

THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

## WASHINGTON E-UPDATE

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**February 2015**

***Budget and Appropriations Update*** -- In advance of the release of his fiscal year 2016 budget, President Obama delivered his penultimate State of the Union Address January 20 where he outlined some of the initiatives he plans to send Congress. But the precise details of those proposals may not matter that much as the Republican-controlled Congress is likely to oppose many of them.

Facing new GOP majorities in both houses of Congress, the president nevertheless plans to push an agenda targeted on the poor and the middle-class. In education, for example, the president's budget will propose to extend the American Opportunity Tax Credit, the administration's signature higher-education tax benefit that is scheduled to expire at the end of 2017, while making it more valuable to low-income students. The budget will propose fixing an issue in which those who join a government program that forgives student loan debt after borrowers make payments for 20 years can be hit with high tax bills because the IRS considers forgiven debt to be equivalent to income and taxes it. Under the administration's plan, that would end. Other parts of the administration's plan would exempt Pell grants from taxation.

The administration proposes to finance the breaks, at least in part, by trimming education breaks for the well-off. While we have not yet seen the details, the administration says it would "limit upside-down education savings incentives" by rolling back Section 529 education tax breaks created by President George W. Bush and repealing incentives for the Coverdell education savings program. But this proposal is being criticized by both Democrats and Republicans alike on Capitol Hill.

The president also outlined a proposal to offer two years of free community college tuition for students, modeled on a similar program run by the state of Tennessee. The plan would provide tuition-free classes for students going to school at least half-time who maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher and are making steady progress toward a degree or transferring to a four-year institution. See the article below for more information on his proposals.

Congress, in the meantime, is still in the process of organizing its committees, including the House and Senate appropriations panels. Below is a listing of appropriations assignments announced thus far.

## House Appropriations Committee

### **Agriculture Subcommittee:**

Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL)  
Alan Nunnelee (R-MS)  
Kevin Yoder (R-KS)  
Tom Rooney (R-FL)  
David Valadao (R-CA)  
Andy Harris (R-MD)  
David Young (R-IA)

Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA), Ranking  
Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)  
Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)  
Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)

### **Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee:**

Chairman John Culberson (R-TX)  
Robert Aderholt (R-AL)  
John Carter (R-TX)  
Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)  
Martha Roby (R-AL)  
David Jolly (R-FL)  
Evan Jenkins (R-WV)

Rep. Chaka Fattah (D-PA), Ranking  
Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA)  
Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY)  
Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)

### **Defense Subcommittee:**

Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)  
Kay Granger (R-TX)  
Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)  
Ken Calvert (R-CA)  
Tom Cole (R-OK)  
Steve Womack (R-AR)  
Robert Aderholt (R-AL)  
John Carter (R-TX)  
Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Tom Graves (R-GA)

Rep. Pete Visclosky (D-IN), Ranking  
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)  
Rep. Steve Israel (D-NY)  
Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH)  
Rep. CA Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)  
Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

### **Energy and Water Subcommittee:**

Chairman Mike Simpson (R-ID)  
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)  
Alan Nunnelee (R-MS)  
Ken Calvert (R-CA)  
Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)  
Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)  
Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)  
David Valadao (R-CA)

Rep. March Kaptur (D-OH), Ranking  
Rep. Peter Visclosky (D-IN)  
Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA)  
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)

### **Financial Services Subcommittee:**

Chairman Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)  
Ranking  
Tom Graves (R-GA)

Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY),  
Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)

Kevin Yoder (R-KS)  
Steve Womack (R-AR)  
Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)  
Mark Amodei (R-NV)  
Scott Rigell (R-VA)

Rep. Chaka Fattah (D-PA)  
Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)

**Homeland Security Subcommittee:**

Chairman John Carter (R-TX)  
CA), Ranking  
John Culberson (R-TX)  
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)  
Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)  
Andy Harris (R-MD)  
Chris Stewart (R-UT)  
David Young (R-IA)

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-  
CA)  
Rep. David Price (D-NC)  
Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)  
Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

**Interior Subcommittee:**

Chairman Ken Calvert (R-CA)  
Ranking  
Mike Simpson (R-ID)  
Tom Cole (R-OK)  
David Joyce (R-OH)  
Chris Stewart (R-UT)  
Mark Amodei (R-NV)  
Evan Jenkins (R-WV)

Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN),  
Ranking  
Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)  
Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)  
Rep. Steve Israel (D-NY)

**Labor, HHS, Education Subcommittee:**

Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK)  
Ranking  
Mike Simpson (R-ID)  
Steve Womack (R-AR)  
Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)  
Andy Harris (R-MD)  
Martha Roby (R-AL)  
Charlie Dent (R-PA)  
Scott Rigell (R-VA)

Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT),  
Ranking  
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)  
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)  
Rep. Chaka Fattah (D-PA)

**Legislative Branch Subcommittee:**

Chairman Tom Graves (R-GA)  
Mark Amodei (R-NV)  
Scott Rigell (R-VA)  
David Young (R-IA)  
Evan Jenkins (R-WV)

Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)  
Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA)  
Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN)

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee:**

Chairman Charlie Dent (R-PA)  
Ranking  
Alan Nunnelee (R-MS)  
Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)  
Tom Rooney (R-FL)  
Martha Roby (R-AL)  
David Joyce (R-OH)  
David Jolly (R-FL)

Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-GA),  
Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA)  
Rep. David Price (D-NC)  
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)

**State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee:**

Chairwoman Kay Granger (R-TX)  
Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)  
Charlie Dent (R-PA)  
Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)  
Tom Rooney (R-FL)  
Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)  
Chris Stewart (R-UT)

Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), Ranking  
Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)  
Rep. CA Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)  
Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)  
Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY)

**Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee:**

Chairman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)

Rep. David Price (D-NC)

Kay Granger (R-TX)  
David Joyce (R-OH)  
John Culberson (R-TX)  
Kevin Yoder (R-KS)  
David Valadao (R-CA)  
David Jolly (R-FL)

Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)  
Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH)  
Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX)

