

THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

WASHINGTON E-UPDATE

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Budget and Appropriations Update – The last time Congress passed individual appropriations bills before the start of a new fiscal year was 1994. By all accounts, it looks as though that 22-year record will stand.

While no one expected Congress to complete all 12 spending bills in a truncated election-year session, for a time at least it appeared that lawmakers would finish most of their work on appropriations before leaving town. In May, both chambers of Congress passed the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs appropriations bill, largely because members on both sides of the aisle have an easy time supporting funds for veterans and home-state military projects.

At the last minute, however, House-Senate conferees decided to tie the bill to a supplemental appropriation to combat Zika. Democrats were left out of the negotiations on the final bill, which, among other things, cut funding for some veterans' programs, restricted access to contraceptive services, dropped a bipartisan provision allowing VA physicians to prescribe medical marijuana, and lifted a prohibition barring Confederate flags from being displayed at VA cemeteries. That bill was blocked by Senate Democrats June 28 who want to take it back to the negotiating table.

In another blow to the appropriations process, the Senate for now abandoned consideration of the Commerce-Justice-Science spending bill when the measure became the target of a series of gun control amendments offered after the mass shooting in Orlando. The Senate next week will attempt to pass the 2017 Defense spending bill while the House takes up the Interior-Environment bill the week of July 11.

Congress is scheduled to recess in mid-July for the national party conventions and not return until after Labor Day—probably just in time to pass a continuing resolution to keep the government running, either through early December or into March, depending upon the election outcome.

Senate Labor-HHS-Education spending bill would boost NIH and Pell grants

The summer Pell grant option for students would be reinstated under provisions in the Fiscal 2017 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill approved June 9 by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Overall, the bill totals \$161.9 billion -- \$270 million less than current year funding.

The measure would allow an expansion for one million students to receive a Pell grant for a third or summer semester, an option that was removed in 2011 under cost cutting measures enacted by Congress. The program would be available for part time students as well. The bill also includes funding to increase the maximum Pell to \$5,935 per year for the 2017-18 academic year. Federal work study, TRIO, SEOG and GEAR UP programs are all funded at the same level as this year.

NIH boost

The Senate bill includes a \$2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health for a total spending level of \$34.084 billion. This includes \$300 million for the Precision Medicine Initiative (an increase of \$100 million), \$250 million for the BRAIN Initiative (an increase of \$100 million), \$1.3 billion for Alzheimer's Disease research (an increase of \$400 million), and \$463 million for research to combat antimicrobial resistance (a \$50 million increase.) No funding is targeted to the President's proposal for a "Cancer Moonshot" initiative, although increases are included for the National Cancer Institute.

HBCUs and Hispanic Serving programs

The bill also includes:

\$107.7 million for competitive grants to Hispanic serving institutions;

\$9.6 million to help Hispanic students gain entry and succeed in graduate study; and

\$63.2 million for 5-year grants to HBCUs.

Bills aim to overturn overtime regulations

Identical resolutions to overturn the Administration's recent overtime regulations were introduced this month in the House and Senate. If the bills are passed by Congress, a Presidential signature would be required for enactment – an unlikely outcome. A veto override would require Democrats to join the effort.

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN), chairman of the Senate HELP Committee, introduced Senate Joint Resolution 34 on June 7 along with 44 other Republican Senators.

Under the Congressional Review Act, the bill would prevent the Department of Labor from implementing the new set of rules released in May and taking effect December 1. The regulation raises the upper salary limit to \$47,476 from \$23,660, with effects for universities. The current salary limit has remained unchanged since 2004. The new rule also empowers the Labor Department to update the salary limit every three years without specific rulemaking.

Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chair of the House's Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training, introduced House Joint Resolution 59 on June 16 saying, "Our nation's overtime rules need to be modernized, but the Department of Labor's extreme and partisan approach will lead to damaging consequences that the American people simply cannot afford."

Lawmakers are also exploring the possibility trying to block the rule's implementation through language in an upcoming 2017 appropriations bill.

Agencies urge Congress not to raise current set aside levels in next SBIR/STTR bill

Three top science agency leaders and a university research director were all in sync at a House hearing in recommending flexibility but no future increases in funding percentage set asides for the SBIR and STTR programs when they come up for reauthorization.

“SBIR/STTR Reauthorization: A Review of Technology Transfer” was held June 16 by the Subcommittee on Research and Technology of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. To view the hearing video or read the prepared testimony, [click here](#).

Testifying were:

Dr. Pramod Khargonekar

Assistant Director for Directorate of Engineering, National Science Foundation and former Engineering Dean at UF. Dr. Khargonekar keynoted the SUS-NSF Grants Conference in 2015 held in Tampa.

Dr. Michael Lauer

Deputy Director of Extramural Research, National Institutes of Health. He will be a keynote speaker for the SUS Federal R&D Agency Workshop September 30.

Dr. Patricia Dehmer

Deputy Director for Science Programs, Office of Science, Department of Energy

Ms. Jilda D. Garton

Vice President for Research and General Manager, Georgia Tech Research Corporation

Questions at the hearing focused mainly on how agencies measure success of each program, examples of successful outcomes of SBIR/STTR grants and how to better involve women-owned and minority owned businesses in the program. Discussion also centered on flexibility granted to the agencies in the last authorization in 2011 and how that had enabled new innovations such as Phase Zero and Direct to Phase II programs. In written testimony, all speakers urged the Committee to maintain current funding percentages in the next authorization bill, preferring instead to have robust funding provided for the agencies as a way of growing the programs.

Dr. Khargonekar from NSF wrote: “Since FY11, the SBIR program has expanded by 5 percent a year, or almost 30 percent overall. This is almost three times as much as the rest of the agency during the same time period. The House proposal, H.R. 4783, would continue a similar path, increasing program funding by 40 percent over 6 years for SBIR and 33 percent over 6 years for STTR. The proposed increases would come at the expense of reducing funding in existing highly meritorious fundamental research programs at NSF as well as other non-SBIR/STTR innovation programs I have highlighted today. We believe any future growth in NSF SBIR and STTR programs

should be realized through overall extramural R&D budget increases for NSF. In the current budget environment, increases in these programs mean real cuts to the remainder of the extramural budget. We do not see annual increases in the set-asides for these programs as justified, especially at the cost of others, when the overall budget of the agency is flat.”

