



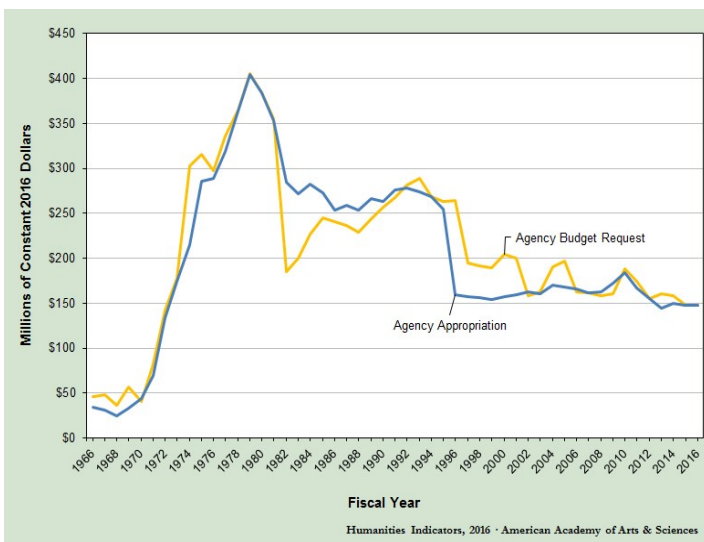
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

A robust humanities education is critical to cultivating a broadly-educated workforce ready to compete in the knowledge-based, global 21st Century economy. From the basic building blocks of early education, to the highest levels of academic attainment, humanities fields provide individuals from all disciplines, including science, technology, engineering, & mathematics (STEM), with critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and analytical skills, competencies, and the expertise needed by the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

AAU urges Congress to provide at least \$155 million for the National Endowments for the Humanities in FY19

AAU remains concerned about the long-term erosion of NEH funding for competitive grant awards for nonprofit institutions and scholars. NEH competitive grants are known for their quality and ability to leverage non-federal funding. NEH grants are at one of the lowest funding rates in NEH's nearly 50 year history. This includes grants in the following divisions:

- Research;
- Education;
- Preservation and Access;
- Challenge Grants;
- Public Programs; and
- Digital Humanities.



NEH Budget Request versus Final Appropriation, FY1966-2016 (inflation-adjusted)
Source: [Humanities Indicators, American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#)

AAU supports the continuation of current policy allowing graduate students to participate in select NEH programs. This provides opportunities for collaboration among students and faculty, similar to those in the sciences, and helps sustain the pipeline of young humanities researchers and scholars. Since 2010, graduate students have been eligible to participate in college-level summer seminars and institutes sponsored by NEH.

For the cost of less than 50 cents per American, NEH grants support the humanities nationwide—including history, English, and civics—which are fundamental to learning and essential for full participation in a modern democracy.