



# WASHINGTON UPDATE

---

March 19, 2019 Volume 38, Issue 6

[Subscribe to COSSA Washington Update](#) | [Subscribe to Members-Only Emails from COSSA](#)

## In This Issue

### FEATURED NEWS

[Details of President's FY 2020 Budget Request Emerge](#)

### COSSA IN ACTION

[COSSA Urges Action on Non-Defense Discretionary Spending](#)

[COSSA Asks OMB to Remove Census Citizenship Question](#)

[Letters & Statements](#)

### FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

[National Science Foundation Invites Participation in Convergence Accelerator Pilot](#)

[William Beach Confirmed as BLS Commissioner](#)

[Nomination Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Notices & Requests for Comment](#)

[Open Positions](#)

[Fellowships & Professional Development](#)

### COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

[National Academies Releases Decadal Survey of the Social and Behavioral Science for Applications to National Security](#)

[Nomination Opportunities](#)

[Notices & Requests for Comment](#)

### COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

[Recent Reports](#)

### EVENTS CALENDAR

---

## FEATURED NEWS

---

### Details of President's FY 2020 Budget Request Emerge

This week, the Trump Administration began releasing details of its fiscal year (FY) 2020 budget request. Like previous years, the budget proposes steep cuts that would damage America's research and data enterprise. Full details of the budget are still in the process of being released this week. COSSA will be sharing its in-depth analysis of the proposal in the coming days. Below

is a snapshot of some of the funding levels we know so far:

AGENCY	FY 2019 ENACTED	FY 2020 REQUEST	% CHANGE
NIH	\$39.1 B	\$34.4 B	-12%
NSF	\$8.1 B	\$7.1 B	-12%
IES	\$615.5 M	\$521.6 M	-15.3%
Int'l Ed (Title VI)	\$65.1 M	Eliminated	-100%
Int'l Ed (Fulbright-Hays)	\$7.1 M	Eliminated	-100%
NIJ	\$37 M	\$46.5 M	+25.7%
BJS	\$43 M	\$48 M	+11.6%
Census	\$3.8 B	\$7.2 B	+88%
BLS	\$615 M	\$655 M	+7%
ERS	\$86.8 M	\$61 M	-30%
AHRQ	\$338 M	\$256 M	-24%

It is important to remember that the Presidents' request is simply a proposal and is unlikely to become law. Congress has sole authority over appropriating funds. COSSA has signed on to a [letter](#) to Congressional leaders as part of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) encouraging Congress reach a bipartisan agreement to raise the budget caps for non-defense discretionary spending and recommending an increased appropriation of \$9 billion for the National Science Foundation in FY 2020.

---

## COSSA IN ACTION

---

### COSSA Urges Action on Non-Defense Discretionary Spending

Before Congress can fully dive in to the FY 2020 appropriations process (see related article), it must address a larger threat facing funding for next year. As [COSSA has reported](#), the *Budget Control Act of 2011* put in place caps on discretionary spending for every year between 2013 and 2021, which limit how much Congress can spend every year with an aim of reducing the federal deficit. Thankfully, Congress took action since 2013 to amend the law and raise the caps, which has allowed funding for federal research agencies to increase above the painful caps. Unfortunately, the relief enacted by Congress expires in FY 2020, meaning if Congress does not act this year to provide relief (to "raise the caps"), these draconian spending limits will be back in force and translate to devastating cuts to programs important to our community.

In response, COSSA has issued an [action alert](#) urging members to write to their Members of Congress to tell them to prioritize a budget deal that gives fair treatment to vital non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs-including science and research agencies-which have disproportionately borne the brunt of federal spending cuts over the past several years.

The action alert can be found on COSSA's [website](#).

### COSSA Asks OMB to Remove Census Citizenship Question

In response to a *Federal Register* request, COSSA submitted a comment to the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requesting that, should a Census citizenship question be [reinstated by the Supreme Court](#), as has been proposed by the Trump Administration, OMB remove it from the 2020 Census on the grounds that it violates the *Paperwork Reduction Act*. COSSA argues that including the question "is of minimal practical utility or public benefit, will increase the burden on respondents, and will harm the integrity and accuracy of information collected for statistical purposes." The full comment is available on the [COSSA website](#).

## Letters & Statements

- 3/15/2019: [Friends of NCHS Statement on FY 2020 Funding for the National Center for Health Statistics](#)
- 3/14/2019: [CNSF Letter on FY 2020 Funding for the National Science Foundation](#)
- 3/7/2019: Friends of AHRQ Letter on FY 2020 Funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, [House/Senate](#)

---

## FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

---

### National Science Foundation Invites Participation in Convergence Accelerator Pilot

In a [Dear Colleague letter](#) released on March 18, the National Science Foundation (NSF) invited interested parties to participate in the [NSF Convergence Accelerator Pilot](#). The NSF Convergence Accelerators Pilot seeks to accelerate use-inspired convergence research in areas of national importance by facilitating convergent team-building capacity around exploratory, potentially high-risk proposals. The Pilot seeks proposals to support fundamental research while encouraging rapid advances through partnerships that include, or will include, multiple stakeholders in three research tracks aligned with two of the [NSF Ten Big Ideas](#). The three research tracks are: *Open Knowledge Network* (as part of the [Harnessing the Data Revolution](#) Big Idea), *AI and the Future of Jobs* (as part of the [Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier](#) Big Idea), and *National Talent Ecosystem* (as part of the Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier Big Idea).