NIH and Energy Department testimony echoed these themes, as did the testimony of the Vice President of the Georgia Tech Research Corporation.

House passes NSF major facilities reform bill

A bill designed to strengthen management, accountability and transparency of large scale, multi-user research facilities funded by the National Science Foundation was passed by the House on June 14. The bill had been reported out of the House Science Committee on a bipartisan voice vote April 27.

The *NSF Major Research Facility Reform Act of 2016* (H.R.5049) directs NSF to maintain a Large Facilities Office to support its research directorates in the development, implementation, and assessment of major multi-user research facilities. The agency is also directed to appoint a senior agency official within the Office of the Director responsible for oversight of major multi-user research facilities.

The bill calls for ongoing audits of construction costs during projects and changes to the system of management fees paid to contractors managing a facility. To read the bill, click [here](#).

2017 COMPETES reauthorization bill approved by Senate Committee

Successor legislation to the America COMPETES legislation was approved by the Senate Commerce Committee on June 29 as Senators cleared a bill that is bipartisan in its making and much different in tone than the House version opposed by Democrats.

The *American Innovation and Competitiveness Act* (S.3084) authorizes funding at key science agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, at levels matching those in the FY17 Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations bill. The authorizations for Fiscal 2018 would increase by 4 percent.

Senator Bill Nelson of Florida, cosponsored this bill and helped develop it as ranking member of the Senate Commerce Committee. Unlike the House version which proposes changes to grant review, the Senate bill reaffirms the current NSF merit review process and states:

“It is the sense of Congress that the Foundation’s intellectual merit and broader impacts criteria remain appropriate for evaluating grant proposals, as concluded by the 2011 National Science Board Task Force on Merit Review; ... The Foundation shall maintain the intellectual merit and

broader impacts criteria, among other specific criteria as appropriate, as the basis for evaluating grant proposals in the merit review process.”

The bill also supports scientific conference attendance by federal scientists in an effort to reverse the recent restrictions to such travel. It also creates an interagency working group to look for ways to reduce administrative and regulatory burdens. Among the tasks assigned to the workgroup are developing a standard federal grant application format and a centralized investigator database containing bio sketches, CVs, licenses, and publications.

Among the bill's highlights:

- **Peer review** – Reaffirms the NSF's merit-based peer review process for determining grants.
- **Broadening research opportunities** – Updates and renames NSF's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) for underutilized regions to reflect its established record.
- **Cybersecurity research** – Directs research to help better protect computer systems from cyber threats.
- **Transparency and accountability** – Codifies reforms to increase transparency and accountability in the National Science Foundation (NSF) grant making process.
- **Oversight implementation** – Requires NSF to address concerns about waste and abuse by improving oversight of large research facility construction, updates a conflicts of interest policy, and reforms management of the Antarctic research program.
- **Interagency working group** – Establishes an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and OSTP-led interagency working group to reduce administrative burdens on federally-funded researchers.
- **Obsolete reporting requirements** – Repeals obsolete federal agency reporting requirements as well as previous authorizations for programs that have not been implemented.
- **Outside advisory panel** – Authorizes a STEM education advisory panel of outside experts to help guide federal STEM education program decision making.
- **Expands opportunities for women** – Expands NSF grant programs to increase participation and expand STEM opportunities to women and other under-represented groups.
- **Crowdsourcing Science** – Expands opportunities for crowdsourcing research input and citizen science participation by organizations and individuals.
- **Promoting entrepreneurship** – Authorizes and expands NSF's Innovation Corps program to other agencies to promote entrepreneurship and commercialization education, training, and mentoring of federally-funded researchers.
- **Commercialization grants** – Authorizes and expands grants to promote the commercialization of federally-funded research.

- **Prize authority:** Gives federal agencies more flexibility in designing and conducting prize competitions

- **Translational research grants:** Directs NSF to continue awarding competitive grants to support commercialization of federally-funded research and defines the types of institutions eligible for such grants

- **Optics and photonics:** States that federal science agencies, industry, and academia should enhance coordination of optics and photonics research

Higher education bills advanced by House committee

Five bills addressing various aspects of higher education were approved June 22 following a markup by the House Education and the Workforce House Committee. The bills dealt with efforts to simplify and improve the student aid application process and enhance support and accountability for institutions serving minority students.

Committee Chairman John Kline (R-MN) said that while writing a larger Higher Education Act reauthorization bill remains a top priority for the long term, he wanted to move ahead now with these more narrow bills. With the legislative calendar dwindling, it appears very unlikely that Congress will have enough time to deal with the larger HEA bill this year.

The following bills were passed by a voice vote:

H.R. 5528, *Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act*, by Rep. Joe Heck (R-NV) is designed to ease the process of applying for federal student aid and give prospective students a clearer idea of the aid they are eligible for much earlier in the process. The bill would allow students to apply for financial aid based on their family's income from two years earlier instead of the immediately previous year, a long-sought approach known as "prior-prior year." This means that the financial aid process would be changed so that students can submit their FAFSA form as early as October for the academic year beginning in the following summer or fall, codifying into law an initiative the Obama administration announced last fall.

H.R. 5529, *Accessing Higher Education Opportunities Act*, also by Rep. Heck (R-NV) would help students at Hispanic serving institutions pursue careers in health-care related professions by providing grants under Title V and provide other support for Hispanic students pursuing an education.

H.R. 5530, *HBCU Capital Financing Improvement Act*, by Reps. Alma Adams (D-NC) and Bradley Byrne (R-AL) aids infrastructure improvement and modifies certain provisions relating to the capital funding and financing of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

H.R. 3179, *Empowering Students through Enhanced Financial Counseling Act*, led by Reps. Brett Guthrie (R-KY) and Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) would enhance guidance and counseling to students to ensure smart financial decisions. This bill will require annual counseling to help students with their financial decisions along the way and help them understand what to expect financially when they leave school. It aims to help

guarantee students do not miss loan payments and lessen their chances of long term debt.

H.R. 3178, The Strengthening Transparency in Higher Education Act, by Virginia Foxx (R-NC) and Gregorio Sablan (D-MP), is designed to help students gain access to the facts they need to make an educated decision about where to pursue their education.

