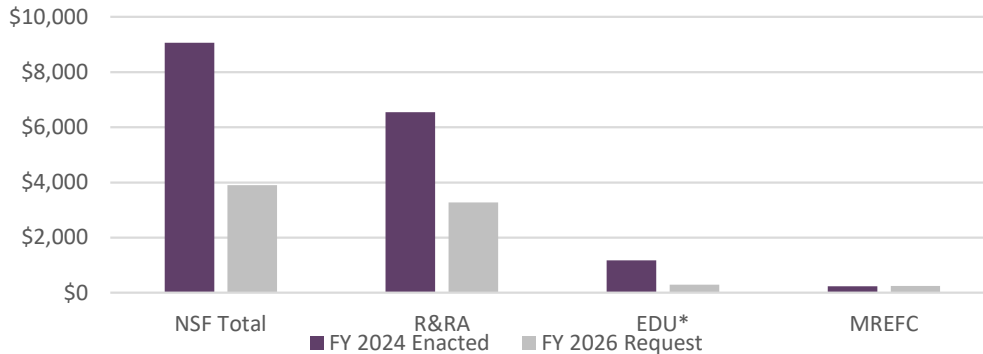
The Bottom Line

The budget request would cause significant disruption across NSF.

Many of the programs proposed for cuts and elimination have strong bipartisan support in Congress. However, with pressure to align with the Trump Administration priorities and reduce federal funding, there is significant uncertainty over how Congress would respond to the request.



NSF Major Accounts (In Millions)



*The request would consolidate the Directorate for STEM Education (EDU) into the R&RA account, but only the EDU column is reflected in this FY 2026 proposed budget. For the two comparisons of Education alone and in the R&RA total, see the table below.

New and Signature Initiatives

The NSF budget request for FY 2026 highlights transformative technologies, such as AI, QIS, and Advanced Biotechnology as priorities. The budget justification states that “breakthroughs in these fields have the potential to reshape the global balance of power, spark entirely new industries, and revolutionize the way we live and work. To secure our future, we must harness the full power of American innovation by empowering entrepreneurs, unleashing private-sector creativity, and reinvigorating our research institutions.” These priorities are consistent with the Trump Administration’s campaign rhetoric and topic areas that have been prioritized since the start of his second term.

Administration Priorities

NSF would continue prioritization of emerging technology areas and commercialization of federally funded research, but most programs and topics would see cuts compared with FY 2024 levels. The budget request proposes the following plans for Administration Priorities:

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** AI would receive \$655.2 million in FY 2026, \$19.5 million or 3.1 percent above the FY 2024 level. The Administration intends to bring together multi-disciplinary STEM fields to advance the “frontiers of trustworthy AI.” The request highlights continued support for a range of foundational AI research areas, as well as use-inspired and translational research, including support for the National AI Research Institutes, and the NSF Regional Innovation Engines (NSF Engines) programs. NSF also plans to continue support for the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) pilot.
- **Quantum Information Science (QIS):** QIS would receive \$231.1 million in FY 2026, essentially flat with the FY 2024 level. NSF would continue to support research in key areas of quantum computing, communications, sensing, networking, artificial intelligence, and simulation, along with research on how these areas connect. NSF would also continue to support the design and implementation phases of the National Quantum Virtual Laboratory (NQVL), and the Quantum Leap Challenge Institutes (QLCIs) through a new competition.

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- **Advanced Manufacturing:** Advanced Manufacturing would be funded at \$110.1 million in FY 2026, \$200.5 million or 64.6 percent below the FY 2024 level. NSF would support research into new methods, processes, analyses, tools, or equipment, along with research on the “manufacturing of novel materials, AI-enabled digital twins for manufacturing, and resilient and distributed manufacturing infrastructure.” NSF would also support workforce development and the translation of research discoveries to market.
- **Advanced Wireless Research:** The request proposes \$59.4 million for Advanced Wireless activities in FY 2026, \$83.9 million or 58.5 percent below the FY 2024 level. Prioritization would be given to projects that would close knowledge gaps and drive innovation for future generations of communications technologies. Separately, \$3 million is proposed for the Spectrum Innovation Initiative, a \$12.3 million decrease from the FY 2024 enacted level.
- **Biotechnology:** Biotechnology would receive \$248.5 million in FY 2026, \$105.1 million or 29.7 percent below the FY 2024 level. Investments would focus on national security, defense, reshoring the supply chain, economic prosperity, AI Ready Biological Data to Fuel Innovation, and workforce development.
- **Microelectronics and Semiconductors:** The request would provide \$65.7 million for semiconductors and microelectronics in FY 2026, \$76.8 million or 53.9 percent below the FY 2024 level. NSF would support foundational research, new methods for device integration and novel architectures, microelectronics ecosystems, and workforce development. NSF would continue to invest the \$200 million provided in the *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022* for FY 2023 through FY 2027 to support microelectronics education and workforce activities; this includes \$50 million provided for investment in FY 2026.
- **Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP):** The request would provide \$350 million for TIP, a decrease of \$247.9 million or 43.4 percent below the FY 2024 level. The budget request highlights TIP as “a strategic organizational tool for maintaining and expanding America’s leadership in science and technology,” and specifically highlights its support for commercialization as a key reason the directorate should be considered a national security asset.