**Senate Appropriations Subcommittees**

*(Thus far only chairs and ranking members have been named)*

**Agriculture Subcommittee:**

Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS), Chairman

Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Ranking

**Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee:**

Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), Chairman  
Ranking

Barbara A. Mikulski (D-MD),

**Defense Subcommittee:**

Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Richard J Durbin (D-IL),

**Energy and Water Subcommittee:**

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)  
Ranking

Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA),

**Financial Services Subcommittee:**

Senator John Boozman (D-AR), Chairman  
DE), Ranking

Senator Christopher Coons (D-

**Homeland Security Subcommittee:**

Senator John Hoeven (R-ND)  
NH), Ranking

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-

**Interior Subcommittee:**

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Chair

Senator Tom Udall (D-NM), Ranking

**Labor, HHS, Education Subcommittee:**

Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Patty Murray (D-WA),

**Legislative Branch Subcommittee:**

Senator Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI),

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee:**

Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Jon Tester (D-MT),

**State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee:**

Senator Lindsey Graham (D-SC), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT),

**Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee:**

Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), Chairman  
Ranking

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI),

**Higher education items covered in State of the Union address**

The President's State of the Union message contained several proposals related to higher education that will be included in the Fiscal 2016 budget request and would have to clear the Republican-led Congress to become law.

***Community college plan***

The "America's College Promise" program would provide tuition-free community college for two years to "responsible" students -- an estimated 9 million who would be expected to maintain a 2.5 GPA, attend at least half time and make progress toward completion. States would be expected to contribute a quarter of the costs with the Federal

government picking up the rest. Community colleges would have to provide high-quality courses with credits being transferrable to four-year institutions.

### ***FAFSA***

One Administration proposal that is generally in sync with Republican legislative proposals involves simplifying student aid forms. Aimed at the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the plan would eliminate 27 of the most burdensome and difficult-to-verify questions, including questions about assets that penalize savings and untaxed veterans benefits, child support, and clergy pay. The result is intended to be a simple online application that asks about the student's address, parents' income, college choices, and certain other, easy-to-answer questions.

### ***R&D investments***

The President also used the speech to call for a major increase in R&D investments, including a new Precision Medicine Initiative, combating antibiotic resistance, and the multi-agency BRAIN Initiative.

### ***Manufacturing***

The Administration plan would focus more investment in manufacturing initiatives and grow the current eight manufacturing institutes to 15 institutes in the next two years with an overall goal of 45 institutes over a decade. The effort proposes a new \$10 billion public-private American Made Scale-Up Fund for manufacturing start-ups.

### ***Tax items***

Tax proposals announced in the speech contain several items related to higher education. One would consolidate and make permanent the American Opportunity Tax Credit started in 2009. Under current law, the AOTC is scheduled to expire after 2017 and revert to the less generous Hope tax credit. Under the President's plan, the AOTC would be a permanent feature of the tax code; the credit would also grow with inflation. The Lifetime Learning Credit and the tuition and fees deduction would be consolidated into the more generous AOTC. The refundable portion of the AOTC would be increased to \$1,500. AOTC eligibility would be improved for non-traditional, part-time students. The proposal would require colleges and universities to provide students with the tuition and fee information needed to claim the AOTC.

The plan intends to simplify taxes for approximately 9 million Pell Grant recipients. By exempting Pell Grants from taxation and the AOTC calculation, making it easier for Pell recipients to claim the tax benefits already available to them.

The tax on student loan debt forgiveness under Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) and other income-based repayment plans would be eliminated as would the student loan interest deduction for new borrowers. The President's plan would retain the student loan interest deduction for current borrowers. But for new borrowers, his budget would repeal this tax break and instead provide more generous and more targeted tax relief through the improved AOTC while students are in school and through PAYE once they graduate.

The President's plan would consolidate education savings incentives into one vehicle and redirect the savings into the AOTC. The proposal would roll back expanded tax cuts for 529 education savings plans that were enacted in 2001 for new contributions, and repeal tax incentives going forward for the much smaller Coverdell education savings program.

## **Fiscal 2015 appropriations bill for Homeland Security moves to Senate**

The House passed the FY 2015 appropriations bill (HR 240) for the Department of Homeland Security January 14 by a vote of 236-191 but not before attaching five immigration related amendments that will certainly affect its ability to pass the Senate or be signed by the President. The agency was the only one left out of the omnibus appropriations bill last December and instead was placed on a continuing funding resolution until February 27.

The bill carries funding for university programs and research in the Science and Technology Directorate.

The immigration riders contain language to block implementation of the President's recent Executive Orders opening up immigration as well as his action several years ago – the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

The Senate plans to take the legislation up on the floor the week of February 2. For the bill to move through the Senate Republicans will have to pick up the votes of six Democratic Senators to achieve the 60-vote threshold for action.

Recent terrorism events in France have added extra pressure on both sides of Capitol Hill to insure that funding for DHS does not lapse in the midst of the immigration fight with the Administration.

## **New Senate bills would streamline financial aid application and loan repayment and restore year round Pell**

Legislation to reform student loan repayment programs and streamline the student financial aid application process was introduced in the Senate early in the new Congress.

Senators Marco Rubio of Florida, Richard Burr, (R-NC), Mark Warner (D-VA), Susan Collins (R-ME) and Lamar Alexander (R-TN) introduced [\*the Repay Act\*](#) January 7. Sen. Alexander is chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee with jurisdiction over higher education policy.

The bill is intended to simplify federal student loan repayment programs by consolidating many of the benefits of current repayment programs into two plans: a fixed repayment plan, based on a 10-year period, and a single, simplified income-driven repayment option.

The same day a second group of Senators led by Chairman Alexander introduced the *Financial Aid Simplification and Transparency Act* or *FAST Act* to streamline the process of applying for and receiving federal financial aid to attend college, allow year-round use of Pell Grants, discourage over-borrowing and simplify repayments.

The bill would reduce to a single postcard—called the “Student Aid Short Form”—the questions to be answered in applying for federal financial aid each year. The legislation would seek to insure that high school students in their junior year would be informed of the amount they’ll receive in federal aid. It would also address the problem of some students borrowing too much money, and simplify the options students have to repay their federal loans. The act also streamlines federal grant and loan programs.