Supreme Court finds UT-Austin's use of race as admissions factor constitutional

On June 23, 2016, the Supreme Court released its decision in *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*, holding that the University of Texas-Austin's (UT-Austin's) admission plan, which allows the University to use race as one of a number of factors to consider during the admissions process, was constitutionally valid and not in violation of the Equal Protection Clause.

The majority opinion was drafted by Justice Anthony Kennedy, a fact which is somewhat surprising to many legal scholars since he has long been a skeptic to race-conscious programs and dissented to the last major "affirmative action" decision that came out of the Court. Justice Kagan recused herself from this decision, since she had previously drafted an Amicus brief in her capacity as the Solicitor General.

This extremely fact-specific decision leaves the Court discretion to review other race-conscious programs to determine their constitutionality. In this case, the University of Texas was bound by a state law which requires UT-Austin to accept the top ten percent of every graduating high school class but also allots twenty-five percent of slots for students based on a "holistic review" of applications. Students in this twenty-five percent are considered using a number of criteria, including such factors as extracurricular activities, socioeconomic status, letters of recommendation, and race. Petitioner Fisher objected to the use of race as a factor in the review of applications, stating that it violated the Equal Protection Clause and was damaging to herself and to other Caucasian students.

Though the District Court for the state of Texas and the Fifth Circuit both previously held for the University, the Supreme Court in 2013 remanded Ms. Fisher's case back to the Fifth Circuit so that the lower Court could reconsider the facts using "strict scrutiny" as the standard of legal review. This required the university to show that its program is "narrowly tailored" to a "compelling legal interest." In response, the University of Texas at Austin presented its compelling legal interest as "student body diversity," citing its value in supporting the university's goals of "ending stereotypes, promoting cross-racial understandings, preparing students for an increasingly diverse workforce and society, and cultivating leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of citizenry."

After analyzing whether UT-Austin's specific program was narrowly tailored to achieving these goals, and whether an alternative race-neutral model could conceivably be used as an alternative, the Court found the program to pass the "strict scrutiny"

test. However, Justice Kennedy does point out in the closing of his opinion that, “the Court’s affirmance of the University’s admissions policy... does not necessarily mean the University may rely on that same policy without refinement. It is the University’s ongoing obligation to engage in constant deliberation and continued reflection regarding its admissions policies.”

FAA removes paperwork for drone use for educational and research purposes; issues rule on commercial use

A final regulation for the operation of small drones for routine commercial use was published by the FAA June 21 indicating the rule takes effect in late August. The rule applies to drones weighing less than 55 pounds conducting non-hobbyist operations.

While the rule does not address educational and research uses of drones, FAA Administrator Michael Huerta announced at a conference in May that he was taking steps to make it easier for students to use drones as part of educational efforts.

FAA Administrator Michael Huerta announced the FAA is now allowing students to operate UAS for educational and research purposes. As a result, schools and students will no longer need a Section 333 exemption or any other authorization to fly provided they follow the rules for model aircraft. Faculty will be able to use drones in connection with helping their students with their courses.

“Schools and universities are incubators for tomorrow’s great ideas, and we think this is going to be a significant shot in the arm for innovation,” Huerta said.

Under the final rule for commercial use, the person actually flying a drone must be at least 16 years old and have a remote pilot certificate with a small UAS rating, or be directly supervised by someone with such a certificate. To qualify for a remote pilot certificate, an individual must either pass an initial aeronautical knowledge test at an FAA-approved knowledge testing center or have an existing non-student Part 61 pilot certificate. If qualifying under the latter provision, a pilot must have completed a flight review in the previous 24 months and must take a UAS online training course provided by the FAA. The TSA will conduct a security background check of all remote pilot applications prior to issuance of a certificate. Flights will have to occur during daylight, or twilight if the craft has lights. To read the rule or a summary, [click here](#).

Sen. Nelson and colleagues urge Administration to change decision on graduate health insurance

Florida Senator Bill Nelson and 13 other Democratic Senators sent a letter to the Administration June 22 seeking a new policy interpretation of a provision in the Affordable Care Act that threatens to negatively affect health insurance coverage for

thousands of graduate students and teaching assistants at universities across the nation next year.

The IRS and Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services issued Notice 2013-54 in February intended to prevent employers from eluding the ACA employer mandate. However, the guidance document would have the effect of preventing universities from providing subsidized health insurance coverage through Student Health Insurance Plans to certain graduate students.

The Senators wrote: “While we commend your Departments for providing temporary transition relief in the guidance, this guidance is based on an interpretation of the ACA that interferes with a university’s ability to provide graduate students with ACA-compliant SHIP coverage, at little of no cost. Notwithstanding the provided temporary transition relief there remains an urgent need to resolve this issue expeditiously. Colleges and universities will be negotiating the terms and cost of their student health insurance coverage for academic year 2017-18 during this fall. Thousands of graduate students at campuses across the country could potentially be affected, costing students and schools millions of dollars.”

NSF issues strategic plan for graduate education investments

The National Science Foundation has released its new *Strategic Framework for Investments in Graduate Education*, a 5-year plan to guide the funding agency in advancing the nation’s science and engineering enterprise.

NSF makes a substantial investment in STEM graduate education through traineeship and fellowship mechanisms, although the majority of NSF’s investment in graduate students comes through faculty research grants supporting research assistants

Five strategic objectives outline how NSF will approach funding toward three broad goals which are to:

- **Advance Science and Engineering (S&E) Research:** Support graduate students and graduate education to enable long-term contributions of new knowledge at the frontiers of science and engineering.
- **Broaden Participation to Promote Excellence in Research and Build the Next Generation STEM Workforce:** Recruit graduate students from a variety of geographic, demographic, social, and educational backgrounds to promote the advancement of science and a highly qualified professional workforce.
- **Build Effective Models of Graduate Education and Workforce Development:** Support the development and use of innovative models and evidence based approaches in graduate education, including education and research about promising practices and program effectiveness.

To read the plan, [click here](#).

NITRD bill advanced by the House

The House passed a bill June 14 intended to strengthen the federal Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program which coordinates \$4.3 billion in research investments in the IT area across multiple agencies.

