

THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

WASHINGTON E-UPDATE

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April 2018

Budget and Appropriations Update – Nearly six months into fiscal year 2018—and after another tortuous legislative process—Congress finally passed and the president signed an omnibus appropriations bill financing government operations through September 30. The measure is comprised of all 12 spending bills that previously had been funded through a continuing resolution.

The stage was set for passage of the omnibus bill in early February when congressional leaders agreed to raise the spending caps set by the Budget Control Act for fiscal years 2018 and 2019. Specifically, the two-year deal raised discretionary defense and non-defense spending caps by \$296 billion, \$165 billion for defense and \$131 billion for non-defense. For FY 2018, it increased the defense cap by \$80 billion to \$629 billion, and the non-defense cap by \$63 billion to \$579 billion. It also suspended the limit on public debt through March 1, 2019; provided \$89.3 billion in additional disaster aid; retroactively extended numerous expired tax breaks; and extended and modified dozens of health and family programs. The deal was enacted (PL 115-123) with bipartisan majorities in both chambers, although a majority of House Democrats voted against the measure because GOP leaders would not guarantee a House vote on DACA legislation.

Enactment of the budget deal finally gave appropriators the opportunity to develop detailed, 2018 spending bills for each of the 12 appropriations measures.

While the budget deal's cap increases made it relatively easy to reach agreement on most spending, other more controversial issues proved more troublesome. Immigration re-emerged as an issue during last-minute negotiations, with proposals being floated to extend DACA in return for fully funding President Trump's border wall with Mexico, along with GOP efforts to increase immigration enforcement by hiring additional ICE agents and expanding detention resources. And members from each party sought provisions to help stabilize the markets for individual health insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

In the end, abortion politics scuttled the market stabilization proposal, and no agreement was reached on DACA and full funding for the border wall or increased immigration enforcement, although with regard to DACA, because several court rulings have blocked the administration's effort to end the program, the urgency to enact a more permanent solution has been reduced for the time being.

The omnibus that was enacted provides about \$1.3 trillion in discretionary spending, or about \$138 billion over the fiscal year 2017 level, and is consistent with the increased defense and non-defense budget caps set by the two-year budget deal agreed to last month. The agreement provides the largest year-to-year increase in base funding for the Defense Department in 15 years, allowing it to purchase new aircraft, ships and other weapons systems requested by President Trump. However, it largely ignored the massive cuts to domestic programs proposed by the administration in its latest budget, and instead, either increased funding for most Democratic-backed priorities or held funding constant. Although the agreement includes \$1.6 billion for more than 95 miles of physical barriers along the border with Mexico, the total was far short of the \$25 billion sought by the president.

Omnibus spending bill provides major boost to science funding agencies and higher education programs

Rejecting Trump Administration budget proposals issued last year, the \$1.3 trillion FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill enacted by Congress March 23 provided substantial funding increases for science and education grant making agencies important to the SUS.

The **National Institutes of Health**, the top funder for SUS research, received a \$3 billion or 8.8 percent increase, for a funding level of \$37 billion. In the accompanying report, the Appropriations Committee expressed its expectation that the significant new support will lead to increases in the number of new and competing research project grants for the extramural community. The bill also carries language prohibiting the Administration from enacting its proposal to cap Facilities and Administrative costs at 10 percent on NIH grants to universities, leaving the current “F&A” system in place. Another provision is intended to stop NIH from implementing a new regulatory process to reclassify basic research involving humans as clinical trials until more input can be solicited from the extramural research community.

The bill provides \$542.7 million, an increase of \$26.6 million for the **Clinical and Translational Science Awards** program. The bill continues to support the program, a stabilization in the number of hubs funded, and a five-year grant cycle. The **BRAIN Initiative** receives \$400 million, an increase of \$140 million. The **All of Us research** program (formerly the **Precision Medicine Initiative**) received an increase of \$60 million for a total level of \$290 million. **Alzheimer’s disease** research is boosted \$414 million to \$1.8 billion.

In a major development for health campuses, **health workforce programs** in Department of Health and Human Services were boosted 26.5 percent to over \$1 billion. Many had been slated for elimination in the Administration budget. Much of the increase was driven by additional support for fighting **opioid abuse** and enhancing **mental health programs**. \$3.6 billion, an increase of \$2.55 billion or 244 percent is devoted to opioid abuse. Funds are targeted towards improving treatment and

prevention efforts; finding alternative pain medications; workforce needs, especially in rural communities; and behavioral health. The bill also provides \$3.2 billion, a 17 percent increase, for mental health research, treatment, and prevention.