The *FAST Act*, would:

1. Eliminate the Free Application for Financial Student Aid, reducing the 10-page form to a postcard that would ask just two questions: What is your family size? And, what was your household income two years ago?
2. The bill would create a look-up table to allow students in their junior year of high school to see how much in federal aid they are eligible for as they are start to look at colleges.
3. The bill would combine two federal grant programs into one Pell grant program and reduce the six different federal loan programs into three: one undergraduate loan program, one graduate loan program, and one parent loan program.
4. The bill would restore year-round Pell grant availability and provide flexibility to students.
5. The bill would limit the amount a student is able to borrow based on enrollment. For example, a part-time student would be able to take out a part time loan only.
6. The bill would streamline repayment programs and create two simple plans, an income based plan and a 10-year repayment plan.

## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures materials released in the House and Senate**

After more than a year of hearings, roundtable discussions and input from a variety of stakeholder groups, the House Energy and Commerce Committee released its initial discussion draft for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act January 27. Two days later, the Senate



Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee released a 100+ page report “Innovation for Healthier Americans” to outline parallel areas of focus for future legislation to improve drug development and medical device development and processes at the FDA and NIH.

The House’s 393-page draft bill would:

- cover new ways to involve patients in the FDA regulatory process
- push new antibiotic drug development
- alter some FDA regulatory processes and authorities
- authorize additional funds for certain NIH programs
- seek to accelerate new innovations and treatments
- address FDA’s role in regulating mobile health devices and apps
- cover health information technology issues, interoperability, and streamline aspects of clinical trials and IRB process.

In a paper accompanying the materials released the Committee said it is “circulating this discussion document, including a number of ideas proposed by both Republicans and Democrats, with the intent of continuing this national dialogue.”

The Committee documents state: *“While the legislative language released today is neither perfect nor complete, with the aforementioned goals in mind the committee has included provisions that would: (1) incorporate patient perspectives into the regulatory process and help address their unmet medical needs; (2) build the foundation for 21st century medicine; (3) streamline clinical trials; (4) support continued innovation at our federal public health agencies; and (5) modernize medical product regulation. The discussion is ongoing, and continued feedback in this collaborative effort is critical. ...”*

Materials released include the [draft legislative text](#), a [section-by-section analysis](#), a [one-page brief](#), a [press release](#), a [discussion document](#) and a [white paper](#) on the bill and process.

The [Senate report](#) looks at ways to improve FDA clinical trials and product and drug review policies. The HELP Chairman, Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) is working with Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) on the initiative and the group is soliciting feedback on the proposals. They will set up a bipartisan work group and hold a series of hearing on the concepts, with a goal of passing a bill by the end of this year. Five guiding principles are outlined in the report:

1. It costs too much to bring medical products through the pipeline to patients.
2. As science and technology advance, the discovery and development process takes too long for medical products to make their way to patients.
3. FDA’s responsibilities have grown to include many activities unrelated to the core function of regulating medical products to advance public health.
4. The disparity in scientific knowledge at FDA and the fast pace of biomedical innovation are slowing, and in some cases, stifling innovation in American medicine.

5. A working FDA is essential to continuing biomedical innovation in the United States and maintaining America's global leadership in medical innovations.

## **Medicare physician reimbursement dilemma faces Congress again**

With the current Medicare “doc fix” set to expire March 31, the new Congress is just the latest in a long string of Congressional sessions wrestling with replacing the flawed Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula that governs physician reimbursement.

Reimbursement cuts called for by the formula have been forestalled every year except the first in 2002 since the SGR was enacted in 1997. The current legislative extension is the 17<sup>th</sup> time since 2003 that the cuts have been legislatively precluded.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee held two days of hearing January 21-22 to listen to budget experts on how to pay for the expected \$144 billion accumulated cost of pushing back the cuts each year.

The hearing reviewed a compromise legislative approach agreed to in the last Congress for a system to replace the SGR. The bill had bipartisan backing at the time as well as support from physician groups. However, it did not address how to pay for the SGR replacement and House leaders eventually added in a proposal to find the savings by delaying the individual mandate penalties in the Affordable Health Care law. That move split off Democrats and again Congress had to pass another one-year patch.

Some hearing witnesses advocated making additional changes to Medicare policies as a way to improve the focus on high-quality, cost effective care – and to help find savings to pay for the SGR replacement. In one approach, former Senator Joe Lieberman of Connecticut urged the committee to consider combining Medicare Parts A and B into a single deductible and raising the participant eligibility age to find savings. Democrats at the hearing advocated passing the replacement bill without a spending offset, pointing to a recent \$53 billion House-passed bill focused on the Obamacare program.

With two months to go, it appears another temporary “doc fix” patch is in the cards.

## **Study shows declining rate of investment in U.S. medical research**

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) published a study in January analyzing how medical research is being underfunded in the U.S.

“The Anatomy of Medical Research” shows that investment grew at only 0.8 percent from 2004 to 2012, down from 6 percent annual growth from 1994 to 2004. The U.S. share of global research patents has dropped over the past 30 years from 73 to 59 percent.

The authors also looked at where investments are going – 27 diseases that account for 84 percent of deaths in the U.S. receive only 48 percent of the funding from the National Institutes of Health. Cancer and HIV/AIDS score better while depression, asthma and stroke fall short based on what would be expected due to disease burden.

Industry is providing a greater share of medical research in the U.S. now, according to the study, rising from 46 percent in 1994 to 58 percent in 2012. The article proposes new ways to raise funding for medical research such as creating biomedical research bonds or allowing tax filers to direct some of their taxes to medical research.

To read the abstract or full article [click here](#).

## **GAO report shows states' percentage of higher education funding declining**

The Government Accountability Office published a new report in December documenting the shift in the amounts states now pay relative to student tuition.

In 2012 tuition accounted for 25 percent of school revenue as it surpassed the amounts provided by state governments for the first time. On a per student basis across the country, median state funding fell 24 percent from \$6,211 in 2003 to \$4,695 in 2012.

A research article on the Bright Futures program is cited in one reference on page 16 in a discussion on the effects of such programs on enrollment. To read the report, [click here](#).

