AAU Summary of the Biden Administration's

FY25 Proposed Budget

Last updated: March 13, 2024

GENERAL OVERVIEW: The President released the administration's proposed FY25 budget on March 11, 2024. The overview below and the accompanying summaries and analyses for individual agencies are based on the administration's budget documents. All figures denote budget authority unless otherwise noted. The president's budget proposes $7.3 trillion in overall funding and includes proposed increases for many of AAU education and research priorities. In particular, the proposal would increase the maximum Pell Grant by $750; this includes a $100 increase in the maximum award in discretionary funding and a $650 increase to the mandatory add-on. The proposed budget would also provide $20.1 billion in discretionary spending for activities authorized by the bipartisan 2022 CHIPS and Science Act, including at the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Due to Congress not finalizing FY24 funding before the administration completed its budget, proposed funding levels in agency budget documents are compared to final FY23 levels. AAU also compares budget levels to FY24 enacted levels for the six appropriations bills enacted to date.

STUDENT AID AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Department of Education (ED): The FY25 President's budget includes $82.4 billion for the Department of Education. This Request reflects a 3.9% increase above FY23 enacted level. The Request includes $3.3 billion in discretionary funds for higher education programs aimed at increasing access to a high-quality education and improving achievement and completion for all students.

Pell Grant: The FY25 President's budget sets a maximum Pell Grant award of $8,145 for award year 2025-26, an increase of $750 from current levels.

Other Student aid and higher education programs: The President's FY25 budget proposes level or increased funding for several programs.

- **Federal Work Study (FWS)**: $1.23 million, the same as the FY23.
- **Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)**: $910 million, the same as FY23.
- **Federal TRIO Programs**: $1.211 billion, a $106.8 million increase or 9% above FY23.
- **Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN)**: $23.5 million, the same as FY23.
- **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**: $815.5 million, a $7.8 million increase or 1% above FY23; and
- **Title VI International Education Programs**: $81.5 million, a 5% decrease compared to FY23.

Dept. of Education budget summary, Dept of Education press release

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI): The President's FY25 budget includes $475 million for AFRI, a $20 million or 4.4% increase above the FY23 enacted level. AFRI supports research with strong potential to contribute to major breakthroughs in the food, agricultural, natural resource, and human sciences. In FY25, AFRI supports competitive grants to generate science-based solutions to the Nation's critical food and agriculture problems and to proactively identify and address emerging needs and opportunities.
USDA Budget summary

Department of Defense (DOD): The President's FY25 budget includes $849.8 billion for DOD which includes $143.2 billion for research and development. The budget would fund defense science and technology programs at $17.207 billion, a $5.1 billion or 23.1% cut compared to FY23 levels. The Budget also cuts 6.1 basic research to only $2.452 billion, a 14.4% cut from FY23 enacted. Notably S&T constitutes only 12% of the overall RDT&E funding request. The Department is investing significantly in maturing artificial intelligence and Future Generation programs.
DOD Budget Overview; RDT&E Programs (R-1); DOD press release

Department of Energy (DOE): The President's FY25 budget includes $8.58 billion for the DOE Office of Science, a $343 million or 4% increase above the FY24 enacted level. The request includes $450 million for ARPA-E, a $10 million or 2% cut compared to FY24 levels. Within funding for Science, the Budget provides over $800 million to advance the basic research needed to solve fundamental science and technology gaps towards the development of fusion power as a clean energy source in the U.S. The Science budget also expands innovation in microelectronics and positions the United States to meet the demand for isotopes.
DOE Budget documents; DOE press release;

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA): NASA's total funding in the FY25 request includes $25.38 billion for the agency, a $508.7 million or 2% increase over FY24 enacted level. The President requests $7.566 billion for the *Science Mission Directorate (SMD*), approximately 3% above final FY24 or 3% below the final FY23 level of support for SMD.

NASA's congressional justification document shows that SMD's budget is full of uncertainty. In addition to several missions mentioned as being restructured, the Mars Sample Return (MSR) language indicates that MSR plans will be resolved once the NASA internal assessment of mission architecture options is complete. Therefore, "Based on this ongoing assessment, the funding levels for Planetary Science missions are subject to change." Across SMD, Earth Science is proposed to receive an 8% increase over FY24, to fund science and observations that "enhance our understanding of the Earth system and continues efforts to make data more accessible to a wide range of stakeholders…".