Following two years of flat funding, another top SUS support agency, the **National Science Foundation**, received \$7.76 billion in the omnibus, a 4 percent or \$295 million increase over 2017. The **Research and Related Activities program** supporting extramural research grants increases by 6 percent to \$6.33 billion. The bill provides \$180 million to invest in six of the 10 “**Big Ideas**” that NSF Director France Córdova outlined last year for cross-disciplinary research. The legislation provides \$30 million for **Hispanic-serving institutions**, double the 2017 funding level. The **Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship** program was increased \$3 million to \$64.5 million.

The **Department of Energy Office of Science** budget will increase by \$869 million or 16 percent to \$6.3 billion – the largest increase since 2009 when the Obama-era stimulus funding bill provided \$1.6 billion to the Office’s programs. In the 2018 bill, all six of the Office’s programs receive double-digit percentage increases. Fusion Energy Sciences was boosted 40 percent over current funding. **Basic Energy Sciences** received a 12 percent increase to \$2.1 billion. Photon facilities, another SUS area of research interest, will receive major enhancements.

Department of Defense R&D activities received \$88.3 billion in 2018 funding, a \$16 billion or 22 percent increase over 2017 levels. The total is \$5.6 billion more than the Trump Administration requested. Within the funding, **basic research** was boosted by almost 13 percent to \$2.3 billion.

Other agencies also receiving increases were:

- **NOAA** -- \$5.9 billion, an increase of \$233.9 million over last year. (The **National Sea Grant Program** -- targeted for elimination in the Trump budget -- was funded at \$65 million.)
- **NASA** -- \$20.7 billion, an increase of \$1 billion. (Science programs received an 8 percent increase to \$6.2 billion.)
- **Agriculture research** increased 3.4 percent to \$1.4 billion.
- **NIST** -- \$1.19 billion, an increase of \$246.5 million.

Research and Technology at the Transportation Department received \$23.5 million in the bill. The SUS has a strong presence in the **University Transportation Center** program and an additional \$15 million was provided by Congress to support UTC grant competitions for two new centers --one for congestion research and another for improving durability and life of infrastructure. \$100 million was provided for research on **highly automated vehicle R&D** programs.

Even flat funding for the **EPA** is significant considering the Administration budget had proposed steep cuts a year ago. The **Science and Technology program** which funds research grants received \$706 million, the same as last year.

Higher education items – Pell increased

The omnibus spending bill included funding to increase the **maximum Pell Grant award** by \$175 to \$6,095 in academic year 2018-2019 and the year-round Pell was continued.

In addition, the bill includes the Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act, which automatically makes children of first responders who have died in the line of duty eligible for the maximum Pell Grant.

The bill also includes new language promoting accountability, transparency, and competition in **student loan servicing**, to incentivize high-quality service for student loan borrowers.

The **Federal Work Study** program was increased by \$140 million or 14 percent to \$1.13 billion, following the Trump administration 2018 proposal to cut it in half.

The bill also provides \$350 million for the **Public Service Loan Forgiveness** program, also a program that had been on the chopping block. The **Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant** program was increased by \$107 million to a total of \$840 million, despite a Trump administration request to eliminate the activity.

TRIO and GEAR UP programs received enhanced funding as did the **Strengthening HBCUs Program** (14.3% increase) and **Strengthening HBCU Graduate Institutions** (increased 14 percent.) The **Minority Science and Engineering Improvement** program was increased 15 percent to \$11 million. **Aid for Hispanic-Servicing Institutions** was funded at \$123 million, a 14 percent boost. The **Promoting Post baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans program** received \$11 million, a 15 percent increase. In total, HBCUs and Minority Serving Institutions received combined increase of \$106 million.

The **Corporation for Public Broadcasting** receives advance year appropriations and this bill provided \$445 million for FY2020, level funding with FY2018. An additional \$20 million is provided for 2018 to continue the process of upgrading the public broadcasting interconnection system.

House Science Committee hearing examines NSF FY 2019 budget

The National Science Foundation Fiscal 2019 budget request was reviewed in a March 15 hearing by the House Committee on Science, Space & Technology. NSF Director

France Córdoba and Dr. Maria Zuber, Vice President for Research at MIT and chair of the National Science Board, testified about the administration's funding priorities contained in the budget proposal.

The budget proposes a funding level of \$ \$7.47 billion for the science agency in 2019 which would amount to a \$290 million reduction from the 2018 funding just enacted by Congress.

Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX) opened the hearing by commending the NSF's work, but also criticizing certain agency priorities providing his examples of previous expenditures that he believed were frivolous.

He expressed his concern that China would surpass the United States in science and technology in areas like STEM education, artificial intelligence and supercomputing. He said "The United States continues to lag significantly behind China and the European Union in science and engineering bachelor's degrees, with China producing more than twice the number of STEM undergraduates. In the physical and biological sciences, China produces four times more undergraduates in those fields than the U.S." He continued, "We need to invest in young people who will go into fields where there is a national need and good paying jobs."

Dr. Zuber shared Chair Smith's concerns about competition with the Chinese, highlighting a statistic that China spends 15 percent of its GDP on talent development, and invests heavily in educating its population and recruiting researchers from around the world.

