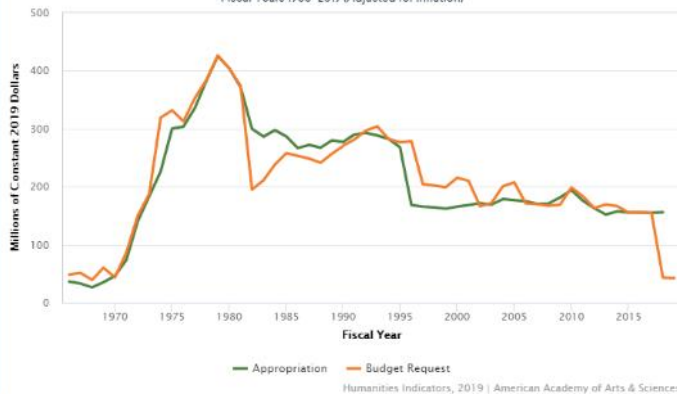




# National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

**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, with critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and analytical skills, and the cultural competencies needed to address U.S. economic, global, and national security challenges.

IV-01a: National Endowment for the Humanities Budget Request versus Final Appropriation  
Fiscal Years 1966-2019 (Adjusted for Inflation)



NEH Budget Request versus Final Appropriation, FY1966-2019 (inflation-adjusted)  
Source: [Humanities Indicators, American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#)

The Endowment supports the preservation of our cultural heritage while training the next generation of Americans to understand how new innovations and discoveries impact our way of life. NEH is a sound investment for all citizens. 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.

**AAU urges Congress to provide *at least* \$170 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities in FY21**

AAU is particularly committed to restoring funding to the competitive grant programs known for their quality and ability to leverage non-federal funding. Despite gradual increases in NEH appropriations, the Endowment remains at one of its lowest funding levels since 1975. Further investments in NEH would allow the Endowment to build on and sustain programs in the following divisions:

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

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