June 15th, 2023

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Shaheen and Ranking Member Moran,

As the Subcommittee advances the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Commerce, Justice, Science, and  
Related Agencies Appropriations bill, the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) writes  
to respectfully urge the Committee to **fund the National Science Foundation at the highest  
possible amount building on FY23 funding levels.**

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) is an alliance of over 140 professional  
organizations, universities and businesses united in support for the future vitality of the National  
Science Foundation in order to seize the unprecedented opportunities for scientific, technological  
and economic progress in the United States.

Last year, large bipartisan majorities passed the CHIPS and Science Act, which authorized $15.7  
billion for the agency in FY24. NSF was the centerpiece of this legislation, recognizing the key  
role NSF plays in ensuring our national competitiveness and security. NSF supports research and  
education that foster discoveries to create new technologies and prepares students of all ages and  
backgrounds for the future workforce to ensure our economy remains vibrant and secure. NSF  
has many unmet needs to fulfill the vision of this legislation, sustain major new investments such  
as the Regional Innovation Engines, protect our critical science and technology ecosystem, and  
truly meet the urgent national security challenges we are facing from competitors, most notably  
China.

In FY23, Congress provided NSF with $1 billion in supplemental emergency funding, raising its  
budget to $9.8 billion. With that funding NSF has advanced a new directorate for the first time in  
30 years and buttressed key efforts to advance STEM education and broaden participation.  
Recognizing that the debt limit deal has provided a framework for non-defense discretionary  
funding levels for the next two years, we request that you, at the very least, maintain funding for  
NSF at the FY23 level of $9.8 billion. To provide less than that amount will result in significant  
cuts for the agency and send a clear message to our competitors that the U.S. is not serious about  
maintaining our leadership in science and technology. Holding NSF at the FY23 level of funding
without those supplemental funds would represent a 10 percent cut to NSF current funding, even before inflation considerations.

We understand this is a very challenging year to adequately fund all priorities. However, keeping America competitive in technology and defense is essential and has broad bipartisan support. We ask that you set NSF on a funding trajectory to meet the major challenges our nation faces and ensure success for our future competitiveness, security, and resilience.

Thank you for considering our input. Please do not hesitate to call on CNSF as a resource as you move forward with the appropriations process.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for National Science Funding

Identical letter to: House CJS Chair Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright
Duke University
Ecological Society of America
Entomological Society of America
Eversole Associates
Federation of American Scientists
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Forge Policy Solutions
Geological Society of America
George Mason University
George Washington University
Harvard University
IEEE-USA
Indiana University
Lehigh University
Lewis-Burke Associates, LLC
Materials Research Society
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan Technological University
National Association of Marine Laboratories
National Postdoctoral Association
Natural Science Collections Alliance
Northwestern University
The Ohio State University
Optica (formerly OSA)
Oregon Institute of Technology
Pennsylvania State University, Office of the Senior Vice President for Research
Princeton University - Office of Government Affairs
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Sage Publishing, Inc.
Saint Louis University
Seismological Society of America
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Research in Child Development
SPIE
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Stevens Institute of Technology
Strangeworks, Inc.
Swain Techs
Syracuse University
The Quider Group, LLC
Tufts University
University of California - Los Angeles
University of California System
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado - Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois System
University of Iowa
University of Michigan
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin - Madison
US Ignite, Inc.
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington State University
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University