The Trump administration's NSF FY2019 budget request would cut social, behavioral and economic science programs (SBE) at NSF by more than 11 percent, from \$220 million to \$195 million. This was a point of contention for the Democrats and the Republicans on the committee. Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) brought up the Golden Goose Awards, a program in which awards are given to research that appears to be obscure but has led to significant breakthroughs in critical fields such as biomedical science, energy, national security, etc.

Dr. Córdoba defended some of the grant funding examples that Chair Smith highlighted and emphasized that each grant had language to ensure that the research "reflects NSF's statutory mission." In response to one grant he cited to study "why there is no single English word for 'light blue'," Chairman Smith said "I just looked at your justification of light blue," he said about the aforementioned \$450,000 study, "and if there's anything in it about national interest, let me know. I did not see it."

The witnesses disagreed with the Chairman, and Dr. Zuber brought up examples of the ways that social science research has helped to boost the economy and strengthen national defense. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) asked how many top-rated proposals go unfunded. Dr. Córdoba stated that every proposal that is funded is rated excellent -- the top rating awarded by NSF's peer-review system, and most of the proposals that are not selected for funding are also rated excellent, totaling to \$4 billion

worth of potential research on an annual basis. Her point was that the NSF's peer review system is rigorous and selective so that only the best proposals are fully funded.

To view the hearing webcast, [click here](#).

NSF starts new account registration changes for research organizations

The National Science Foundation announced a change effective March 26 that would make major changes to the way the research community registers for NSF accounts and maintains account and user profile information in FastLane and Research.gov.

NSF is introducing a new centralized and streamlined account registration process in Research.gov for the research community providing each new user with a single profile and unique identifier (i.e., NSF ID) for signing in to FastLane and Research.gov for proposal and award activities. According to the agency, the new account management procedure will:

- Allow users to create and self-manage accounts, including personal information and role requests;
- Eliminate the need for organizational Administrators to create accounts and maintain profile information for their users, allowing Administrators to focus on managing roles for their organizations through a dashboard with functions to approve, disapprove, assign, and remove roles; and
- Replace the existing FastLane and Research.gov account management functions.

For more information, [click here](#).

Hearing examines National Labs' Role in technology development

The role of the Department of Energy's national laboratories in fostering innovation in science was reviewed by the House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology in a March 14 hearing. The session focused mainly on the work of the labs in moving forward with developments in nuclear power, renewable energy sources, and technology, and how it relates to American competitiveness.

Leaders from five national laboratories that oversee cutting edge basic science, and early-stage research for the DOE appeared as witnesses:

- Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Director Dr. Mark Peters
- Argonne National Laboratory Director Dr. Paul Kearns
- Advanced Science & Technology Associate Labs Director and Chief Research Officer at Sandia National Labs Dr. Susan Seestrom,

- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Associate Director for Biosciences Dr. Mary Maxon, and
- Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, National Accelerator Laboratory Director Dr. Chi-Chang Kao.

Many committee members expressed their concerns over the Trump administration's proposed cuts to DOE's applied research & development programs for fiscal year 2019.

During her opening statement, Committee Ranking Member Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) voiced her apprehensions over the DoE's Office of Science challenges in the midst of a "dysfunctional" congressional budget process that she said prevents new projects and facility upgrades from moving forward and innovating with research.

With the national laboratories facing major cuts to their budget, Rep. Johnson said she does not believe that the private sector and American industry will step in to fund the research at those labs. The Congresswoman stated the proposed cuts from the President's Budget for the DOE's renewable energy R&D portfolio would result in a 60 percent reduction in enacted, the sustainable transportation budget would receive a 70 percent cut, energy efficiency activities would be reduced by 80 percent, and nuclear efficiency and fossil fuels R&D would each be cut by 25 percent under the proposal.

Ranking Member Johnson proceeded to ask the witnesses what the impact of the cuts from the President's proposed budget would be on their labs. Dr. Peters from INL responded by stating that if the proposed cuts were to be realized his laboratory would likely see a 10 percent cut to its' workforce.

According to Dr. Maxon, a long-term challenge at the national laboratories is ensuring a diverse and talented workforce is still available for research and leading innovative projects, and that would be harder to accomplish under a cutback. Mason stressed that promoting inclusion in the laboratories would create a successful and more efficient work environment for partners working towards the same objectives.

Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA) asked the witnesses to identify which cuts in the President's budget would be represent the biggest challenge. Dr. Maxon responded saying that DOE's Biological Environmental Research Program is slated to receive a substantial cut to its Earth & Environmental Science studies program and that if realized this would deeply affect the research of the earth's sub-surfaces and ability to predict resilience to extreme weather. She continued saying that the national laboratories serve as an integrator of communities conducting research. They bring together universities, labs, and private companies, she said, to achieve developments through collaboration in technology that are beneficial to the nation's growth. To view the hearing or read the witness statements, click [here](#).

