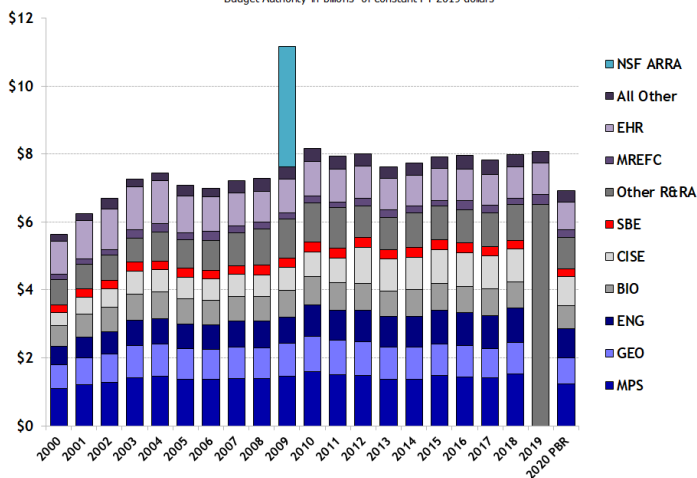




# National Science Foundation (NSF)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is the cornerstone of America’s basic research enterprise. NSF is focused on fundamental, interdisciplinary, and ground-breaking research and education needed to ensure that the U.S. remains competitive in the decades ahead. A leader among federal agencies in strengthening its support of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education, NSF competitively awards grants to support research and education, and scientific equipment and infrastructure.

**National Science Foundation Budget**  
Budget Authority in billions of constant FY 2019 dollars



Note: Directorate-level spending figures for FY 2019 are not yet available. Source: Historical NSF budget data. © 2019 AAAS

Source: AAAS, 2019

AAU strongly supports strong federal investment in merit-reviewed research across all fields of study, including: the Biology Sciences; Computer & Information Sciences; Engineering, Geosciences; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

## AAU urges Congress to provide \$9 billion for the National Science Foundation in FY20

AAU strongly supports NSF’s mission to develop a skilled technical workforce and a STEM-literate citizenry that can compete in the global marketplace. To remain globally competitive, continued federal investment in the following education programs are needed:

- Graduate Research Fellowships (GRF);
- NSF Research Traineeships (NRT); and
- Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE).

AAU encourages continued support for NSF-supported facilities and construction projects. Continued investment in major research equipment and infrastructure is essential if the U.S. is to have the tools and facilities necessary to conduct cutting-edge science.

**AAU urges Congress to reach a bipartisan budget agreement to lift the Budget Control Act’s harmful discretionary caps in FY20 and FY21 and allow for additional resources to meet the nation’s significant investment needs.**