



November 3rd, 2023

The Honorable Shalanda Young  
Office of Management and Budget  
Eisenhower Executive Office Building  
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20504

The Honorable Arati Prabhakar  
Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Eisenhower Executive Office Building  
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20504

Dear Directors Young and Prabhakar,

As you prepare the fiscal year 2025 (FY25) budget submission for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) appreciates the opportunity to submit our funding priorities for the agency. CNSF is an alliance of more than 140 professional organizations, scientific societies, universities, and businesses united in our advocacy for the NSF.

NSF plays a critical role in advancing many of the FY25 research and development priorities articulated by the Biden-Harris Administration, including advancing trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI), promoting national security and stability, addressing climate change, supporting better healthcare outcomes, reducing barriers to participation in STEM education and its workforce, and bolstering our nation's future economic competitiveness.<sup>1</sup>

CNSF urges the Administration to request \$16.7 billion for NSF in FY25, which is the level of funding for NSF research and education investments authorized in the CHIPS and Science Act (P.L. 117-167).

Although NSF funding has not yet reached the funding levels authorized in the CHIPS and Science Act for FY23 and FY24, we urge the Biden-Harris Administration not to give up on the important goals set forth in this law. The U.S. scientific enterprise must have long-term sustained funding increases if we are to maintain our strategic advantage and global leadership in research, new technologies, innovation, and economic competitiveness and national security.

We understand the difficult fiscal environment and the delays to ongoing FY24 appropriations. However, the current level of NSF funding and the proposed NSF funding in the House and Senate draft FY24 appropriations bills are far below what is needed for NSF to ensure the success of newly established transformational programs such as the Regional Innovation Engines (RIE) and Entrepreneurial Fellowships while protecting core research, education, and infrastructure investments that sustain our research and innovation ecosystem.

Spreading the benefits of basic research and technology-fueled innovation across America, and expanding participation in the research ecosystem, were key aims of the CHIPS and Science Act. NSF will be unable to expand the RIE program beyond the initial Engines, to be announced later this fall, without

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<sup>1</sup> [FY2025-OMB-OSTP-RD-Budget-Priorities-Memo.pdf \(whitehouse.gov\)](#)

new investments. NSF also needs substantially more funding to expand and broaden participation in STEM and to enable increased research capacity at emerging institutions.

Inadequate funding also threatens NSF's success in AI and other areas. AI investments in NSF must be sustained, and further research is needed to tackle additional application areas and continue to advance AI transparency, reliability, and trustworthiness. AI is rapidly evolving, and we must not pull back our efforts to safely harness this technology for agriculture, education, national security, health, resilience, and other critical societal needs. The difficult fiscal climate is already leading to a problematic scaling back in investment in the NSF AI Institute program. Both the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Education have scaled back their participation in the program. Flat funding additionally threatens the creation of needed infrastructure for AI research, such as the National AI Research Resource that was recently recommended by a congressionally-mandated interagency task force.<sup>2</sup>

As final FY24 NSF funding remains unresolved in Congress, we want to emphasize the importance of the Administration working with Congress to increase funding for NSF and renew its commitment to the funding goals of the CHIPS and Science Act in the Administration's FY25 budget submission.

The Nation can no longer wait to invest the NSF's critical research, education, and infrastructure programs that bolster our nation's competitiveness and security. We look forward to working with you to support NSF funding in FY25.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for National Science Funding

American Anthropological Association	Georgia Institute of Technology
American Association for the Advancement of Science	Harvard University
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR)	Harvey Mudd College
American Association of Geographers	IEEE-USA
American Association of Physics Teachers	Indiana University
American Astronomical Society	Lehigh University
American Chemical Society	Lewis-Burke Associates, LLC
American Crystallographic Association	Materials Research Society
American Educational Research Association	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
American Economic Association	Michigan Technological University
American Geophysical Union	National Association of Marine Laboratories
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE)	National Postdoctoral Association
American Institute of Biological Sciences	Natural Science Collections Alliance
American Mathematical Society	Northern Illinois University
American Physical Society	Northwestern University
American Physiological Society	The Ohio State University
American Political Science Association	Optica (formerly OSA)
	Oregon Institute of Technology
	Pennsylvania State University, Office of the Senior Vice President for Research

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<sup>2</sup> [Strengthening and Democratizing the U.S. Artificial Intelligence Innovation Ecosystem: An Implementation Plan for a National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource \(ai.gov\)](#)

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Women in Mathematics  
Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities  
Association of Research Libraries  
Association of Science and Technology Centers  
Atlanta University Center Consortium  
Battelle Memorial Institute  
Biophysical Society  
Boise State University  
Bose McKinney & Evans, LLP  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Coalition for Academic Scientific Computation  
Computing Research Association  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cornell University  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council of Scientific Society Presidents  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Dartmouth College  
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  
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  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Yale University