The *Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Modernization Act of 2016* (H.R. 5312) would require a 5-year strategic plan for the program and periodic evaluation of the program's activities and funding. The bill codifies many recent recommendations that were suggested by the President's Council of Advisors for Science and Technology (PCAST.)

This bill amends the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 to rename the National High-Performance Computing Program as the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program or NITRD. The National Coordinating Office oversees activities of the NITRD program and the activity has operated under that name since 2005 but its genesis dates to the originating legislation, the High Performance Computing Act of 1991. To read a recent Congressional Research report on the program, [click here](#).

Antibiotic resistance examined in hearing

Antibiotic resistance and measures to help fight it were covered at a hearing June 14 by the House Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

"Combatting Superbugs: U.S. Public Health Responses to Antibiotic Resistance" featured testimony from experts representing the National Institutes of Health, FDA, CDC and the HHS Biomedical Advanced R&D Authority.

The previous day the Administration released a proposed regulation requiring hospitals participating in Medicare to more closely track antibiotic use with "antibiotic stewardship" programs.

Addressing the prospect of developing new antibiotics, Janet Woodcock, director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said, "Drug development in this area remains fragile and weak. The incentives that we have put in place are apparently not enough to overcome the scientific challenges that the industry faces in finding new targets in developing these and then actually making money on them."

The 21st Century Cures bill passed in the House and a set of companion medical innovation bills developed in the Senate contain provisions designed to provide incentives to companies for developing new antibiotics.

To read the committee's background paper, or view the archived hearing video, [click here](#).

New DREAM Act filed

A new version of the DREAM Act was introduced in the House June 21 by Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL).

The *Recognizing American Children Act* (H.R. 5533) would allow those brought into the US illegally as children before 2010 to pursue a path to becoming a citizen.

Children 16 or younger would receive conditional status for five years if they have no criminal record and are not on public assistance. During that time, they could choose to achieve a higher education degree, serve in the military, or remain employed and then apply for permanent status and eventually citizenship. Service in the military would allow an immediate application for citizenship. To read more, click [here](#).

AAAS analysis of global R&D shows investment shifts

A new analysis of global R&D spending shows that international investments continue to “shift east” as Asian nations are increasingly ramping up spending in comparison to the U.S.

David Parkes of the AAAS R&D Budget and Policy Program published the new analysis (<http://www.aaas.org/news/look-rd-funding-and-performance-oecd-area-and-beyond>) looking at the most recent data on international R&D funding and performance for the 34 member OECD nations. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is a 50-year-old economic forum for governments that arose from the group overseeing the Marshall Plan.

The report states: “Meanwhile, R&D investments continue to shift east, on account of the rapid growth and industrialization of East Asian nations. For instance, Korea [doubled](#) its R&D spending as a share of GDP over the past 20 years to reach 4.29 percent in 2014, driven by Korea’s five-year S&T basic plans launched in 1997. Likewise, China has taken massive leaps in research spending, more than tripling R&D intensity from 0.64 percent in 1997 to 2.05 percent in 2014. China’s latest [five-year plan](#) would boost R&D investment to 2.5 percent of GDP by 2020; this is doubly impressive as both the numerator (R&D) and the denominator (GDP) have increased in China. In its most recent [STI Outlook](#), OECD [predicted](#) that China would overtake the United States in total R&D spending from all sources by about 2019.”

To read the paper, [click here](#).

New ESSA guidance covers foster care and education

The Departments of Education and Health and Human Services released guidance June 23 for use by states, school districts, child welfare agencies highlighting certain provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) aimed at supporting children in

foster care. The document seeks to ease the transition for states and local partners in understanding and implementing the ESSA.

Education Secretary John King called children in foster care “among our most vulnerable students.” He articulated that he expects this guidance to help states, school districts, and child welfare agencies have the tools needed to “ensure educational stability for foster youth and to dramatically improve their educational outcomes and ultimately give them an equal opportunity to succeed in school and beyond in college, career, and life.”

This non-binding guidance aims to provide clarity on a number of frequently asked questions, including:

- The importance of the new educational stability requirements;
- The statutory requirement that a child in foster care remains in his or her original school, if it’s in his or her best interest;
- Procedures for jointly determining with the child welfare agency which school is in a child’s best interest to attend;
- Procedures for resolving disputes that may arise over the best interest determination and school placement;
- Transportation procedures developed jointly to maintain children in foster care in their original schools;
- The transfer of relevant records;
- Foster care points of contact for states, districts and child welfare agencies
- Protecting student data and privacy; and
- Best practices and suggestions for interagency collaboration on these issues.

The guidance can be read [here](#).

Overseas research program competition opens

The Education Department announced this month that the competition for the Fiscal 2016 American Overseas Research Centers Program (AORC) is now open. The program provides grants to establish or operate overseas research centers that promote postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies. Grants from AORC can be used to pay for all or part of the cost establishing and operating a center or program. The International and Foreign Language Education office (IFLE) anticipates granting 10 new awards totaling \$650,000.

A [technical assistance webinar](#) will be held Friday, July 8th at 2:30 p.m. For more information about the program, click [here](#).

Universities may apply if they (1) receive more than 50 percent of their funding from public or private U.S. sources; (2) have a permanent presence in the country in which the center is located; and (3) are tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The deadline to apply is August 4, 2016.

Highlights of competitive grant opportunities at federal agencies

Agency: Administration for Children and Families – OPRE, HHS

Program: Behavioral Interventions Scholars

Description: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) anticipates soliciting applications for Behavioral Interventions Scholars grants to support dissertation research by advanced graduate students who are using behavioral science approaches to examine specific research questions of relevance to social service programs and policies. These grants are meant to build capacity in the research field to apply a behavioral lens to issues facing poor and vulnerable families in the United States, and to foster mentoring relationships between faculty members and high-quality doctoral students.