Education department announces funds for hurricane-affected areas

The Education Department announced a second round of funding in March reallocating \$23 million to assist students at colleges and universities located in FEMA-declared

major disaster areas impacted by hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, as well as postsecondary schools across the nation that have enrolled a significant number of students from the affected areas.

The Department is providing \$5.4 million to students through the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program, at 285 colleges and universities, including 277 postsecondary schools located in Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since September 2017, the Department has provided more than \$13 million in additional relief funds through the FSEOG program to colleges and universities for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need.

Separately, the Department will deliver \$17.5 million through the Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program. These FWS funds will go to 1,179 affected colleges and universities, including 321 postsecondary schools in Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In total, the Department has reallocated \$27.9 million to colleges and universities for students participating in the FWS program.

The reapportionment is in addition to [\\$10.4 million provided through FWS in December 2017](#), and an initial \$7.6 million through FSEOG in September 2017 prior to [the Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria Education Relief Act of 2017](#). You may access the list of colleges and universities that have received FSEOG reallocation funds [here](#) and FWS reallocation funds [here](#).

House Science Committee reviews Trump NASA budget

The House Subcommittee on Space convened March 7 to discuss NASA's Fiscal Year 2019 budget request and hear testimony from Acting Administrator Robert Lightfoot.

NASA requested \$19.9 billion for FY 2019, up from \$19.5 billion funded in FY 2018. The new budget proposes to focus largely on human exploration, with \$10.5 billion being allocated for exploration. Noteworthy aspects of the discussion included:

- A multi-decadal commitment to human interplanetary exploration, specifically to Mars, the lunar vicinity and beyond.
- Reorganization of departments and directorates within NASA
- Elimination of funding for the operation and maintenance of the International Space Station (ISS) by 2024 (\$3-4B per year) and exploring commercial sector opportunities to provide private funding instead.
- Elimination of funding of the Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST).
- Elimination of funding of the Office of Education.
- Absence of funding for a second Space Launch System (SLS)

The full FY 2019 budget proposal can be found [here](#), and a condensed fact sheet is available [here](#).

Subcommittee Chairman Brian Babin (R-TX) discussed NASA's long term commitment to interplanetary exploration, stating that reaching Mars will be "the first interplanetary

destination for humanity,” using the moon and the lunar vicinity as a proving ground for further human exploration. He also stated that as part of the [2017 NASA Transition Authorization Act](#), passed and signed by the President, the bill required NASA to submit an Exploration Roadmap and an ISS Transition Plan by December 1, 2017 to provide clarity about how the agency intends to advance the nation’s interplanetary exploration goals and how the private sector can become involved with funding the ISS as public support is eliminated in 2025. Neither plan had been submitted, although Administrator Lightfoot testified that the committee would have it by the end of March. He referenced a [sand chart](#) depicting funding for NASA’s exploration projects over the next 30 years when discussing funding the ISS (see Figure 1).

Ranking Member Ami Bera (D-CA) expressed his concerns about the balance of programs within the new budget, stating that there could be too much of a focus on exploration at the expense of science, technology, aeronautics and education. Administrator Lightfoot assured Congressman Bera that NASA’s portfolio would still balance exploration with education and research. Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D-CO) shared Congressman Bera’s concerns, and entered into the record a letter from Bobby Braun, former NASA chief technologist and current dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado. Mr. Braun stated in his letter that the reorganization of NASA included in the budget request is “among the most devastating long-term aspects proposed” and that “past history has shown that large development programs and technology development activities cannot and should not exist together, as a small hiccup in the development programs eats the budget of the basic research and technology advancement needed to accomplish more in space.”

Second Space Launch System (SLS)

Last year, NASA was considering funding a second Mobile Launcher (ML) to the SLS to reduce time between space bound missions. The current SLS is in need of overhaul if it is to support an upgraded rocket, and would need at least 33 months to do so. An independent safety panel expressed concern about the long gap without a crewed test flight, and recommended that a second ML be added to support the new, larger rocket. Lightfoot said that the new ML could move up the date of the first crewed Orion mission from 2023 to 2022, but they found that it was too expensive given the budgetary constraints. Chair Babin expressed support for the construction of a second ML.