## **New legislation aims to provide additional funding for NIH research**

Two new bills were introduced this month with the intention of providing additional resources for biomedical research grants by the National Institute of Health.

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) authored legislation that could raise as much as \$6 billion in additional revenues per year for NIH without raising taxes.

Her plan would rely on tapping profits from pharmaceutical companies who violate anti-fraud laws and enter settlement agreements with the government to avoid trial. The companies would be required to pay a small portion of their overall profits over five years to fund biomedical research at NIH and FDA. The bill would only apply to companies who have annual “blockbuster” drug sales of over \$1 billion and who relied on federal research to help develop those drugs. The Pharmaceutical Research Manufacturers of America immediately criticized the proposal.

In the House, Reps. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Brian Higgins (D-NY) introduced the *Accelerating Biomedical Research Act*. That legislation would allow Congress to restore

the purchasing power of NIH funding to what it would have been if it had kept up with inflation since 2003.

The bill would create a new Budget Control Act budget cap adjustment for NIH. Any funding provided in excess of \$29.4 billion would trigger a budget cap increase to accommodate the additional funding provided to the NIH. The bill would allow appropriations to increase NIH funding by 10 percent for the first two years and about six percent each year thereafter through 2021.

A coalition of over 100 advocacy groups and research institutions support the legislation, which is substantively the same as legislation introduced by DeLauro and Higgins last September.

## **NIH to announce two new CTSA funding programs**

NIH's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences is expected to publish new funding opportunities in February for the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) program.

One announcement will seek to fund Trial Innovation Centers to build on the results of ongoing CTSA consortium activities. The centers are intended to facilitate the implementation of multi-site clinical trials by developing innovative approaches to increasing clinical trial efficiency and effectiveness, and providing expert, streamlined clinical coordination so that the CTSA consortium can catalyze translation.

A second announcement will focus on funding Recruitment Innovation Centers to promote innovation and efficiency in recruitment participants into multi-site clinical studies. The notices of intent and contact staff for each funding mechanism are described in these links:

[\*\*NOT-TR-15-001: Trial Innovation Centers\*\*](#) — support the CTSA consortium by serving as an expert network for the implementation of multisite studies.

[\*\*NOT-TR-15-003: Recruitment Innovation Centers\*\*](#) — support the CTSA consortium by promoting innovation and efficiency in participant recruitment into multisite studies.

## **Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies**

**Agency:** Department of Defense  
Department of the Army-- Materiel Command

**Program:** Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Department of Defense Multidisciplinary Research Program of the University Research Initiative-Army Application

**Description:** The DoD Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI), one element of the University Research Initiative (URI), is sponsored by the DoD research offices: the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the Army Research Office (ARO), and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) (hereafter collectively referred to as "DoD agencies"). 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. As defined by the DoD, "basic research is systematic study directed toward greater knowledge or understanding of the fundamental aspects of phenomena and of observable facts without specific applications towards processes or products in mind. It includes all scientific study and experimentation directed toward increasing fundamental knowledge and understanding in those fields of the physical, engineering, environmental, and life sciences related to long-term national security needs.

**Due Date:** 2/23/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$145,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$75,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271108>

**Agency:** Department of Commerce

**Program:** NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program

**Description:** NOAA/NOS/NCCOS is soliciting research applications for the NOAA Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Science, Observation, Monitoring, and Technology Program (NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program) for projects typically 1 to 2 years in duration.

**Due Date:** 3/17/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding:\$2,500,000; Award Ceiling: \$400,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270568>

**Agency:** Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

**Program:** AFRI Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences  
Education and Literacy Initiative

**Description:** The AFRI Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences Education and Literacy Initiative (AFRI ELI) focuses on developing the following: (1) opportunities for undergraduate students at colleges and

universities, including those from underrepresented ethnicities and economically disadvantaged groups at minority-serving institutions, community colleges, and other universities to obtain hands-on experience at land-grant and non-land-grant universities and USDA laboratories and obtain training to join the agricultural workforce or pursue graduate studies in food, agriculture, natural resources and the human sciences. (2) Technical and functional competence for predoctoral students; and the research independence and teaching credentials of postdoctoral students.

**Due Date:** 5/6/2015

**Funding:** \$16,900,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270604>

**Agency:** Department of Defense  
Air Force Research Lab

**Program:** Methods and Technologies for Personalized Learning, Modeling and Assessment

**Description:** This program deals with science and technology development, experimentation, and demonstration in the areas of improving and personalizing individual, team, and larger group instructional training methods for airmen. The approaches relate to competency definition and requirements analysis, training and rehearsal strategies, and models and environments that support learning and proficiency achievement and sustainment during non-practice of under novel contexts. This effort focuses on measuring, diagnosing, and modeling airman expertise and performance, rapid development of models of airman cognition and specifying and validating, both empirically and practically, new classes of synthetic, computer-generated agents and teammates.

**Due Date:** 11/17/2019

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$49,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271531>

**Agency:** Department of Defense  
DARPA - Microsystems Technology Office

**Program:** Near Zero Power RF and Sensor Operations

**Description:** DARPA seeks to transform the energy efficiency of unattended sensors through elimination or substantial reduction of the stand-by power consumed by the sensors while they await a signature of interest. The improved energy efficiency is expected to result in an increase in the

sensor mission lifetime from months to years. The Near Zero Power RF and Sensor Operations (N-ZERO) program aims to create intelligent sensors that can process and detect RF and physical sensor signatures, consume less than 10 nW of power, and attain a low false alarm rate of 1 per hour or better in an urban environment.

**Due Date:** 4/23/2015

**Funding:** See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271931>

**Agency:** Agency for International Development  
Thailand USAID-Bangkok

**Program:** USAID/Vietnam Innovation in Higher Education Addendum to GDA APS-OAA-14-000001

**Description:** Through this Addendum to the FY2014 Global Development Alliance (GDA) Annual Program Statement (APS), USAID/Vietnam is making a special call for the submission of Concept Papers from eligible organizations as defined in the GDA APS. The objective is to stimulate innovation in higher education through public-private alliances, and to drive broader innovation supporting more inclusive, sustainable growth in Vietnam, specifically in areas relevant to USAID's 2014-2018 Country Development Strategy.