Due Date: March 31, 2017

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$100,000; Award Ceiling: \$25,000; Award Floor: \$20,000

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/grants>

Agency: Administration for Children & Families, HHS

Program: Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Program

Description: The Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families' Family and Youth Services Bureau announces the availability of funds under the Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) Program. The purpose of the SRAE Program is to fund projects to implement sexual risk avoidance education that teaches participants how to voluntarily refrain from non-marital sexual activity. Successful applicants are expected to submit program plans that agree to use medically accurate information referenced to peer-reviewed publications by educational, scientific, governmental, or health organizations; implement an evidence-based approach integrating research findings with practical implementation that aligns with the needs and desired outcomes for the intended audience; and teach the benefits associated with self-regulation, success sequencing for poverty prevention, healthy relationships, goal setting, and resisting sexual coercion, dating violence, and other youth risk behaviors such as underage drinking or illicit drug use without normalizing teen sexual activity. The award process for FY 2016 SRAE program

allows for annual awards over a three year project period as funds are available.

Due Date: July 25, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$9,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$450,000; Award Floor: \$300,000

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-SR-1197>

Agency: Bureau of East Asian & Pacific Affairs, State Department

Program: Pacific Island Marine Protected Area Projects

Description: The Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (EAP) announces a request for proposals from organizations interested and driven to develop and manage projects leading to the creation and implementation of more, effectively managed Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Pacific Islands region. The Pacific Islands region is marked by recent success and significant momentum in the creation of MPAs. MPAs are safe havens for marine resources and can serve as living laboratories that are crucial to scientific research and discoveries that benefit humankind. Projects are limited to Pacific Island countries eligible to receive Economic Support Funds: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Due Date: July 29, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$445,500; Award Ceiling: \$445,500; Award Floor: \$200,000

Website: <https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=57659>

Agency: DARPA- Biological Technologies Office, DOD

Program: Prometheus

Description: The Prometheus program aims to develop a molecular host prognostic assay to measure infectious disease contagiousness. Prometheus will focus specifically on the early prognosis of pathogen transmission potential prior to the onset of symptoms. By the end of the program, a minimal set of early host biomarkers will be identified in humans that correlate with and predict contagiousness <24 hours after infection.

Due Date: August 02, 2016

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://www.darpa.mil/>

Agency: DARPA - Microsystems Technology Office, DOD

Program: Magnetic Miniaturized and Monolithically-Integrated Components (M3IC)

Description: The DARPA Microsystems Technology Office is soliciting innovative research proposals to develop integrated magnetic components on semiconductor substrates that will reduce size and enable new functionality for U.S. Department of Defense electromagnetic systems. Proposals will focus on one or more of the following technical areas: 1) integration of magnetic components on semiconductor substrates, 2) modeling the system-level impact of nonlinear, non-reciprocal, time-dependent magnetic phenomena, and 3) optimization of miniaturized microwave magnetic components. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice.

Due Date: August 01, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$26,000,000

Website: <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities>

Agency: Dept. of the Army -- USAMRAA

Program: DoD Prostate Cancer Clinical Consortium Research Site Award

Description: This year the PCRCP is offering the Clinical Consortium Research Site Award mechanism to support the inclusion of Clinical Research Sites to the existing Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium (PCCTC). The Clinical Consortium Research Site Award provides the support to develop and enhance collaborations and resources necessary for a network of organizations to rapidly execute Phase II or Phase II-linked Phase I (Phase I/II) prostate cancer clinical trials. These trials will include investigations of high-impact, novel therapeutic agents or approaches for the management or treatment of prostate cancer, especially as pertaining to the FY16 PCRCP overarching challenges. In accordance with PCRCP goals, the conduct of Phase I/II trials that incorporate investigations of biomarkers for risk assessment, early detection, prediction of aggressiveness, and/or progression of prostate cancer is particularly encouraged..

Due Date: October 06, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$2,600,000

Website: <http://www.usamraa.army.mil/>

Agency: Dept. of the Army -- USAMRAA

Program: DoD Tick-Borne Disease Idea Award

Description: The FY16 TBDRP Idea Award promotes new ideas that represent innovative approaches to Lyme disease and other tick-borne disease research and have the potential to make an important contribution to the TBDRP mission. This award funds conceptually innovative, high-risk/potentially high-reward research in the early stages of development that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress in improving outcomes for individuals affected by Lyme disease and/or other tick-borne illnesses. Applications should include a well-formulated, testable hypothesis based on strong scientific rationale that is established through logical reasoning and/or critical review and analysis of the literature.

Due Date: November 16, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$1,200,000

Website: <http://www.usamraa.army.mil/>

Agency: Department of Education

Domestic Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE):

Program: American Overseas Research Centers (AORC) Program

Description: The American Overseas Research Centers (AORC) Program provides grants to consortia of institutions of higher education (IHEs) to establish or operate an AORC that promotes postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies. AORC grants may be used to pay all or a portion of the cost of establishing or operating a center or program.

Due Date: August 04, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$650,000; Award Ceiling: \$65,000

Website: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-20/pdf/2016-14528.pdf>

Agency: Department of Education

Program: Institute of Education Sciences (IES): Education Research CFDA

Description: The central purpose of the Institute's research grant program is to provide interested individuals and the general public with reliable and valid

information about education practices that support learning and improve academic achievement and access to education opportunities for all students. These interested individuals include parents, educators, students, researchers, and policymakers. In carrying out its grant programs, the Institute provides support for programs of research in areas of demonstrated national need. The Institute's purpose in awarding these grants is to provide national leadership in expanding fundamental knowledge and understanding of (1) developmental and school readiness outcomes for infants and toddlers with or at risk for disability, and (2) education outcomes for all students from early childhood education through postsecondary and adult education.

Due Date: August 4, 2016

Funding: See announcement

Website: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-08/pdf/2016-05155.pdf>

Agency: Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE)

Program: Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program CFDA Number 84.021A

Description: The purpose of the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) Program is to promote, improve, and develop modern foreign languages and area studies at varying levels of education. The program provides opportunities for faculty, teachers, and undergraduate and graduate students to conduct individual and group projects overseas to carry out research and study in the fields of modern foreign languages and area studies. This competition will support both Fulbright-Hays GPA short-term projects (GPA short-term projects) and Fulbright-Hays GPA long-term projects (GPA long-term projects).