ISS Transition

The White House has proposed letting funding (\$4B annually) for the ISS expire in 2024, rather than reauthorizing funding until 2028 when the hardware that composes the station will reach the end of its usable life. The 2017 NASA Transition Act states that the NASA Administrator “shall develop a plan to transition in a step-wise approach from the current regime that relies heavily on NASA sponsorship to a regime where NASA could be one of many customers of low-Earth orbit non-governmental human space flight enterprise.” This proposal also includes a focus on human exploration of the moon, the lunar vicinity and Mars. The rationale for the discontinuation of funding for the ISS is to invest the \$4B annual savings into human exploration projects such as the Mars mission and other new projects without having to increase NASA’s recurring

budget. Administrator Lightfoot believes that private enterprises are not only eager to invest in projects in space, but they are expected to do so. Chair Babin was supportive of the idea of private innovation in space, but expressed concern over the lack of a concrete plan. “I remain open to new ideas relative to future operations, but obviously we need a detailed and realistic, sustainable plan for any ISS transition in the future,” he said. “NASA will need to do a better job articulating this plan as we move forward.”

2018 Omnibus Updates

The final FY 2018 federal budget that was passed and signed by the President on March 23 provided NASA with \$20.736B-- \$1.644B more than the Trump administration’s budget request. Highlights from the final FY2018 budget (Figure 2) are as follows:

- Science: **\$6.2215B**
 - Funds WFIRST at \$150m
 - Fully funds the James Webb Telescope
 - Planetary science: \$2.228B
 - Includes \$595m to build two spacecraft to explore Jupiter’s moon Europa
 - Includes \$660m for robotic Mars exploration
- Space Technology: **\$760m**
 - Rejects Trump administration’s proposal to restructure space tech as a development program only without demonstration
- Exploration: **\$4.79B**
 - Includes \$350m to build a second SLS
 - No increase to SLS and Orion
- Education: **\$100m**
 - Rejects President’s proposal to eliminate funding for education overall

The final omnibus also includes a continuation of the Wolf amendment, named after former Virginia Congressman Frank Wolf, which prohibits the Chinese government and Chinese companies from engaging in any kind of scientific activity involving NASA or OSTP. The amendment was originally introduced in 2011 in an effort to mitigate the risk of the Chinese government stealing American technology.

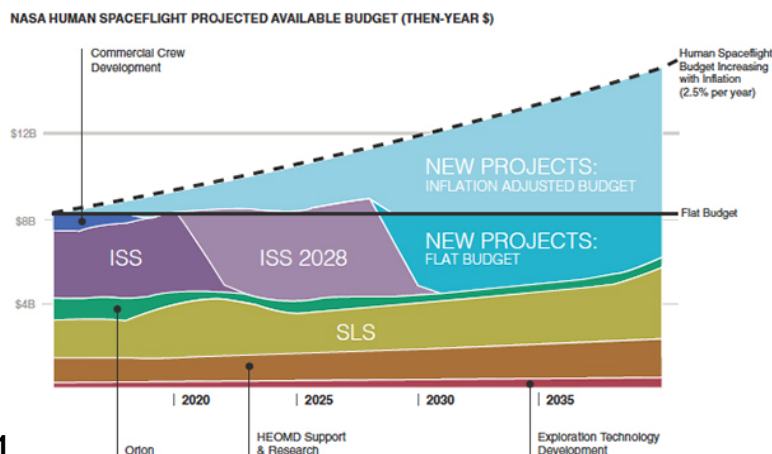


Figure 1

Figure 2

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Science:	
Earth Science	\$1,921,000
Planetary Science	2,227,900
Astrophysics	850,400
James Webb Space Telescope	533,700
Heliophysics	688,500
Total, Science	6,221,500
Aeronautics:	685,000
Space Technology:	760,000
Human Exploration and Operations:	
Orion Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle	1,350,000
Space Launch System (SLS) Vehicle Development	2,150,000
Exploration Ground Systems	545,000
Second Mobile Launch Platform	350,000
Exploration R&D	395,000
Total, Human Exploration and Operations	4,790,000
Space Operations:	4,751,500
Education:	
NASA Space Grant	40,000
Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research	18,000
Minority University Research and Education Project	32,000
STEM Education and Accountability Projects	10,000
Total, Education	100,000
Safety, Security and Mission Services:	2,826,900
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration:	562,240
Office of Inspector General:	39,000
Total, NASA	\$20,736,140

Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies

Agency: DOD

Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Program: FY2019 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP)

Description: DURIP is designed to improve the capabilities of accredited United States (U.S.) institutions of higher education to conduct research and to educate scientists and engineers in areas important to national defense, by providing funds for the acquisition of research equipment or instrumentation. For-profit organizations are not eligible for DURIP funding.

Due Date: July 6, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301934>

Contact: durip@us.af.mil

Agency: DOD

Air Force Office of Scientific Research

Program: Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Department of Defense Multidisciplinary Research Program of the University Research Initiative

Description: The MURI program supports basic research in science and engineering at U.S. institutions of higher education (hereafter referred to as "universities") that is of potential interest to DoD. The program is focused on multidisciplinary research efforts where more than one traditional discipline interacts to provide rapid advances in scientific areas of interest to the DoD.