In FY25, the *Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)* would receive a 3.3% (or $30 million) increase above FY24 to $965.8 million, from $935 million in both FY23 and FY24. This funding would continue funding research to improve the efficiency and safety of commercial air travel, the request would continue work on foundational research to transform the sector of aeronautics.

The budget request for the *Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)* is $1.182 billion, about $80 million above final FY24 and $80 million below the FY24 final enacted amount for STMD in FY23. STMD works with a variety of partners, including academia, to fund high-risk, high-reward activities across the spectrum of technology development.

The funding request for the *Office of STEM engagement* is held flat compared to FY23 levels at $143.5 million. Noting funding constraints in FY25, the Office will prioritize funding increases for the Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) and Next Gen STEM. The Space Grant Fellowship program is reduced by $1m to $57m in FY25.
NASA Budget documents including summary and mission fact sheets

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): The President's FY25 budget includes $200.1 million for the NEH a $6.9 million or 3.3% cut compared to FY24. In FY 2025, NEH will continue the core work of its existing grant programs to nurture the humanities field while supporting programs, offices, policies, and federal R&D priorities that strengthen our democracy, expand access to the humanities, and address a changing climate.
NEH Budget documents

National Institutes of Health (NIH): The President's FY25 budget includes $48.3 billion for NIH's base funding, an $871 million or 1.8% increase over FY23. For FY25, continuation of $83 million through the Department of the Interior's support of the NIEHS, and increased authorization of $260 million for diabetes funding brings total PBR request for NIH to $49.77 billion with those two additions. Additionally, the budget proposes $1.48 billion in new mandatory funding for the Cancer Moonshot in FY25 and FY26, and $2.7 billion in new mandatory funding for biodefense research. The President's budget maintains a level funding recommendation of $1.5 billion for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H).

As the Nation's largest biomedical research agency, NIH plays a critical role in advancing basic and clinical biomedical research to improve human health and lay the foundation for ensuring the Nation's well-being. NIH works to develop, maintain, and renew scientific, human, and physical resources that will ensure the Nation's capability to address the public health concerns of the Nation as well as to treat and prevent disease and poor health. The biomedical research enterprise depends upon not only NIH's support of cutting-edge science and technology, but also its wise investment of tax dollars.
NIH press release/Budget summary

National Science Foundation (NSF): The President's FY25 budget includes $10.2 billion for NSF, a $1.14 billion or 12.4% increase above FY24 (or a 3% increase when comparing with the NSF "total enacted" funding in FY23[1]). Notably, the FY24 President's budget request for NSF was $11.3 billion. The budget includes four themes for NSF investments: "Advance Emerging Industries for National and Economic Security, build a Resilient Planet, Create Opportunities Everywhere, and Strengthen Research Infrastructure". Other highlights:

[1] When using the FY23 NSF base plus supplemental funding, or total funding in FY23 of $9.88B, the FY25 request is about 3.3% above FY23.

The Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate would receive $900 million in FY25, with $205 million of that total available to the Regional Innovation Program to promote economic growth in regions that have not fully participated in past technology booms. Compared to FY23 this is a 35% increase, while most directorates are proposed for 1-4% increases in FY25. This 35% comparison does not include some of the funds expended within TIP from one-time CHIPS and Science dedicated FY23 supplemental funding in FY23.

The budget request also discusses continued support for the design of a single U.S. Extremely Large Telescope (US ELT) and convene and external review panel to explore the two ELT options and determine which project to advance to final construction.

NSF's fledgling National AI Research Resource (NAIRR) pilot, launched in January, would receive $30 million to advance the second year of the pilot program. Overall, the request would support $729 million supporting AI activities. The request also includes $50 million in mandatory funding for AI. NSF Budget Documents; NSF Director Statement on request

Climate Research: The Budget includes $4.5 billion for climate research across NASA, NOAA, NSF, DOE and other agencies. This includes $150 million at NASA to develop the next-generation land-imaging mission, other- wise known as Landsat Next, and more than $600 million for NASA in research grants to enhance understanding of earth systems, including climate and natural hazards. The Budget includes $900 million for NSF climate research, an increase of $236 million above the 2023 enacted level, and $407 million at DOE to support fundamental research, including modeling and scientific user facilities. White House Climate Fact Sheet

Tax Provisions: In the FY25 budget, Treasury has proposed a permanent extension of student debt exclusion previously included in The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). This provision excluded forgiven student loans from gross income and were exempt from taxation. Treasury's proposal would be effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025, when the ARP exclusion ends. The budget does not include an estimated figure on tax savings for taxpayers in the proposal.