Due Date: August 01, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$2,792,440; Award Ceiling: \$250,000

Website: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-16/pdf/2016-14303.pdf>

Agency: Department of State- International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs

Program: Establishing a Kano State-Level Public Defenders Service

Description: INL is seeking applications to expand the capabilities of the public defense services in Kano, Nigeria by establishing a state-level Public Defender's Office that responds efficiently to the needs of the indigent and results in a reduction in the number of pre-trial detainees. Following successful completion of this program, it is envisioned that the Kano State government would fully take over administering, managing, and

financing the newly established public defense office with assistance from the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Kano Branch.

Due Date: August 19, 2016

Funding: Award Ceiling: \$2,000,000; Award Floor: \$100,000

Website: <http://www.state.gov/j/in/>

Agency: Department of Transportation- FAA Aviation Research

Program: FAA Aviation Research and Development Grants

Description: The FAA is soliciting proposals for research grants and cooperative agreements to pursue the long-term growth and short-term technical needs of civil aviation. In order to streamline the application process, it is recommended that all prospective grantees submit a white paper (letter of intent) for agency technical review before complete proposal submission. Please be sure to identify the specific area of interest (Solicitation FAA-12-01 – Chapter I. FAA Research Grants Program, Technical Areas of Research #1-#9).

Due Date: December 31, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ato/service_units/acquisition/grants/?CFID=305223563&CFTOKEN=f4d5d73aac51fba2-F55538DF-B3F7-1E58-D528004D149BAD0C&jsessionid=9EED5F0B16E6CE9976412025C53F90EE.www

Agency: FDA

Program: FDA Scientific Conference Grant Program (R13/U13)

Description: The FDA recognizes the value of supporting high quality, small conferences and scientific meetings relevant to its mission and to the public health. A small conference or scientific meeting is defined as a symposium, seminar, workshop, or any formal meeting, whether conducted face-to-face or virtually to exchange information and explore a defined subject, issue, or area of concern impacting the public's health within the scope of the FDA's mission. Support of such meetings is

contingent upon the fiscal and programmatic interests and priorities of the FDA's respective Offices and Centers.

Due Date: June 16, 2017
Funding: See announcement
Website: <http://www.fda.gov/>

Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Program: Research Opportunities in Fundamental Physics- NASA-NSF Partnership on Science of Dusty Plasmas: Utilizing the PK-4 Facility on Board the International Space Station

Description: This joint National Aeronautics and Space Administration and National Science Foundation Research Announcement solicits science research proposals from U.S. investigators for research that can be performed on or is directly related to the joint European Space Agency and Russian Federal Space Agency Plasma Krystall-4 (PK-4) experimental facility on board the International Space Station (ISS) and for ground investigations related to potential follow-on microgravity experiments in the field of dusty plasma physics.

Due Date: August 19, 2016
Funding: See announcement
Website: <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/>

Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration- Johnson Space Center
Program: Exploration Technology Demonstration and national Lab Utilization Enhancements

Description: This NASA Research Announcement solicits hypothesis-driven space-flight research in Space Biology to be conducted on ISS. NASA experiments have one or more of the following primary goals: 1) to effectively use microgravity and the other characteristics of the space environment to enhance our understanding of basic biological processes; 2) to develop the scientific and technological foundations for a safe, productive human presence in space for extended periods and in preparation for exploration; and 3) to apply this knowledge and technology to improve our nation's competitiveness, education, and the quality of life on Earth. NASA SB experiments will be designed to discover how space

flight affects a diverse group of microorganisms, plants, and animals; study the effects of gravity (g) across the g-spectrum, i.e., from micro- to hyper-gravity; and characterize the biological effects of radiation, magnetic fields, and the interaction among species in the unusual environments of space and spacecraft.

Due Date: December 31, 2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/>

Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Program: Research Opportunities in Aeronautics

Description: This NASA Research Announcement solicits foundational and system-level research in support of the Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD), National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This NRA covers a variety of topics in aeronautics fundamental research that are being pursued by NASA personnel. Specific research thrusts are outlined in the Appendices. A major focus of this NRA is to encourage collaboration between other organizations and NASA to help advance ARMD strategic goals. Awards will be made as grants, cooperative agreements or contracts, depending on the nature of the proposing organization and/or program requirements. It is anticipated that the majority of awards will be cooperative agreements or contracts due to the expected collaborative nature of the work specified in the technical appendices. The typical period of performance for an award is three years, although a few programs may specify shorter or longer (maximum of five years) periods.

Due Date: April 30, 2017

Funding: See announcement

Website: <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?method=init&solId=%7B5F7EC42E-136B-FA21-515A-FFA32C228454%7D&path=open&redirectURL=%252Fexternal%252Fsollicitations%252Fsollicitations.do%253Fmethod%253Dopen%2526stack%253Dpush>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: U.S.-Russia Bilateral Collaborative Research Partnerships (CRP) on the Prevention and Treatment of HIV/AIDS and HIV-Associated Comorbidities

Description: This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits applications from United States institutions with a Russian institution partner in collaboration with the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) to establish Collaborative Research Partnerships (CRP) in the field of HIV/AIDS research. The research that is solicited under this announcement is directed toward increasing the knowledge and understanding in biomedical and bio-behavioral topics that aim to impact HIV/AIDS and HIV-associated co-infections, comorbidities, and complications.

Due Date: September 13, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$2,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$200,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AA-17-006.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Planning Grant for NINDS Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Center Without Walls (R34)

Description: This announcement solicits Planning Grant applications to convene new transdisciplinary research consortia and formalize the multi-institutional organizational structure necessary to resolve an essential challenge in Parkinson's disease (PD) through a subsequent, transformative Center without Walls (CWOW) approach. The most compelling applications will: (i) identify and justify a fundamental PD research priority; (ii) build an exemplary collaborative team; and (iii) demonstrate exceptional potential to pursue a targeted, thematically integrated strategy to remove a critical impediment blocking advancement of the understanding and treatment of PD. Consortia must include the optimal combination of specialized expertise required to address the stated challenge using a goal-driven approach; teams must be anchored by at least one PD researcher and include at least one investigator with primary expertise in another research area. The Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) must be eminently qualified to provide visionary scientific leadership and effective oversight of consortium administrative activities. **Due Date:** August 30, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$675,000; Award Ceiling: \$150,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-16-024.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Linking the Provider Recommendation to Adolescent HPV Vaccine Uptake (R21)

Description: This announcement encourages research on how the healthcare delivery system enhances or inhibits the effectiveness of a provider's recommendation of the adolescent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. Characteristics of the provider, parent/patient, and clinical setting, can all affect whether a provider makes a recommendation, and whether that recommendation results in uptake of the HPV vaccine. This research requires expertise in cancer prevention, adult and childhood behavior, immunization promotion, and healthcare delivery.