Due Date: October 16, 2018

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302093>

Contact: Katie.wisecarver@us.af.mil

Agency: DOD

Department of the Army – Materiel Command

Program: Fiscal Year 2019 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP) - ARMY SUBMISSION

Description: DURIP is designed to improve the capabilities of accredited United States (U.S.) institutions of higher education to conduct research and to educate scientists and engineers in areas important to national defense, by providing funds for the acquisition of research equipment or instrumentation.

Due Date: July 7, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301941>

Contact: kia.s.mccormick.civ@mail.mil

Agency: DOD

DARPA – Biological Technologies Office

Program: Biostasis

Description: DARPA seeks novel approaches to reversibly pause and/or slow the functions and preserve viability of living cells without reliance on cold temperature. This new technology aims to directly address needs within the Department of Defense to maintain and deliver biological therapeutics and extend the window of time for effective use of field forward therapeutics.

Due Date: May 22, 2018

Award Ceiling:

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301739>

Contact: biostasis@darpa.mil

Agency: DOD

DARPA – Biological Technologies Office

Program: Next-Generation Non-Surgical Neurotechnology (N3)

Description: DARPA seeks proposals to design, build, demonstrate, and validate a nonsurgical neural interface system to broaden the applicability of neural interfaces to the able-bodied warfighter. The final technology aims to enable neural recording and stimulation with sub-millimeter spatial resolution.

Due Date: June 5, 2018

Award Ceiling:

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302121>

Contact: n3@darpa.mil

Agency: DOE

Golden Field Office

Program: Critical Water Issues Prize Competition RFI

Description: The U.S. Department of Energy seeks to understand the key technical and other barriers that may prevent long-term access to low-cost water supplies that could be best addressed through challenges and prize competitions. For the purposes of this Request for Information, challenges and prize competitions are tools and approaches the Federal government and others can use to engage a broad range of stakeholders, including the general public, in developing solutions to difficult problems.

Due Date: May 14, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$2

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301574>

Contact: waterprizerfi@ee.doe.gov

Agency: Department of the Interior

Bureau of Reclamation

Program: Investigating the Role of Nutrients in Food Resource Dynamics of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Description: The objectives of the project are: Objective 1: Field sampling efforts designed to document and evaluate nutrient-phytoplankton-zooplankton dynamics over a wide range of contrasting aquatic environmental conditions in the Delta. Objective 2: Measure water quality, phytoplankton and zooplankton dynamics along Antioch to West Sacramento longitudinal transect. Objective 3: Document the ecosystem response of whole-system-scale nutrient addition experiments in the upper Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel (SDSC) to determine the feasibility of using the SDSC to boost Bay-Delta food supplies.

Due Date: April 4, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$885,246

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302000>

Contact: tmosley@usbr.gov

Agency: Department of the Interior

Fish and Wildlife Services

Program: Combating Wildlife Trafficking - U.S. Demand Reduction

Description: Wildlife trafficking threatens a staggering array of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine species, including: elephants, rhinos, tigers, sharks, tuna, sea turtles, land tortoises, great apes, exotic birds, pangolins, sturgeon, coral, iguanas, chameleons, and tarantulas. Wildlife trafficking also includes trafficking of fisheries products and related threats to food supplies and food security.

Due Date: May 25, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$200,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302154>

Contact: Arnold_zinan@fws.gov

Agency: Department of the Interior

Geological Survey

Program: 2019 Earthquake Hazards External Grants Program

Description: USGS Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP) annual announcement for assistance to support research in earthquake hazards, the physics of earthquakes, earthquake occurrence, and earthquake safety policy. This activity is authorized by the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977.

Due Date: May 22, 2018

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301933>

Contact: mrussell@usgs.gov

Agency: Department of State

Bureau Of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Program: FY 2018 TechGirls Central Asia Program

Description: The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division, of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announces an open competition for the FY 2018 TechGirls Central Asia Program. U.S. public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 USC 501(c)(3) may submit proposals to conduct a four-week exchange program in the United States in summer 2019 for approximately 25 high school girls from Central Asia focused on promoting the high-level study of technology. Echoing the goals of the TechWomen

program, TechGirls supports development in the field of technology and enables young women to reach their full potential in the technology industry.

Due Date: May 14, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$990,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301614>

Contact: poseyhe@state.gov

Agency: Department of State

Bureau Of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Program: FY 2018 Special Professional Fellows Program for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Description: The Professional Fellows Division in the Office of Citizen Exchanges at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) invites proposal submissions for the FY 2018 Special Professional Fellows Program (PFP) for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in support of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI). The Special Professional Fellows Program for the ASEAN is a two-way global exchange program designed to promote mutual understanding, enhance leadership and professional skills, and build lasting and sustainable partnerships between mid-level emerging leaders from ASEAN countries and the United States. The defining element of the program for ASEAN participants is a substantive five- to six-week Fellowship program, including a four-week individually tailored working placement with a U.S. organization.