Strengthening Research Infrastructure (RI)

The request would support RI through a range of funding mechanisms to ensure ongoing operations and maintenance (O&M) and to ensure research infrastructure remains at the cutting edge. Overall, research infrastructure investments would decrease by 33.4 percent over the FY 2024 level, to \$1.4 billion in FY 2026. Specific investments include:

- The **Mid-scale Research Infrastructure** programs would be supported at \$43.1 million total. The agency-wide Mid-Scale RI-2 program (\$20-100 million range) would be funded at \$25.0 million, and the directorate-level Mid-Scale RI-1 program (\$4-20 million range) would be supported at \$18.1 million. This is a 73 percent decrease in funding from the enacted FY 2024 level of \$160.8 million total for Mid-scale Research Infrastructure programs.
- The **Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC)** account would continue funding for three projects, the Antarctic Infrastructure Recapitalization (AIR) program, the Leadership Class Computing Facility (LCCF), and the Mid-Scale RI-2 program; no new projects are proposed.
- For smaller infrastructure, the **Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)** program would be supported at \$20 million, 35.8 percent below the FY 2024 level.
- **Design activities** would advance into the Major Facility Final Design Phase for the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), but not for the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT).



Ongoing Areas of Interest

Center-Level Funding – the budget request (all comparisons are to FY 2024 levels) would:

- **AI Research Institutes:** Decrease funding by 21.8 percent to \$40.8 million. This amount “will support 22 AI Institutes [funded by NSF], five AI Institutes awarded in FY 2020, nine in FY 2021, six in FY 2023 and two in FY 2024.”
- **Quantum Leap Challenge Institutes (QLCI):** Decrease funding by 71.6 percent to \$25.0 million. This would support up to five QLCIs that would “catalyze breakthroughs on important problems” in quantum research and development.
- **Biological Integration Institutes (BII):** Decrease funding by 74.7 percent to \$10 million to support “up to 8” BIIs.
- **Engineering Research Centers (ERC):** Decrease funding by 54.4 percent to \$37.6 million to “partially” support the sixteen existing ERCs.
- **Science and Technology Centers (STC):** Decrease funding by 65.5 percent to \$24.4 million to support 13-14 existing STCs, including Centers from the FY 2016, FY 2021, and FY 2023 cohorts.
- **Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers (MRSEC):** Decrease funding by 47.7 percent to \$30 million. The funding would support up to 10 centers.
- **Centers for Chemical Innovation (CCI):** Decrease funding by 47.8 percent to \$14 million. NSF plans to fund up to six Phase II awards.
- **NSF Regional Innovation Engines:** Decrease funding by 68.1 percent to \$13.8 million. The request states that “the funds requested here are to provide essential services to maintain the program as a whole, not to invest in the NSF Engines themselves.”

Programs funded by H-1B Nonimmigrant Petitioner Fees

NSF revenue from H-1B fees is projected to increase to \$150.5 million, 8.3 percent above the FY 2024 level. As required by law, approximately 75 percent of these funds would go to support the Scholarships in STEM program (S-STEM), which provides scholarships for low-income STEM students, and 25 percent of the funds would be used to support the Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST) program. The budget request indicates that “NSF will work to ensure that these programs are in alignment with Administration policies and executive actions.”

Proposed Reductions and Terminations

As noted previously, the FY 2026 budget request proposes substantial cuts and terminations of many NSF programs. Details on the proposed cuts most relevant to universities and academic research institutions are included below. The budget request proposes major cuts to all the NSF Directorates’ budgets. The Directorate of Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) would see the smallest proposed cut in comparison to the FY 2024 level (43.4 percent) and the STEM Education, Engineering, and Geosciences Directorates would see the largest proposed cut in comparison to the FY 2024 enacted level (75-76 percent for each Directorate). Note that the budget request does not provide any details on the proposed restructuring of NSF.

Clean Energy and Climate Change Research

The Clean Energy Technology and the U.S. Global Climate Change Research programs would essentially be eliminated, as the budget request proposed a 99.2 percent cut to the Clean Energy Technology program and a 96.7 percent cut to the U.S. Global Climate Change Research Program for FY 2026. However, energy and climate-related research would still be supported across different Directorates.

National Science Foundation



STEM Education

The Directorate for STEM Education (EDU) would be funded at \$288.4 million, a decrease of \$883.5 million or 75.4 percent below the FY 2024 level. The EDU Directorate would also be consolidated into the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account, to “enhance administrative efficiency, reduce complexity, and improve NSF’s ability to execute its mission.” The budget request would cut funding for Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) and Computer Science for All (CSforAll). The CyberCorps Scholarships for Service Program would receive \$21.7 million in funding, a 65.5 percent decrease over the FY 2024 enacted amount of \$63 million. The budget request also indicates the Administration’s intention to cut the broadening participation funding for the Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12) and EDU Core Research programs.

Undergraduate Education

The request would significantly reduce funding for undergraduate students in FY 2026 and would reduce the total number of undergraduate students involved in NSF activities from 37,300 in FY 2024 to 8,000 in FY 2026. NSF would no longer provide support for broadening participation activities within the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) initiative, the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, the International Research Experiences for Students program, and the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) sites and supplements program.

Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Programs

NSF Research Traineeships (NRT) would receive no funding in FY 2026, which would be a decrease from the \$58 million provided in FY 2024. NSF also plans to reduce funding for postdoctoral programs by 91.4 percent in FY 2026 through the elimination of several programs, including the Alliances for Graduate Education & the Professorate (AGEP) program, the Astronomy and Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellowships, the Geosciences Postdoctoral Fellowships, the CISE Graduate Research Fellows program, the MPS Ascending Postdoctoral Research Fellowships program, the Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureate in the Biological Sciences program, and the SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships – Broadening Participation program, as well as the STEM Education postdoctoral research fellowship, among others. The Graduate Research Fellowships Program (GFRP) would be funded at \$127.3 million, a reduction of 55.3 percent below the FY 2024 level; note that the GRFP was authorized to be funded at \$529.8 million in FY 2026 in the *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022*. The Entrepreneurial Fellows program would be funded at \$4.1 million, flat with the FY 2024 level.

Broadening Participation

Most of the programs focused on Broadening Participation would be eliminated in the request, including historically popular programs such as the ADVANCE program, the Broadening Participation in Engineering program, the Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST) program, the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program, the Eddie Bernice Johnson INCLUDES Initiative, and the Science of Broadening participation program, among others. The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) and the HBCU Excellence in Research (HBCU-EiR) programs were not proposed for elimination and would see flat or slightly reduced funding. Broadening Participation programs in stated areas of interest for the Administration, including ExpandAI and Expand QISE, would also be proposed for elimination. Overall, Broadening Participation programs would be funded at \$63.6 million, a reduction of \$423.7 million or 87 percent.

Institutional and Faculty Research Capacity Building

The budget request would fund the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) at \$107.7 million. While EPSCoR is a priority for many members of Congress, the president’s budget request would cut the EPSCoR program by \$142.3 million or 56.9 percent. (Continue on next page).

National Science Foundation



The request proposes the elimination of several institutional and faculty-focused research capacity programs, including the Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity (GRANTED) program, the Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation Capacity (EPIIC) program, the Build and Broaden program, and the CISE-MSI Research Expansion program, among others. The budget request also indicates NSF’s intention to stop funding for broadening participation initiatives of the CAREER and I-Corps programs.

National Science Foundation (in Millions of \$)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2024 Total
NSF, total discretionary	9,060.0	3,903.2	-5,156.9 (56.9%)
Research and Related Activities	7,716.5	3,276.2	-3,900.4 (54.3%)
Biological Sciences	789.6	224.9	-564.7 (71.5%)
Computer and Information Science and Engineering	989.4	346.3	-643.1 (65%)
Education*	1,172.0	288.4	-883.6 (75.4%)
Engineering	740.8	185.2	-555.6 (75%)
Geosciences	1,577.1	376.4	-1,200.7 (76.1%)
Office of Polar Programs	559.8	497.2	-62.5 (11.2%)
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	1,554.2	515.3	-1,038.9 (66.8%)
Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences	290.3	94.0	-196.3 (67.6%)
Translation, Innovation, and Partnerships	617.9	350.0	-267.9 (43.4%)
Office of the Chief of Research Security, Strategy, and Policy (CRSP) †	13.5	10.0	-3.5 (25.9%)
International Science and Engineering	63.7	12.7	-51.0 (80%)
Integrative Activities	552.8	177.7	-374.1 (67.8%)
US Arctic Research Commission	1.8	1.2	-0.6 (34.3%)

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National Science Foundation (in Millions of \$)

Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	234.0	251.0	17.0 (7.3%)
Agency Operation and Award Management	448.0	355.0	-93.0 (20.8%)
National Science Board	5.1	3.0	-2.1 (41.1%)
Office of Inspector General	24.4	18.0	-6.4 (26.3%)

* The request would consolidate the Directorate for STEM Education (EDU) into the R&RA account.

† CRSP is included in the budget request as a standalone Program Activity within the R&RA account.

Sources and Additional Information: The full NSF FY 2026 Budget Request is available at <https://nsf.gov/resources.nsf.gov/files/00-NSF-FY26-CJ-Entire-Rollup.pdf>.

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs



The budget request would provide \$31.2 billion for the Department of State (DOS), a 50.3 percent decrease relative to the FY 2024 enacted level and 47.8 percent below the FY 2025 estimated level. The request also introduces over \$20 billion in proposed rescissions of already appropriated funds; proposes reformulation of foreign assistance and humanitarian aid to reflect the absorption of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) into DOS; recommends further expanding the Secretary's discretionary authorities; and provides proposed legislative language to Congress.

Quick Take: The President's FY 2026 budget request advances the Trump Administration's "America First" agenda by significantly reducing programmatic funding across the Department of State and other international programs—framing such expenditures as sending U.S. taxpayer dollars abroad rather than prioritizing domestic interests to make Americans "more safe, more secure, and more prosperous." Guided by the Secretary of State Rubio's proposed reorganization of the Department, the request would further shift budgetary authority toward regional bureaus and away from functional ones. This would weaken the Department's capacity to support science- and technology-driven research, implementation, and international exchange, areas in which the research and higher education community has historically played a vital role.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The request states that foreign assistance programs must address urgent priorities such as curbing mass and illegal immigration, securing fair trade deals that benefit American workers, and promoting lasting global peace. It identifies the Middle East as a key region for focus. Additionally, the request emphasizes expanding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) across the Department and includes funding to support hiring for the integration of humanitarian assistance functions previously managed by USAID.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The budget request features significant cuts or elimination of nearly all development and foreign assistance programs, reflecting the elimination of USAID. In addition, many of the science and research focused programs supported through the economic support funds or through public diplomacy programs are also proposed for elimination or are not mentioned in the request. This includes drastic cuts to educational and cultural exchange, global health, agriculture and food security, environmental cooperation, and climate change. In addition, the budget request also includes major reductions to U.S. contributions to multilateral organizations, several of which drive international policy and cooperation and often call on U.S. scientists and research to influence their activities.