Due Date: July 16, 2019

Funding: Award Ceiling: \$200,000

Website: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-10-15/pdf/2015-26290.pdf>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Linking the Provider Recommendation to Adolescent HPV Vaccine Uptake (R03)

Description: This announcement encourages research on how the healthcare delivery system enhances or inhibits the effectiveness of a provider's recommendation of the adolescent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. Characteristics of the provider, parent/patient, and clinical setting, can all affect whether a provider makes a recommendation, and whether that recommendation results in uptake of the HPV vaccine. This research requires expertise in cancer prevention, adult and childhood behavior, immunization promotion, and healthcare delivery.

Due Date: July 16, 2019

Funding: Award Ceiling: \$50,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-16-337.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Integrative Research on Polysubstance Abuse and Addiction

Description: This announcement is supported by Collaborative Research on Addiction (CRAN) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a trans-NIH partnership composed of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The intent of this FOA is two-fold: (1) characterize how the neurobiological alterations, associated behaviors, and public health consequences arising from polysubstance use differ from, or are

similar to, those observed in single drug use; (2) promote integrative polysubstance research along a translational pipeline, consisting of basic science research in animals, human-based laboratory investigations, and epidemiological studies. These dual objectives will be accomplished with a Phased Innovation (R21/R33) mechanism, where polysubstance research can occur in any of these translational stages during the R21 phase and these findings will be rapidly back- or forward-integrated into another stage during the R33 phase, allowing for bi-directional research exchange.

Due Date: September 07, 2019

Funding: See announcement See announcement Award Ceiling: \$200,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-291.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Nutrigenetics and Nutrigenomics Approaches for Nutrition Research (R01)

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to promote application of nutrigenetics and/or nutrigenomics approaches to nutrition research through collaborative interaction among nutrition researchers and experts in omics technologies.

Due Date: September 07, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-332.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Small Research Grants for Establishing Basic Science-Clinical Collaborations to Understand Structural Birth Defects

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to promote initial establishment of basic science-clinical collaborations by providing small grants to teams of basic scientists, physician scientists, and/or clinicians. These interdisciplinary teams may include but are not limited to the following: developmental biologists, cell biologists, geneticists, genomicists, physician scientists including individuals with DVM/VMD degrees, clinicians, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and/or bioinformaticists.

Due Date: September 07, 2019

Funding: See announcement. Award Ceiling: \$75,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-323.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Fellowship for Students at Institutions Without NIH-Funded Institutional Predoctoral Dual-Degree Training Programs (Parent F30)

Description: This announcement will support students at institutions without formal NIH-funded institutional predoctoral dual-degree training programs. The purpose of the Kirschstein-NRSA, dual-doctoral degree, predoctoral fellowship (F30) is to enhance the integrated research and clinical training of promising predoctoral students, who are matriculated in a combined MD/PhD or other dual-doctoral degree training program (e.g. DO/PhD, DDS/PhD, AuD/PhD, DVM/PhD), and who intend careers as physician/clinician-scientists. Applicants must propose an integrated research and clinical training plan and a dissertation research project in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. The fellowship experience is expected to clearly enhance the individuals potential to develop into a productive, independent physician/clinician-scientist.

Due Date: May 07, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-306.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Predoctoral Fellowship to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Parent F31 - Diversity)

Description: The purpose of this Kirschstein-NRSA predoctoral fellowship (F31) award is to enhance the diversity of the health-related research workforce by supporting the research training of predoctoral students from population groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research workforce, including underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and those with disabilities. Through this award program, promising predoctoral students will obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors while conducting well-defined research projects in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. The proposed mentored research training is expected to clearly enhance the individuals potential to develop into a productive, independent research scientist.

Due Date: May 07, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-308.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Neurocognitive Effects of Glycemic Dysregulation in Type 1 Diabetes (DP3)

Description: This Fund announcement invites applications for studies on the neurocognitive complications of type 1 diabetes in new, stand-alone studies or using subjects and/or samples from clinical studies on type 1 diabetes.

Due Date: November 14, 2016

Funding: Total Funding: \$8,000,000; Award Ceiling: \$3,000,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-16-007.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Ancillary Studies to Identify Behavioral and/or Psychological Phenotypes Contributing to Obesity (R01)

Description: The purpose of this announcement is to encourage grant applications to support the addition of measures of psychological and/or behavioral constructs or weight-related variables (e.g.; BMI, body composition) to existing or new research studies in humans with the goal of elucidating behavioral or psychological phenotypes that explain individual variability in weight trajectory or response to obesity prevention or treatment interventions. The intent is to support the addition of new measurement in domains other than those covered in the parent grant as a means of elucidating the behavioral and psychological factors that may explain individual differences in weight status. For the purposes of this FOA, behavioral factors related to energy intake include overt actions/behavior (e.g.; objective observation of eating event including measures such as quantity, selection/quality, and speed of intake) and underlying psychological processes related to self-regulation of intake such as cognitive control, affective response, learning, and motivation. The rationale is that an improved understanding of the individual characteristics and processes that explain energy intake patterns can lead to better matching of individuals to prevention or treatment approaches and identify novel targets for more efficacious individual and population level approaches to weight management.

Due Date: February 28, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-304.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Planning Grant for NINDS Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Center Without Walls (R34)

Description: This announcement solicits Planning Grant applications to convene new transdisciplinary research consortia and formalize the multi-institutional organizational structure necessary to resolve an essential challenge in Parkinson's disease (PD) through a subsequent, transformative Center without Walls (CWOW) approach. The most compelling applications will: (i) identify and justify a fundamental PD research priority; (ii) build an exemplary collaborative team; and (iii) demonstrate exceptional potential to pursue a targeted, thematically integrated strategy to remove a critical impediment blocking advancement of the understanding and treatment of PD. Successful planning efforts will lead directly to an application for support of an NINDS Morris K. Udall Center without Walls for Parkinsons Disease Research (Udall PD-CWOW; U54).