Due Date: May 16, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$800,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301613>

Contact: poseyhe@state.gov

Agency: Department of State

Office to Monitor-Combat Trafficking in Persons

Program: 2018 TIP Office Program to End Modern Slavery (PEMS) Funding Opportunity

Description: The 2018 TIP Office Program to End Modern Slavery (PEMS) Funding Opportunity invites applicants to submit innovative proposals describing how they will

advance transformational programs and projects that seek to achieve a measurable and substantial reduction of the prevalence of modern slavery in targeted populations in priority countries or jurisdictions.

Due Date: May 14, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$25,000,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301635>

Contact: VerlaqueMR@state.gov

Agency: Department of State

Bureau of International Narcotics-Law Enforcement

Program: Western Hemisphere Regional: Strengthening Investigative Journalism on Corruption and Illicit Finance through Capacity Building and Awareness Raising

Description: The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs is seeking Statements of Interests (SOIs) from qualified organizations to implement a program to strengthen investigative journalism on the topic of corruption, corruption proceeds, and illicit financial transactions (i.e. money laundering) of such proceeds. The goal of this project is to improve the quality and quantity of investigative pieces exposing corruption and illicit finance, particularly as facilitators of transnational crime, and to increase awareness among justice sector actors and journalists of relevant information produced by each group (i.e. law enforcement alerts, tips, or actionable reporting), and identify and promote ways in which they might more effectively engage each other when possible.

Due Date: April 23, 2018

Award Ceiling:

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302126>

Contact: nyakaturaac@state.gov

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Community Living

Program: Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects (DRRP) Program: Exercise Interventions for People With Disabilities

Description: The purpose of NIDILRR's Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects (DRRP), which are funded through the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects

and Centers Program, is to plan and conduct research and dissemination and utilization activities to develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology that maximize the full inclusion and integration into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and social self-sufficiency of individuals with disabilities, especially individuals with the most severe disabilities, and to improve the effectiveness of services authorized under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Rehabilitation Act). The purpose of this particular DRRP is to generate new knowledge about the effectiveness of exercise interventions for people with disabilities.

Due Date: May 14, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$925,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=300196>

Contact: Marlene.spencer@acl.hhs.gov

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Community Living

Program: State of the States in Developmental Disabilities-On-going Data Collection and Information Dissemination

Description: State of the States in Developmental Disabilities-On-going Data Collection and Information Dissemination "The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities" is a comparative nationwide longitudinal study of public financial commitments and programmatic trends in developmental disabilities services and supports. The project's activities include: Analyzing developmental disabilities financial and programmatic trends in each state and the District of Columbia, Identifying trends and innovations in the financing of family support supported living, and supported employment in the states; Completing special studies, such as Medicaid spending for special education; Collaborating with other ACL data collection projects to show targeted current year and longitudinal data on the project website; Providing a create-a-chart option allowing reports to be customized.

Due Date: June 29, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$350,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301897>

Contact: Cargill-willis@acl.hhs.gov

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Disease Control - CGH

Program: Targeted Programmatic Support Across Countries to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria under the Global Fund and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

Description: The goal of this NOFO is comprehensive and cost-effective targeted technical support for the acceleration of evidence-based HIV prevention and treatment program implementation, as well as aligned health systems issues. Activities may include country-level, direct support for national guideline review and revision, situational or formative assessments, ongoing review and monitoring of programs, demand creation and quality improvement initiatives, data systems building for program monitoring/oversight, development of mentoring and supportive supervision programs, and field evaluation of new/updated job aids or diagnostic tests.

Due Date: September 29, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$20,000,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301741>

Contact: GHK5@cdc.gov

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Disease Control - CGH

Program: TB/HIV Initiative for Program Collaboration and Service Integration in the Central America Region under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

Description: Globally, Tuberculosis (TB) causes one third of all HIV-related deaths. The TB/HIV collaborative activities that decrease TB among PLHIV when combined with ART include TB screening, TB preventive therapy, and TB infection control. In the Central America Region, there is no integration of TB and HIV programs: gaps remain in TB/HIV collaborative activities, registries are incomplete and inaccurate, and many health care workers (HCW) have limited experience in TB/HIV care and treatment. In collaboration with international and regional agencies such as Global Fund, PAHO, USAID, The Union, COMISCA, and TB Parliamentary Group, the initiative will support Ministries of Health (MOH) in integration of services as well as in the development, review, and dissemination of TB/HIV national guidelines and law initiatives. In addition, it will implement and expand the TB ECHO Project to build capacities among HCW in case management and will provide information system strengthening to improve data management and analysis

Due Date: September 29, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$1,500,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301782>

Contact: GHK5@cdc.gov

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Program: BRAIN Initiative: New Technologies and Novel Approaches for Large-Scale Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

Description: The program seeks exceptionally creative approaches to address major challenges associated with recording and manipulating neural activity, at or near cellular resolution, at multiple spatial and/or temporal scales, in any region and throughout the entire depth of the brain. It is expected that the proposed research may be high-risk, but if successful could profoundly change the course of neuroscience research. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, and should include advancements that enable or reduce major barriers to hypothesis-driven experiments. Technologies may engage diverse types of signaling beyond neuronal electrical activity for large-scale analysis, and may utilize any modality such as optical, electrical, magnetic, acoustic or genetic recording/manipulation.