The Bottom Line

The FY 2026 budget request signals the Trump Administration's intent to scale back U.S. engagement with international partners in favor of a more U.S.-centric, transactional approach—aimed at pressuring other countries to "pay their fair share." However, the deep proposed cuts to bipartisan programs suggests that this request is unlikely to be accepted—especially in the Senate. Nonetheless, without clear and explicit direction from Congress, the Administration is likely to move forward with a lean approach to international programming with less funding to support program implementation in support of their diplomatic priorities.

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs



New and Signature Initiatives

The Trump Administration's FY 2026 budget proposal introduces two major foreign assistance reforms: the **America First Opportunity Fund (A1OF)** and the **International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) account**.

- A1OF, with a proposed budget of \$2.897 billion, is designed to enhance the State Department's agility in addressing global threats and opportunities that align with U.S. national security interests. It would consolidate and replace several foreign assistance accounts, including the Economic Support Fund (ESF), Development Assistance (DA), the Democracy Fund (DF), and Assistance for Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia (AEECA). A1OF would support activities such as strengthening key alliances; countering the influence of the People's Republic of China; addressing illegal immigration; promoting U.S. economic interests; advancing trade agreements and treaties; and contributing to peacekeeping assessments. This fund, if approved by Congress, would provide the Department with significant discretionary authority to define its priorities as it goes.
- The new International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) account, funded at \$2.5 billion, consolidates the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) accounts previously managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). IHA will focus more narrowly on crisis response efforts that are directly tied to national security, including famine prevention, emergency health and disaster response, refugee assistance, emergency food aid, and curbing illegal migration. This reflects a shift toward a more interest-driven approach to humanitarian aid. Notably, research is not emphasized as a priority as a part of the new vision for humanitarian assistance.

Consistent with the Trump Administration's growing emphasis upon **visa policy** as national security, the budget request includes increased funding towards **Consular and Border Security Programs**. In addition, the budget request proposes legislative text intended to enable the Secretary of State to re-visit visa fee structures, security fees, and broader policy. If enacted, such proposals could have an impact on higher education institutions through changing access and eligibility criteria for visa applicants for international students and scholars.

Ongoing Areas of Interest

Although the FY 2026 budget request is different from prior budget years, there are a few ongoing areas of interest worth highlighting:

- Consistent with the prior administration, this budget request highlights the need to counter the influence of the **People's Republic of China (PRC)**, which continues to be viewed as a strategic competitor and near-peer rival to the United States in areas of geopolitical interest. The request seeks significant funding to support programs aimed at countering the PRC's growing influence. The request expresses concern over China's rapid advancements in technology and military capabilities, as well as its involvement in the production of fentanyl and its precursor chemicals. It also addresses China's expansive global development efforts, particularly through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- The budget request recommends the U.S. focus on making **strategic investments in critical minerals, energy, and infrastructure**. While these efforts had previously been supported in large part through strategic investments in USAID and State Department engagement, this request indicates support for these objectives through the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Export-Import Bank of the United States, multilaterals led by the U.S. Department of Treasury (DOT), and through the Department of Energy (DOE).

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs



- The proposal builds on prior administration’s efforts to expand the use of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** at the Department of State to reduce administrative and staffing burdens, enhance diplomatic missions and operations, lower costs, and improve overall departmental efficiency. The budget request allocates \$399.7 million to the Information Technology Central Fund (ITCF), a \$10.7 million (2.8%) increase from the FY 2024 enacted level, to support the Department of State’s efforts to modernize and strengthen its cybersecurity and IT infrastructure. It also recommends incorporating AI technologies into global health and threat reduction programs. Still, the request does not indicate support for research and development efforts necessary to lead to the development of tools or to enhance the effective adoption of such technologies.

Proposed Reductions and Terminations

Several programs are proposed for reduced funding relative to FY 2024 enacted and FY 2025 projected levels. Proposed decreases relevant to the higher education and research communities are severe – with many of the accounts that universities have been eligible for proposed for elimination. Anticipated impacts are described:

Educational and Cultural Exchange (ECE)

ECE Programs, overseen by the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs (ECA), would be funded at \$50 million, a decrease of \$691 million or 93.25 percent from the FY 2025 estimated level of \$741 million. This dramatic decrease is proposed to support core program management while all exchange programs are reviewed to ensure “alignment with America First policies, continued relevance in the 21st century, and effectiveness. If enacted, this would eliminate academic programs including the Fulbright Programs, special academic exchanges, professional and cultural exchanges, and other special exchange programs, which have had strong bipartisan support for decades as a critical component of soft power diplomacy.