**Due Date:** 4/9/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$9,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$9,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271168>

**Agency:** Department of Education

**Program:** Office of Elementary and Secondary Education: College Assistance Migrant Program

**Description:** The purpose of the College Assistance Migrant Program is to provide academic and financial support to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and members of their immediate family complete their first year of college and continue in postsecondary education.

**Due Date:** 2/12/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$3,745,403; Award Ceiling: \$425,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270869>

**Agency:** Department of Education

**Program:** Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE): Student Support Services Program

**Description:** The purpose of the Student Support Services Program is to increase the number of disadvantaged, low-income college students, first-generation college students, and college students with disabilities in the United States who successfully complete a program of study at the postsecondary level. The support services that are provided should increase the retention and graduation rates for these categories of students and facilitate their transfer from two-year to four-year colleges and universities. The support services should also foster an institutional climate that supports the success of students who are limited English proficient, students from groups that are historically underrepresented in postsecondary education, students with disabilities, students who are homeless children and youths, students who are in foster care or are aging out of the foster care system, and other disconnected students. Student support services should also improve the financial and economic literacy of students. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.042A.

**Due Date:** 2/2/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$23,966,448; Award Ceiling: \$220,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270595>

**Agency:** Department of Energy  
National Energy Technology Laboratory

**Program:** Support of Advanced Coal Research at United States Colleges and Universities

**Description:** For 35 years through the University Coal Research (UCR) program, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOEs) Office of Fossil Energy and the National Energy Technology Laboratory have solicited applications from U.S. colleges and universities. Annually, through this Funding Opportunity Announcement, research is sought to advance the science and technology of coal conversion and utilization. These proposals are evaluated by internal and external reviewers from DOE and industry, and the most meritorious proposals are selected for financial assistance under the UCR program.

**Due Date:** 3/6/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$3,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$400,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271854>



**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Population Dynamics Centers Research Infrastructure FY 2015 (P2C)

**Description:** The goal of this program is to advance the field of population dynamics research by increasing research productivity, develop junior scientists, and maximize the efficiency of research support.

**Due Date:** 3/27/2015

**Funding:** \$1,602,262

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271888>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research and Evaluation on Justice Systems

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for social and behavioral science research on, and evaluation related to, justice systems topics including policing, courts, and institutional and community corrections that bear directly and substantially upon federal, State, local, or tribal criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice.

**Due Date:** 4/15/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$6,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$500,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271571>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization to Violent Extremism

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for research targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon, and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention. The goal of this solicitation is to aid federal, State, local, and tribal criminal justice agencies and their attendant communities in implementing programs that prevent or counter radicalization to violent extremism. The solicitation focuses on all forms of radicalization that lead to violent extremism in the United States, but NIJ is particularly interested in responses to one or more of the following areas of focus: (1) radicalization to indigenous violent extremism; (2) NIJ partnership to translate findings

for practitioners; (3) contemporary radicalization and (4) evaluation studies.

**Due Date:** 4/21/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$2,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$400,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271453>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Building and Enhancing Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for criminal justice research and evaluation that includes a researcher-practitioner partnership component. Through researcher-practitioner partnerships, criminal justice practitioners can gain new skills in assessing programs and measuring outcomes. Likewise, criminal justice researchers can better understand the goals and purposes criminal justice practitioners seek to achieve. Ultimately, these partnerships provide criminal justice practitioners with practice- and policy-relevant information while affording researchers the opportunity to contribute to the current body of knowledge. NIJ intends to support criminal justice research in the two following areas related to new and ongoing researcher-practitioner collaborations: Junior Faculty/Research Associate Grant Program to Promote Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships. Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Fellowship Placement Program.

**Due Date:** 4/20/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$2,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$800,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271455>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research on Bias Crime Victimization

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for research and evaluation relating to bias crime (a.k.a. hate crime) victimization. As compared with analogous crimes, bias crime is associated with more negative outcomes for victims and communities. NIJ is particularly interested in funding research to:  
(1) Develop and test screening and/or assessment tools to identify bias crime victims. (2) Conduct localized victimization surveys using new and innovative sampling strategies to understand hate crime among immigrant

and other understudied communities. (3) Explore the use of non-traditional data sources to track bias crime victimization.

**Due Date:** 4/13/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$350,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271389>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research on Sentinel Events and Criminal Justice System Errors

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for research on sentinel events in the criminal justice system. When bad things happen in a complex system, the cause is rarely a single act, event, or slip-up. More often, bad outcomes like wrongful convictions, mistaken prison releases, and even revictimization are "sentinel events"—defined as significant negative outcomes that signal underlying weaknesses in the system or process. Sentinel events are likely the result of compound errors and, if properly analyzed and addressed, may provide important keys to strengthening the system and preventing future adverse events or outcomes. Even “near misses,” where tragic outcomes are eventually averted, can signal serious underlying weaknesses in the overall system. NIJ is seeking proposals for research that can add to our understanding of how the concept of sentinel events can be used to improve the functioning of justice systems. Funding under this solicitation will support multiple awards for either basic research or for applied studies (including evaluations).

**Due Date:** 3/17/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$600,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271388>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Social Science Research on Implementation, Dissemination, and Translation

**Description:** NIJ seeks proposals for funding projects to study how criminal justice practitioners use research in their decision-making processes and how they implement evidence-based programs or practices. NIJ proposes two distinct research activities under this solicitation. (1) Incorporating the Use of Research in Policy Decisions. (2) Implementation Studies. Applicants

may apply to one or both sections of the solicitation; however, proposal titles should clearly identify the section of the solicitation for which the proposal is being submitted.

**Due Date:** 4/9/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$200,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271271>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research and Evaluation on Children Exposed to Violence

**Description:** NIJ is seeking multidisciplinary research and evaluation proposals related to childhood exposure to violence. Such violence may include children who are direct victims and/or bystanders or observers of various forms of violence in the home, school, or community, including but not limited to peer victimization, bullying, harassment, child maltreatment, domestic violence, and community violence. Other types of violence to which children are exposed may be addressed, with the exception of media violence (e.g., television and movie violence, music advocating aggression, and violent video games). In particular, NIJ seeks proposals that address justice system responses to children identified as being exposed to violence; polyvictimization and multisystem involvement; and resilience and help-seeking.