Due Date: October 29, 2018

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301636>

Contact: FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Program: BRAIN Initiative: Optimization of Transformative Technologies for Large Scale Recording and Modulation in the Nervous System (U01-Clinical Trials Not Allowed)

Description: This FOA is intended for the iterative refinement of emergent technologies and approaches that have already demonstrated their transformative potential through initial proof-of-concept testing, and are appropriate for accelerated development of hardware and software while scaling manufacturing techniques towards sustainable, broad dissemination and user-friendly incorporation into regular neuroscience practice. Proposed technologies should be compatible with experiments in behaving animals, and should include advancements that enable or reduce major barriers to hypothesis-driven experiments.

Due Date: October 29, 2020

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301637>

Contact: FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Program: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Cooperative Research Centers (CRC):
Vaccine Development (U19 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Description: The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to solicit applications for the Sexually Transmitted Infections Cooperative Research Centers (STI CRC) program. This STI CRC program will facilitate multidisciplinary, synergistic collaborations to support the development of vaccines to control and prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs) caused by the following pathogens, which have limited candidates in the product development pipeline: *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, and *Treponema pallidum*. In addition, the FOA will support the development of prophylactic vaccines for herpes simplex virus (HSV).

Due Date: June 20, 2018

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-18-005.html>

Contact: FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Program: NIA Limited Competition: Renewals of, and Revisions to, Existing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Registry Cooperative Agreement Awards (U01 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Description: This FOA invites existing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Registry cooperative agreements that are described in Part 2, Section I to submit revision and or renewal applications. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their current program officer prior to submission to discuss the application.

Due Date: May 7, 2021

Award Ceiling: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-715.html>

Contact: FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

Program: International Bioethics Research Training Program (D43 Clinical Trial Optional)

Description: The overall goal of this initiative is to support the development of a sustainable critical mass of bioethics scholars in low and middle-income country (LMIC) research intensive institutions with the capabilities to conduct original empirical or conceptual ethics research that addresses challenging issues in health research and research policy in these countries as well as provide research ethics leadership to their institutions, governments and international research organizations.

Due Date: May 17, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$230,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301999>

Contact: FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV

Agency: Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Program: BJA FY 18 Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction Program Training and Technical Assistance Program

Description: BCJI furthers the Department's mission by leading efforts to enhance the capacity of local and tribal communities to effectively target and address significant crime issues through data, analysis, and collaborative cross-sector approaches that help advance broader neighborhood development goals.

Due Date: April 30, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$1,750,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301643>

Contact: support@grants.gov

Agency: Department of Justice

National Institute of Justice

Program: NIJ FY18 Research and Evaluation on Prevention and Mitigation of Domestic Pathways to Terrorism

Description: The Domestic Radicalization and Terrorism program strives to better understand the primary drivers of radicalization and what can be done to prevent or intervene during the radicalization process through programmatic efforts. NIJ will encourage applicants to submit projects which conduct comparative and multi-site programmatic evaluations, help the field better understand risk factors and develop risk assessment tools.

Due Date: May 21, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$3,000,000

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=301955>

Contact: grants@ncjrs.gov

Agency: NSF

Program: American National Election Studies (ANES) Competition

Description: The Political Science Program in the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences expects to make two awards for the 2020 Presidential election cycle with the award to run from fiscal years 2018 to 2021. We anticipate that NSF will make two awards totaling no more than \$11.5 million over four years. One will be for the traditional face to-face survey. The second will be for a web-based survey. While these will be independent awards, the two awardees will be expected to work closely together. The expected start date is July 2018.

Due Date: April 20, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$11,500,000

Website: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18519/nsf18519.pdf>

Contact: bhumes@nsf.gov

Agency: NSF

Program: Mid-Scale Innovations Program

Description: As described in this solicitation, the Division of Astronomical Sciences has established a mid-scale program to support a variety of astronomical activities within a cost range up to \$30M. This program will be formally divided into four subcategories: 1)

limited term, self-contained science projects; 2) longer term mid-scale facilities; 3) development investments for future mid-scale and large-scale projects; and 4) community open access capabilities. The MSIP will emphasize both strong scientific merit and a well-developed plan for student training and involvement of a diverse workforce in instrumentation, facility development, or data management.

Due Date: April 20, 2018

Award Ceiling: \$30,000,000

Website: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17592/nsf17592.pdf>

Contact: rbarvai@nsf.gov