Global Health Programs (GHP)

Global Health Programs (GHP) would be funded at \$3.79 billion, a decrease of \$6.23 billion or 62.13 percent below the FY 2024 and FY 2025 estimated level of \$10.03 billion. Of these funds, the vast majority (\$2.91 billion) are proposed to support the **President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)**, which had been funded at \$4.4 billion in prior years, a roughly 34 percent reduction. In addition, the text stipulates that this funding is an “off-ramp” to the U.S. to “increase international ownership of efforts to fight HIV/AIDS.” As such, PEPFAR is likely to increase programmatic efficiency by enhancing its HIV response by delivering high-impact interventions and targeted prevention, strengthening key health systems for national program transition, and improving cost-effectiveness through streamlined operations, digital technologies, and innovative biomedical tools. Other priorities with specified funds include:

- **\$424 million for the President’s Malaria Initiative** (a 46.70 percent reduction relative to FY 2024 enacted levels).
- **\$200 million for global health security** (a 71.43 percent reduction relative to FY 2024 enacted levels).
- **\$178 million to address tuberculosis** (a 54.90 percent reduction relative to FY 2024 enacted levels)
- **\$85 million for maternal and child health:** These funds will primarily support the delivery of life-saving vaccines and essential health interventions for women and children focused on polio.

The proposal calls for the elimination of discretionary funding for several key Global Health initiatives and programs, including Family Planning and Reproductive Health, Global Health Worker Initiatives, Neglected Tropical Diseases, Non-Emergency Nutrition, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs



Food and Nutrition Security

The majority of global food and nutrition security programs relevant to the higher education and research community that were previously funded by the USAID foreign assistance account, were terminated as a part of the ongoing foreign assistance review. The budget request is silent on these programs, including the **Feed the Future (FTF) initiative and related innovation labs**, which suggests they remain highly vulnerable and are unlikely to continue absent significant engagement.

International Technology Security Innovation Fund

Although directed by Congress, the budget is silent on how the Department intends to implement the International Technology Security Innovation Fund (ITSI Fund) in FY 2026, which was funded at \$100 million per year for five years starting in FY 2023 under the *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022*. The Act directs the Department to “provide for international information and communications technology security and semiconductor supply chain activities, including to support the development and adoption of secure and trusted telecommunications technologies, secure semiconductors, semiconductor supply chains, and other emerging technologies.”

Energy and Environment

This request does not touch on climate and environment topics, other than to formalize an elimination of support for the Treasury-led multilateral environmental funds such as the Global Environment Facility and the Climate Investment Funds, which had been supported at \$275 million in FY 2024. In addition, there is also no mention of climate/environment topics in the context of bilateral programs, which under the prior Administration, had been the source of funding for universities and other implementing partners to engage with developing countries in need of technical assistance or capacity building support. In support of the “global energy dominance” agenda, the proposal includes support for USTDA, EXIM, and the World Bank (via U.S. Treasury) to advance U.S. energy priorities abroad, including by leveraging private sector investments. Few opportunities are anticipated for direct university engagement.

Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)

The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) would be funded at \$18 million, a \$4 million decrease from the FY 2024 enacted level. The funding reduction mainly stems from the elimination of DRL-supported Special Envoys, many of which do not align with Administration priorities.

International Organizations and Programs (IO&P)

Consistent with several executive orders, the budget request proposes the elimination of voluntary funding for International Organizations and Programs (IO&P), including the United Nations (UN), the World Health Organization (WHO), and several other international organizations and entities, which provided an avenue for the engagement of U.S. researchers and technical experts.

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs



Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

(in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Estimate (CR)*	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2026 Request vs FY 2025 Estimate
State and International Affairs, Total *(Includes Function 150, 300, and 800 accounts; excluding rescissions and cancellations)	62,724,075	59,800,084	31,204,029	-31,520,046 (50.3%)	-28,596,055 (47.8%)
State and USAID Cancellation (various unspecified accounts)	--	--	-20,000,000	-20,000,000	-20,000,000
Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs	741,000	741,000	50,000	-691,000 (93.3%)	-691,000 (93.3%)
Bilateral Economic Assistance	27,651,988	25,541,988	10,694,260	-16,957,728 (61.3%)	-14,847,728 (58.1%)
Global Health Programs	10,030,450	10,030,450	3,797,000	-6,233,450 (62.1%)	-6,233,450 (62.1%)
Development Assistance (DA)	3,931,000	3,931,000	--	-3,931,000 (100%)	-3,931,000 (100%)
International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA)	--	--	2,500,000	2,500,000 (N/A)	2,500,000 (N/A)
America First Opportunities Fund (A1OF)	--	--	2,897,160	2,897,160 (N/A)	2,897,160 (N/A)
Economic Support Fund	3,890,400	3,590,400	--	-3,890,400 (100%)	-3,590,400 (100%)
Multilateral Assistance, International Organizations and Programs (IO&P)	436,920	436,920	--	-436,920 (100%)	-436,920 (100%)
Development Finance Corporation (DFC)	563,650	545,450	375,200	-188,450 (33.4%)	-170,250 (31.2%)
Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)	930,000	930,000	224,000	-706,000 (75.9%)	-706,000 (75.9%)

* FY 2025 levels are estimates only. Although the reported levels look equivalent to FY 2024, mass project terminations resulting from the foreign assistance review are not accounted for in the budget request on an account-by-account basis.