**Due Date:** 4/8/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$350,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271193>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for innovative doctoral dissertation research in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics that is relevant to providing solutions to better ensure public safety, prevent and control crime, and ensure the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States. The NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics provides awards to accredited academic institutions to support such graduate research leading to doctoral degrees.

**Due Date:** 3/30/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$50,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270777>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Developing a Method to Valuate Law Enforcement Data

**Description:** NIJ seeks proposals to conduct research to improve the understanding of the comparative value of data relevant to the law enforcement business process. The proposed research should develop quantifiable measures that reflect the importance of the different kinds of data, offset by the cost to collect, process, analyze, distribute, and retain that data, to include the data security costs. For purposes of this solicitation, the law enforcement business process is defined as the related, structured actions carried out by law enforcement agencies to accomplish their mission.

**Due Date:** 3/23/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$500,000; Award Ceiling: \$500,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270776>

**Agency:** Department of Justice  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIJ FY 15 Research and Evaluation on White-Collar Crime and Public Corruption

**Description:** NIJ is seeking proposals for social and behavioral science research and program evaluations that inform efforts to detect, investigate, prosecute, and otherwise combat and prevent white-collar crime and public corruption. NIJ is particularly interested in proposals for research related to public corruption.

**Due Date:** 4/22/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$350,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271849>

**Agency:** Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

**Program:** WaterSMART: Development of Feasibility Studies under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for Fiscal Year 2015

**Description:** WaterSMART: Development of Feasibility Studies under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for Fiscal Year 2015

**Due Date:** 3/3/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,300,000; Award Ceiling: \$450,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271392>

**Agency:** Department of Agriculture  
Business and Cooperative Programs

**Program:** Energy Audits

**Description:** The recipient of these funds, (grantee), will establish a program to assist agricultural producers and rural small businesses with evaluating the energy efficiency and the potential to incorporated renewable energy technologies into their operations.

**Due Date:** 2/12/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$2,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$100,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271572>

**Agency:** Department of Defense  
DARPA - Defense Sciences Office

**Program:** Fast Lightweight Autonomy (FLA)

**Description:** The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is soliciting innovative research proposals in the area of minimalistic high-speed aerial navigation in cluttered environments. Proposed research should investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances in science or systems. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice.

**Due Date:** 2/5/2015

**Funding:** See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270783>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Medical Rehabilitation Research Resource (P2C)

**Description:** This program invites grant applications from institutions/organizations that propose to build research infrastructure to promote external collaboration with the medical rehabilitation community. The aim of this program is to create a national network of research cores that provide access to collateral expertise in biomedical, behavioral, engineering, and/or psychosocial fields that is particularly relevant to medical rehabilitation research. We are particularly interested in supporting infrastructure programs in clinical trial design, engineering and the environment, individualized medical rehabilitation and dynamic reassessment, and applied behavioral supports for rehabilitation research and healthy outcomes. However, other areas of expertise may be proposed provided they offer unique research opportunities and have potential for promoting medical rehabilitation research and improving outcomes for people with disabilities. In response to this program, applicants should propose a program of research resources and collaborative opportunities in a specific research domain.

**Due Date:** 3/25/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$7,200,000; Award Ceiling: \$750,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271930>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Reductions in Illicit Drug Use and Functional Outcomes (R21/R33)

**Description:** The purpose of this program is to encourage applications for Phased Innovation projects to determine whether reductions in illicit drug use are associated with positive changes in health-related and other functional outcomes in individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs). Functional outcomes include, for example, reductions in morbidity, mortality, criminal justice involvement, overall healthcare expenditures. This program provides support for up to two years (R21 phase) for research planning activities and feasibility studies, followed by possible transition to expanded research support (R33 phase). The transition to the R33 phase will be determined by NIH program evaluation of successful achievement of the milestones set for the R21 phase. The ultimate goal of this program is to provide evidence that will enable regulatory authorities to accept reductions in illicit drug use as a valid outcome measure in clinical trials of pharmacotherapies for the treatment of SUDs.

**Due Date:** 9/7/2017

**Funding:** See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271929>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Prevention Research in Mid-Life Adults

**Description:** This program seeks to stimulate research on mid-life adults (those 50 to 64 years of age) that can inform efforts to optimize health and wellness as individuals age, and prevent illness and disability in later years.

**Due Date:** 5/7/2018

**Funding:** See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271814>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Prevention Research in Mid-Life Adults

**Description:** This program seeks to stimulate research on mid-life adults (those 50 to 64 years of age) that can inform efforts to optimize health and wellness as individuals age, and prevent illness and disability in later years.

**Due Date:** 5/7/2018

**Funding:** Award Ceiling: \$200,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271811>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Basic Cancer Research in Cancer Health Disparities (R01)

**Description:** This program encourages grant applications from investigators interested in conducting basic, mechanistic research into the biological/genetic causes of cancer health disparities. These research project grants will support innovative studies designed to investigate biological/genetic bases of cancer disparities, such as (1) mechanistic studies of biological factors associated with cancer disparities, including those related to basic research in cancer biology or cancer prevention intervention strategies, (2) the development and testing of new methodologies and models, and (3) secondary data analyses. This program is also designed to aid and facilitate the growth of a nationwide cohort of scientists with a high level of basic research expertise in cancer health disparities research who can



expand available resources and tools, such as biospecimens, cell lines and methods that are necessary to conduct basic research in cancer health disparities.

**Due Date:** 11/17/2017

**Funding:** Award Ceiling: \$250,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271593>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIAMS Rheumatic Diseases Research Resource-based Centers (P30)

**Description:** The National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) requests applications for the NIAMS Resource-based Centers Program for rheumatic diseases research areas within its mission. The Resource-based Centers will provide critical research infrastructure, shared facilities, services, and/or resources to groups of investigators conducting research on rheumatic diseases, enabling them to conduct their independently-funded individual and/or collaborative research projects more efficiently and/or more effectively, with the broad overall goal of accelerating, enriching, and enhancing the effectiveness of ongoing basic, translational, and clinical research and promoting new research within the NIAMS mission.