Due Date: August 30, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$675,000; Award Ceiling: \$150,000

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-16-024.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Intervening with Cancer Caregivers to Improve Patient Health Outcomes and Optimize Health Care Utilization (R01)

Description: This announcement invites applications for intervention research designed to support caregivers of adult cancer patients. Interventions supported by this are intended to provide caregivers with care training, promote coping skills, and ultimately help them manage care. Outcomes of such interventions are expected to (1) optimize patient health care utilization, (2) improve caregiver well-being, and (3) improve patient physical health and psychosocial outcomes.

Due Date: April 11, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-317.html>

Agency: National Institutes of Health

Program: Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers (Admin Supp)

Description: The Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) and participating Institutes and Centers (ICs) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announce the continuation of the program for administrative supplements to research grants to support individuals with high potential to re-enter an active research career after an interruption for family responsibilities or other qualifying circumstances. The purpose of these supplements is to encourage such individuals to re-enter research careers within the missions of all the program areas of NIH. This program will provide administrative supplements to existing NIH research grants for the purpose of supporting full-time or part-time research by these individuals to update their existing research skills and knowledge.

Due Date: September 29, 2019

Funding: See announcement

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-289.html>

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Joint NSF/NIH Initiative on Quantitative Approaches to Biomedical Big Data

Description: Recent advances in medical and healthcare technologies are creating a paradigm shift in how medical practitioners and biomedical researchers approach the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases. New imaging technologies, advances in genetic testing, and innovations in wearable and/or ambient sensors are allowing researchers to predict health outcomes and develop personalized treatments or interventions. The National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health recognize that fundamental questions in basic, clinical, and translational research could benefit greatly from multidisciplinary approaches that involve experts in quantitative disciplines such as mathematics, statistics, and computer science. The Quantitative Approaches to Biomedical Big Data Program is designed to support research that addresses important application areas at the intersection of the biomedical and data sciences by encouraging inter- and multi-disciplinary collaborations that focus on innovative and transformative approaches to address these challenges.

Due Date: September 28, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$5,000,000

Website: <http://www.nsf.gov/>

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Advanced Technological Education

Description: With an emphasis on two-year colleges, the Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program focuses on the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation's economy. The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and industry to promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels. The ATE program supports curriculum development; professional development of college faculty and secondary school teachers; career pathways to two-year colleges from secondary schools and from two-year colleges to four-year institutions; and other activities. Another goal is articulation between two-year and four-year programs for K-12 prospective STEM teachers that focus on technological education. The program invites research proposals that advance the knowledge base related to technician education.

Due Date: October 06, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$64,000; Award Ceiling: \$4,000,000; Award Floor: \$70,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf14577

Agency: National Science Foundation

Program: Community Support for Combating Wildlife Trafficking in the Heart of Borneo through Sustainable Livelihoods

Description: In addressing STEM challenges and priorities, the National Science Foundation invests in evidence-based and evidence-generating approaches to understanding STEM learning; to designing, testing, and studying instruction and curricular change; to wide dissemination and implementation of best practices; and to broadening participation of individuals and institutions in STEM fields. The goals of these investments include: increasing the number and diversity of STEM students, preparing students well to participate in science for tomorrow, and improving students' STEM learning outcomes. The Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE: EHR) program invites proposals that address immediate challenges and opportunities that are facing undergraduate STEM education, as well as those that anticipate new structures (e.g. organizational changes, new methods for certification or credentialing, course re-conception, cyberlearning, etc.) and new functions of the undergraduate learning and teaching enterprise. More information about NSF-IUSE can be found in the Introduction of this solicitation.

Due Date: October 06, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$64,000; Award Ceiling: \$4,000,000; Award Floor: \$70,000

Website: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf15585

Agency: Ocean and International Environmental Scientific

Program: Community Support for Combating Wildlife Trafficking in the Heart of Borneo through Sustainable Livelihoods

Description: The Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs Office of Conservation and Water at the Department of State announces the Notice of Funding Opportunity for Community Support for combating Wildlife Trafficking in the Heart of Borneo through Sustainable Livelihoods grant. The purpose is to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and forests and to strengthen wildlife trafficking interdiction through capacity-building activities in the Heart of Borneo region. A grant for up to \$99,000 U.S. Dollars in FY 2015 Economic Support Funds will be awarded for work that will support efforts to conserve an estimated 24 million hectares of biodiversity-rich equatorial rainforests which cover a third of the island of Borneo/Kalimantan. The Heart of Borneo Initiative focuses on developing a coalition to maintain forests and biodiversity in a network of protected areas and sustainably managed forests through international cooperation, and includes wildlife trafficking interdiction efforts focused on East Kalimantan in Indonesia and the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak. The Heart of Borneo is led by the three nations containing the Heart of Borneo - Brunei, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The initial period of performance for the grant will be for two years.

Due Date: August 01, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$99,000; Award Ceiling: \$99,000; Award Floor: \$75,000

Website: <https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=57653>

Agency: USDA
Economic Research Service

Program: Request for Applications for Competitive Grant Award To Establish a USDA RIDGE Center for Food and Nutrition Assistance Research

Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Economic Research Service in collaboration with USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) invites applications for a competitively awarded grant to establish a research

center to administer the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) Program. The USDA Ridge Center will: 1. Provide renewed focus on economic aspects of food and nutrition assistance research; 2. Stimulate innovative research on domestic food and nutrition assistance issues by providing small grants for new analyses of the USDA major food and nutrition assistance programs, food security, and smaller, less studied programs such as the Summer Food Service Program; 3. Broaden the network of social scientists who collaborate in expanding the understanding of the economic, nutrition, and health outcomes of participation in USDA's food assistance programs, as well as of the issues surrounding program implementation and delivery, and 4. Achieve cost savings through consolidating the previous two RIDGE Centers into one institution. ERS anticipates that \$600,000 will be awarded in fiscal year 2016 to support this activity with additional funding, subject to availability, for 2 more years.

Due Date: August 01, 2016

Funding: Total Program Funding: \$600,000; Award Ceiling: \$600,000

Website: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/>