Source: The U.S. State Department's FY 2026 Congressional Budget Justification is available at <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/FY-2026-State-CBJ-.pdf>



The President's FY 2026 budget request would fund DOT at \$147.1 billion, including \$35.8 billion in advanced appropriations from *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA), which is a \$26 billion or a 6 percent increase from the FY 2025 enacted level.

Quick Take: DOT's FY 2026 budget request would prioritize increases for projects that are most critical to DOT's core mission of safety and investing in transportation infrastructure. The budget would also shift funding away from programs related to climate change and other long-term investment projects.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The DOT FY 2026 budget proposes cutting \$5.7 billion from electric vehicle charging initiatives from the IIJA, which includes unobligated funding under both the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program and Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants Program. Under the Maritime Administration (MARAD), the budget proposes a decrease of \$90 million to the State Marine Academy, which educates and trains mariners. For the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT's Research, Engineering and Development Account would see \$165 million, a significant reduction of 41 percent or \$115 million below the FY 2025 enacted level. The proposed funding would focus applied research on new and advanced technologies, as well as safety innovation, resilience and security efforts. FAA would also focus on fire safety and human factors in addition to continuing investments in new entrants (unmanned aircraft systems) and commercial space transportation.

New Initiatives and Priorities: The Advanced Research Projects Agency - Infrastructure (ARPA-I) would continue to be a priority for the Administration. The Administration proposes \$50 million for Research and Technology, with \$10 million included for ARPA-I to develop its first program focused on advanced construction technologies. The \$50 million in funding would be a \$960,000 increase from the FY 2025 enacted level. In line with the Administration's focus on maritime, the request would provide a \$550 million increase to MARAD's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) to improve and revitalize port infrastructure and facilities, as well as grow the workforce. This funding is supplemental to the \$50 million in advance appropriations that IIJA provided to invest in ports. Consistent with the priorities outlined in President's Executive Order 14269, *Restoring America's Maritime Dominance*, the budget request proposes \$1.5 billion in funding for MARAD, an increase of \$900 million from the FY 2025 enacted level. The budget also includes \$500 million for rail infrastructure and safety improvements, an increase of \$400 million from the FY 2025 enacted level. For aviation, the budget includes \$22 billion for the FAA, a \$1 billion increase from the FY 2025 enacted level to focus on safe and efficient air travel.

Transportation Planning, Research, and Development within the Office of the Secretary of Transportation would receive \$25 million in funding, a \$4 million increase over the FY 2025 enacted level. The University Transportation Centers, a university-level program that invests in the future of transportation, would see a \$500,000 increase.

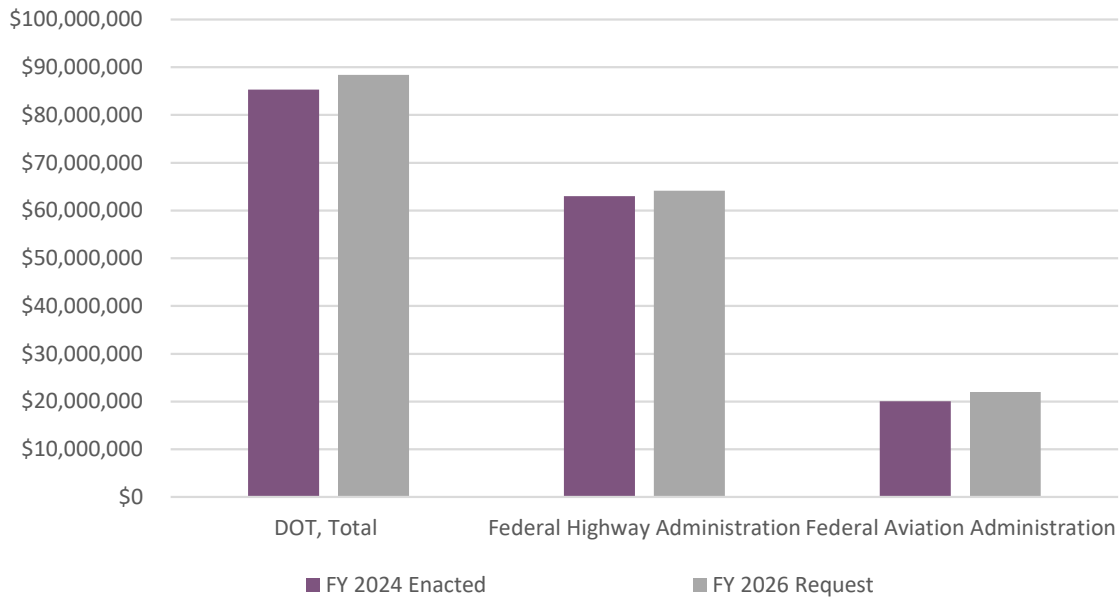
The Bottom Line

While many agencies are experiencing major cuts to research funding and workforce development, there is opportunity to partner with the Department of Transportation on priorities such as major infrastructure projects like shipbuilding, rail investments, the national air traffic control shortage, unmanned aircraft systems, and more.