**Due Date:** 10/9/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$2,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$500,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271595>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Shared Instrumentation Grant (SIG) Program (S10)

**Description:** The Shared Instrument Grant (SIG) program encourages applications from groups of NIH-supported investigators to purchase or upgrade a single item of expensive, specialized, commercially available instruments or integrated systems that cost at least \$50,000. The maximum award is \$600,000. Types of instruments supported include, but are not limited to: X-ray diffraction systems, nuclear magnetic resonance and mass spectrometers, DNA and protein sequencers, biosensors, electron and confocal microscopes, cell-sorters, and biomedical imagers.

**Due Date:** 5/29/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$40,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$600,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271372>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIH Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) Enhancing Diversity in Biomedical Data Science (R25)

**Description:** The NIH Research Education Program supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research workforce. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this program will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on research experiences and curriculum development.

**Due Date:** 3/19/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$200,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271370>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Drug Abuse Prevention Intervention Research (R01)

**Description:** This program encourages grant applications for research that will employ rigorous scientific methods to test theoretically derived hypotheses to increase understanding of the science of drug use prevention within diverse populations and settings and across the lifespan. The program seeks applications that encompass investigations of cognitive, behavioral, and social processes as they relate to: 1) development of novel prevention approaches; 2) efficacy and effectiveness of prevention interventions or programs; 3) processes that optimize the selection, integration, implementation and sustainability of science-based prevention, including systems-level and health economic factors; and 4) methodologies appropriate for studying complex aspects of prevention science.

**Due Date:** 9/7/2017

**Funding:** Total Funding: See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271250>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Integration of Infectious Diseases and Substance Abuse Intervention Services for Individuals Living with HIV (R01)

**Description:** The goal of this program is to develop and test organizational and systems level interventions to determine how best to provide comprehensive, high quality, integrated, sustainable, cost-effective interventions to improve the health outcomes of PLWH with substance use disorders and other comorbid conditions. This program will support: 1) multidisciplinary research to enhance the adoption and integration of evidence-based screening and treatment of substance abuse in HIV centers and closely related medical settings; and 2) multidisciplinary research to increase the adoption and integration of HIV testing and linkage to HIV care in addiction treatment settings. In both HIV and addiction treatment settings, research to enhance the adoption and integration of treatment services for comorbid conditions (e.g. coinfections, psychiatric disorders) is encouraged.

**Due Date:** 4/14/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$3,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$3,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271171>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIDCR Dentist Scientist Career Transition Award for Intramural Investigators (K22)

**Description:** The purpose of the NIDCR Dentist Scientist Career Transition Award for Intramural Investigators (K22) program is to provide highly qualified dentists in NIH Intramural postdoctoral fellowship positions with an opportunity to receive further mentored research experience in the NIH Intramural program, and then to provide them with independent funding to facilitate the transition of their research programs as new investigators at extramural institutions.

**Due Date:** 1/7/2018

**Funding:** See Announcements

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271170>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** NIH Pathway to Independence Award (Parent K99/R00)

**Description:** The purpose of the NIH Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NIH-supported, independent investigators. This program is designed to facilitate a timely transition of outstanding postdoctoral researchers from mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions, and to provide independent NIH research support during the transition that will help these individuals launch competitive, independent research careers. Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to contact the relevant NIH staff for IC-specific programmatic and budgetary information: Table of IC-Specific Information, Requirements and Staff Contacts. See also Frequently Asked Questions.

**Due Date:** 1/7/2017

**Funding:** See Announcement

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271177>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Seek, Test, Treat and Retain For Youth and Young Adults Living with or at High Risk for Acquiring HIV (R01)

**Description:** The purpose of this program is to examine delivery models of HIV-focused services (testing, linkage, engagement and retention in care) for high risk or already HIV+ infected youth and young adults. Applications should incorporate substance use into study aims and service delivery objectives should address access to substance use prevention, screening, and treatment. Applications examining interventions that focus only on individual-level behavior and outcomes will be considered non-responsive, given the systemic and structural determinants of serostatus screening, treatment retention and viral suppression, which are the most striking areas of deficit among youth in the Seek, Test, Treat, and Retain continuum of care. The developmental, structural, and systemic factors related to serving youth need to be clearly incorporated into study aims, rather than simple incremental refocusing of existing interventions to younger people.

**Due Date:** 4/14/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$7,500,000; Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271180>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Advanced Development and Validation of Emerging Molecular Analysis Technologies for Cancer Research (R33)

**Description:** This program solicits grant applications proposing research projects on the advanced development of emerging molecular and cellular analysis technologies and validation in an appropriate cancer-relevant biological system. An emerging technology is defined as one that has passed the pilot developmental stage and shows promise, but has not yet been significantly evaluated within the context of its intended use. If successful, these technologies would accelerate research in cancer biology, cancer treatment and diagnosis, early detection and screening, cancer control and epidemiology, and/or cancer health disparities. This program solicits R33 applications where proof-of-principle of the proposed technology or methodology has been established and supportive preliminary data are available. Projects proposed to this program should reflect the potential to produce a molecular analysis technology with a major impact in cancer-relevant research. Projects proposing to use established technologies where the novelty resides in the biological or clinical question being pursued are not appropriate for this program and will not be reviewed. This funding opportunity is part of a broader NCI-sponsored Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies (IMAT) Program.