Department of Transportation



DOT (In Thousands)



Department of Transportation (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2024
DOT, Total*	107,632,975	111,284,620	3,652 (3.4%)
Federal Highway Administration	63,017,337	64,123,983	1,106 (1.2%)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	1,237,501	1,282,255	44,754 (3.6%)
Research and Technology/ARPA-I	49,040	50,000	960 (1.95%)
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	927,300	926,600	-700 (0.14%)
Federal Aviation Administration	20,083,269	22,007,000	1,924 (9.6%)

*Funding displayed here is proposed annual funds and is not inclusive of mandatory spending from the IIJA.

Sources and Additional Information: DOT's budget highlights can be found here:
https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2025-05/DOT_FY_2026_Budget_Highlights_508c.pdf

U.S Geological Survey



The President’s FY 2026 budget request proposes \$891.56 million in discretionary funding for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), which would be a decrease of \$558.64 million, or 38.5 percent, compared to the FY 2025 enacted level.

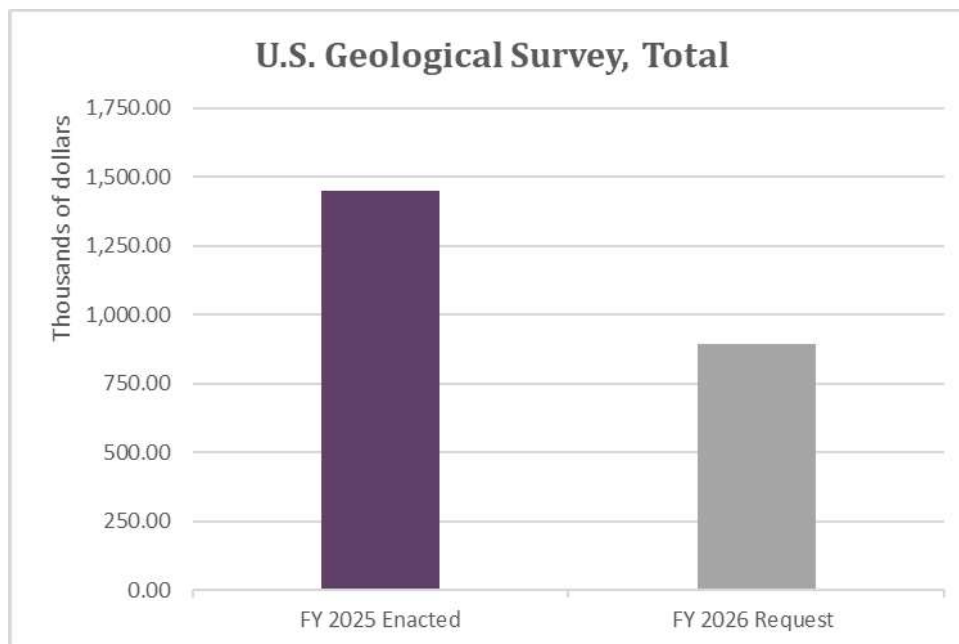
Quick Take: The FY 2026 budget request would significantly alter the USGS mission and ability to support external partnerships, including with research universities. If enacted, the Survey would likely continue supporting work that meets the Administration’s priorities in critical mineral and natural resource mapping; however, it would reduce support for other core functions including provision of climate and environmental data and services that are relied upon by the Department of Interior to inform natural resource management decisions.

Major Cuts/Eliminations: The Ecosystems mission area would be eliminated, including its long-standing programs that provide grants to universities. While these programmatic cuts are not explicit, it likely includes the elimination of support for the Cooperative Research Units, Climate Adaptation Science Centers, Environmental Health Program, and invasive species work.

New Initiatives/Priorities: The request proposes a restructuring of some USGS offices to create a newly expanded Geology, Energy & Minerals mission area, which will now house geologic data mapping in addition to offshore energy, and minerals work. Also of note, the Interior Budget would support a new U.S. Wildland Fire Service, which would combine the USDA Forest Service and the Interior Department’s wildfire activities into one home.

The Bottom Line

The request proposes deep cuts to nearly all USGS programs, but initiates a new thrust centered around geological mapping, critical minerals, and energy. This will likely also have a significant dual role with the rest of the Interior Department, as they move toward deregulation and opening federal lands for natural resource extraction.





Ongoing Areas of Interest

Full details of the Interior and USGS budget are not yet available. The proposed dissolution of the Ecosystems Mission Area would be a major hit to the Survey’s signature university and research partnerships. Further, such a proposal would reduce USGS’s ability to support non-regulatory science-based research to understand the health and function of the nation’s ecosystems and to produce data and tools that inform resource management decisions.

With the proposed 22.5 percent reduction of the Water Resources mission area relative to FY 2025 enacted levels, available documentation is silent on the Administration’s intentions for the Water Resources Research Act Program, which includes support for the Water Resources Research Centers. Previous Administrations have proposed eliminating these programs, which have been uniformly popular with Members of Congress and funding has been restored.

The budget request indicates support for Landsat 8 and 9, but it states an intention to restructure the Landsat Next mission by working with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to determine a more cost-effective way to maintain Landsat data.

U.S Geological Survey (in Thousands of \$)

	FY 2025 Enacted*	FY 2026 Request	FY 2026 Request vs. FY 2025 Enacted
USGS, Total	1,450,197	891,560	-558,637 (38.5%)
Natural Hazards	196,126	136,526	-59,600 (30.4%)
Ecosystems	292,877	0	-292,877 (100.0%)
Geology, Energy, and Minerals †	155,337	137,073	-18,264* (11.8%)
Water Resources	288,772	223,818	-64,954 (22.5%)
Core Science Systems	227,987	165,041	-62,946 (27.6%)
Science Support	105,000	80,000	-25,000 (23.8%)
Facilities	184,098	149,102	-34,996 (19.0%)

*Enacted level based on the FY 25 notional amounts provided in the available budget documents.

† The newly named Geology, Energy, and Minerals mission area has an inflated FY 2025 level indicated because of a reorganization; this would be an increase over the previously named Energy and Mineral Resources area.

Sources and Additional Information: USGS’s FY 2025 Budget in Brief can be found at <https://www.doi.gov/media/document/fy-2026-budget-brief>.

Acronym Glossary

General Terms

- FY – Fiscal Year
- OMB – Office of Management and Budget
- CR – Continuing Resolution

Department of Commerce (DOC)

- NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- OAR – Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
- NERRS – National Estuarine Research Reserves Systems
- NWS – National Weather Service
- NEDIS – National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)
- NOS – National Ocean Service
- NMFS – National Marine Fisheries Service
- NIST – National Institute of Standards and Technology
- MEP – Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- NIMBL – National Institute for Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals
- EDA – Economic Development Administration

Department of Defense (DOD)

- RDT&E – Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation
- S&T – Science and Technology
- NDS – National Defense Strategy
- DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
- DTRA – Defense Threat Reduction Agency

Department of Education (ED)

- SEOG – Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
- PSLF – Public Student Loan Forgiveness
- GEAR UP – Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs
- TQP – Teacher Quality Partnership
- GAANN – Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need
- IES – Institute of Education Sciences
- HSI – Hispanic Serving Institution
- MSI – Minority Serving Institution
- HBCU – Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Department of Energy (DOE)

- ARPA-E – Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy
- CESER – Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response
- EERE – Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- FECM – Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management
- NNSA – National Nuclear Security Administration
- OE – Office of Electricity

Acronym Glossary

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- NIH – National Institutes of Health
- F&A – Facilities and Administrative costs
- ICs – Institutes and Centers
- FDA- Food and Drug Administration

Department of Health and Human Services (Other)

- GME – Graduate Medical Education
- AHRQ – Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- NIDILRR – National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research
- NIOSH – National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- HRSA – Health Resources and Services Administration
- CHGME – Children’s Hospitals Graduate Medical Education
- CMS – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- ACL – Administration for Community Living
- ERCs – Education and Research Centers
- CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- SAMHSA – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- TANF – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- ACA – Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
- ASPR – Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
- SNS – Strategic National Stockpile
- MCMs – Medical Countermeasures
- IHS – Indian Health Services

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- S&T – DHS Science and Technology Directorate
- OUP – Office of University Programs
- CBP – U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- USCIS – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
- DACA – Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

RD&I – Research, Development, And Innovation

- POE – Port of Entry
- COE – Centers of Excellence
- ALERT – Center for Awareness and Localization of Explosive-Related Threats
- CWMD – Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

Department of Justice (DOJ)

- FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigation
- DEA – Drug Enforcement Agency
- COPS Office – Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
- OJP – Office of Justice Programs

Acronym Glossary

- CRS – Community Relations Service
- CARA – Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act
- PSN – Project Safe Neighborhoods
- RES – Research, Evaluation, and Statistics
- NIJ – National Institute of Justice

Department of State and U.S. Agency For International Development (USAID)

- ECE – Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs
- ECA – Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- IVLP – International Visitor Leadership Program
- DA – Development Assistance Program
- ESF – Economic Support Fund
- GCCI – Global Climate Change Initiative
- USGDL – U.S. Global Development Lab
- GHP – Global Health Programs
- CSD – Countering States Disinformation Program

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- S&T – Science & Technology
- STAR – Science to Achieve Results
- AE – Air and Energy Program
- SSWR – Safe and Sustainable Water Program
- SHC – Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Program
- SHC – Sustainable and Healthy Communities Program
- CSS – Chemical Safety for Sustainability Program
- LMS – Lean Management System

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

- STMD – Space Technology Mission Directorate
 - SMD – Science Mission Directorate
 - APD – Astrophysics Division
- WFIRST – Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope
- ISS – International Space Station
- ESD – Earth Science Division
- OE – Office of Education
- JWST – James Webb Space Telescope
- ARMD – Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate
- TACP – Transformative Aeronautics Concepts Program
- ULI – University Leadership Initiative
- HEOMD – Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate
- PSD – Planetary Sciences Division
- HPD – Heliophysics Division

Acronym Glossary

National Science Foundation (NSF)

- ENG - Directorate for Engineering
- BIO – Directorate for Biological Sciences
- CISE – Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering
- EHR – Directorate for Education and Human Resources
- GEO – Directorate for Geosciences
- MPS – Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences
- SBE – Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences
- ISE - Office of International Science and Engineering
- OIA - Office of Integrative Activities
- OPP – Office of Polar Programs

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- ARS – Agricultural Research Service
- NIFA – National Institute of Food and Agriculture
- SARE – Sustainable Agriculture Research Education and Extension
- APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- NBAF – National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility
- AFRI – Agriculture and Food Research Initiative
- FSIS – Food Safety and Inspection Service

Department of Interior (DOI)

- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

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