**Due Date:** 9/22/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$4,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$300,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271185>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Pharmacogenomics of Orofacial Pain Management (R01)

**Description:** The goal of this program is to encourage research on the genetic basis of variability in therapeutic drug responses and adverse events in individuals with painful conditions of the dental, and orofacial region. The objectives are to determine the role of genetic variability in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and drug toxicities that contribute to and predict the clinical outcomes of analgesic treatment of individuals with acute and chronic pain conditions. Delineation of genetic variation in drug and neurotransmitter metabolizing enzymes and transporters, drug target molecules such as enzymes and receptors, and associated post-receptor intracellular signaling pathway molecules is an important outcome of this program. Identification of key molecular signatures that are predictive of a

therapeutic response is a second objective. Clinical and basic science researchers are encouraged to form multidisciplinary teams to effectively address the goals of this program. The ability to categorize individuals who differ in their responses to analgesic therapy will aid health care providers in their ability to prescribe the best treatments for acute and chronic pain patients with a personalized/ precision approach. Although this program is focused on orofacial pain, it also may serve as a catalyst for the pain research community to explore new pharmacogenomics studies in chronic pain conditions that overlap with temporomandibular joint disorder.

**Due Date:** 6/24/2015

**Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271190>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies for Cancer Research (R21)

**Description:** This program solicits grant applications proposing exploratory research focused on the inception and early-stage development of highly innovative molecular or cellular analysis technologies for basic and clinical cancer research. The emphasis of this program is on supporting the development of novel molecular and cellular analysis capabilities with a high degree of technical innovation with the potential to significantly affect and transform investigations exploring the molecular and cellular basis of cancer. If successful, these technologies should accelerate and/or enhance research in the areas of cancer biology, early detection and screening, clinical diagnosis, treatment, epidemiology, and/or cancer health disparities. Technologies proposed for development may be intended to have widespread applicability but must be based on molecular and/or cellular characterizations of cancer. This funding opportunity is part of a broader NCI-sponsored Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies (IMAT) Program.

**Due Date:** 9/22/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$5,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$2,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271183>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers (EHS CC) (P30)

**Description:** This program invites grant applications from qualified institutions to support Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers (EHS CC). A Core Center Grant is an institutional award to support centralized scientific resources and facilities shared by investigators with existing research projects. By providing intellectual leadership, advanced technologies/ methodologies, and supporting community engagement, a core center is intended to enhance the ability of scientists working in the field of environmental health sciences to identify and capitalize on emerging issues that will translate into advances improving the understanding of the relationships among environmental exposures, human biology, and disease.

**Due Date:** 4/22/2015

**Funding:** \$7,500,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270798>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

**Program:** BRAIN Initiative: Short Courses in Research Tools and Methods (R25)

**Description:** The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nations biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Courses for Skills Development that will build participants foundational knowledge and skills in the rigorous use of state-of-the art scientific tools and methods that contribute to, and are developed in response to, the major goals of the BRAIN Initiative. Each short course is expected to include both didactics and in-person / hands-on experiences. This FOA is intended for participants who are graduate students, medical students, postdoctoral scholars, medical residents, and/or early-career faculty.

**Due Date:** 3/18/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$1,500,000; Award Ceiling:\$250,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270668>

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Science of Learning: Collaborative Networks

**Description:** This solicitation launches the National Science Foundation's next phase of research in the Science of Learning (SL). The new SL Program is designed to capitalize on the momentum created by the Science of Learning Centers (SLC) Program to continue developing an integrated, interdisciplinary SL community. The goals of the SL Program are to: advance fundamental knowledge about learning through integrated research; connect the research to specific scientific, technological, educational, and workforce challenges; and enable research communities to capitalize on new opportunities and discoveries. The Program is designed to support projects that-- due to the activities supported and their interdisciplinarity and integrative breadth-- do not fit into existing NSF programs. This solicitation invites proposals for the creation of new research networks to address important questions in the SL. Networks will focus on: Advancing basic research through integrative, interdisciplinary perspectives and methodologies, through integration of theory and experiment, and across scales of analysis; and/or Translating findings from basic research on learning to applications to benefit society and further inform fundamental theories of learning. Each network is expected to engage in both of the following activities: Partnership-building activities among the network participants to optimize scientific exchange for the co-design and execution of network goals; and Collaborative, exploratory research to be conducted by the network participants.

**Due Date:** 3/18/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$9,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270768>

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** Dimensions of Biodiversity

**Description:** Despite centuries of discovery, most of our planet's biodiversity remains unknown. The scale of the unknown diversity on Earth is especially troubling given the rapid and permanent loss of biodiversity across the globe. The goal of the Dimensions of Biodiversity campaign is to transform, by 2020, how we describe and understand the scope and role of life on Earth. This campaign promotes novel integrative approaches to fill the most substantial gaps in our understanding of the diversity of life on Earth. It takes a broad view of biodiversity, and focuses on the intersection of genetic, phylogenetic, and functional dimensions of biodiversity. Successful proposals must integrate these three dimensions to understand interactions and feedbacks among them. While this focus



complements several core programs in BIO and GEO, it differs by requiring that multiple dimensions of biodiversity be addressed simultaneously, in novel ways, to understand their synergistic roles in critical ecological and evolutionary processes. The Dimensions of Biodiversity program again includes partnerships with the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) of Brazil in fiscal year 2015.

**Due Date:** 4/9/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$22,000,000; Award Ceiling:\$2,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=270769>

**Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Program:** STEM + Computing Partnerships

**Description:** The STEM+C Partnerships program seeks to significantly enhance the learning and teaching of science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and computing by K-12 students and teachers, through research on, and development of, courses, curriculum, course materials, pedagogies, instructional strategies, or models that innovatively integrate computing into one or more STEM disciplines, or integrate STEM content into the teaching and learning of computing. In addition, STEM+C seeks to build capacity in K-12 computing education with foundational research and focused teacher preparation. Projects in the STEM+C Partnerships program should build on research in STEM education and prior research and development efforts that provide theoretical and empirical justification for proposed projects. Pre-service and in-service teachers who participate in STEM+C projects are expected to enhance their understanding and teaching of STEM and computing content, practices, and skills. STEM+C invites creative and innovative proposals that address emerging challenges in the learning and teaching of STEM and computing. The program offers proposers two tracks: (1) Integration of Computing in STEM Education and (2) Computing Education Knowledge and Capacity Building. The second track is discipline-specific and may be expanded to include additional disciplines in future releases of the solicitation.

**Due Date:** 4/14/2015

**Funding:** Total Funding: \$43,000,000

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=271281>