The submission of a Research Concept Outline is due April 15, with full proposals due by June 3. NSF will host two webinars, on [March 27](#) and [April 3](#), to answer questions about the submission process and the Convergence Accelerator program more broadly. More information about the Convergence Accelerator program is available on the NSF [website](#).

### William Beach Confirmed as BLS Commissioner

On March 13, William Beach was confirmed as the next Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics after a protracted wait. Beach was originally nominated by the Trump Administration in October 2017 (see COSSA's [previous coverage](#)). He is an economist who spent much of his career at conservative think tanks and was most recently Vice President at George Mason University's Mercatus Center. He also spent several years as Chief Economist for the Senate Budget Committee Republican Staff and has been involved in the [evidence-based policy-making activities](#) of the last several years. The Friends of BLS, of which COSSA is a member, endorsed his nomination. He succeeds William Wiatrowski, who has been Acting Commissioner since January 2017 when Erica Groshen's term expired. Beach will be tasked with leading the Bureau as it faces the relocation of its headquarters and a potential move from the Department of Labor to the Department of Commerce.

### Nomination Opportunities

- AHRQ: [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#) (Closes: May 15, 2019)
- NEW: USDA: [Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics](#) (Closes: March 29, 2019)

### Funding Opportunities

- NIH/NIGMS: [Graduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement \(G-RISE\) \(T32\)](#) (Closes: May 21, 2019)
- NIJ: [Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives](#) (Closes: May 13, 2019)
- NIH: [Research Project Grant \(Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required\)](#) (Opens: May 7, 2019)

- **NEW:** BJS: [Law Enforcement Core Statistics \(LECS\) Program FY 2019 Competitive Grant Solicitation](#) (Closes: May 6, 2019)
- NIH: [Research and Evaluation on Drugs and Crime FY 2019](#) (Closes: May 6, 2019)
- NIH: [Predoctoral Training in Advanced Data Analytics for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research \(BSSR\) - Institutional Research Training Program \[T32\]](#) (Opens: April 25, 2019)
- NIH: [Research and Evaluation on the Administration of Justice](#) (Closes: April 19, 2019)
- NIH: [Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics](#) (Closes: April 17, 2019)
- **NEW:** NSF: [NSF Convergence Accelerator Pilot \(NSF C-Accel\)](#) (Closes: April 15, 2019)
- NIH: [Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes](#) (Closes: April 11, 2019)
- NSF: [Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Program \(S-STEM\)](#) (Closes: March 29, 2019)
- NIH: HEAL Initiative: HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study (HEALthy BCD): [Collaborative R34 \(Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#), [R34 \(Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#) (Closes: March 25, 2019)
- ED: [Fulbright-Hays--Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad \(DDRA\)](#) (Closes: March 25, 2019)

## Notices & Requests for Comment

- NIH: [Request for Information \(RFI\) Seeking Stakeholder Input on the Need for an NIH Administrative Data Enclave](#) (Closes: May 30, 2019)

## Open Positions

- NIH: [Deputy Director, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) (Closes: March 28, 2019)

## Fellowships & Professional Development

- NIH: [Graduate Research Fellowship in the Social and Behavioral Sciences](#) (Closes: April 8, 2019)
- NIH: [OBSSR Matilda White Riley Honors Early Stage Investigator Paper Competition](#) (Closes: March 31, 2019)

---

## COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

---

### National Academies Releases Decadal Survey of the Social and Behavioral Science for Applications to National Security

On March 5, the [Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences](#) of the National Academies of Science released a [Consensus Study Report of the Decadal Survey of Social and Behavioral Science for Applications to National Security](#). A decadal survey is a method of engaging members of a scholarly community to identify lines of research with the greatest potential to be used over a 10-year period in pursuit of a particular goal. This is the first decadal survey to attempt to set a research agenda for the social and behavioral sciences or the intelligence community.

The report, *A Research Agenda for Advancing Intelligence Analysis*, recommends that the intelligence community make sustained collaboration with research in the social and behavioral sciences as a central part of the 10-year research agenda. The report highlights ways to promote interdisciplinary collaboration so that the insights from social and behavioral science research

are more fully integrated with the needs and objectives of the intelligence community. The report also includes opportunities for social and behavioral science research to help strengthen, plan, and design intelligence analysis. The full report can be read on the National Academies' [website](#).

## Nomination Opportunities

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Committee on Understanding the Status and Well-Being of LGBTQ+ Populations](#) (Closes: March 22, 2019)

## Notices & Requests for Comment

- NASEM: [National Call for Commitment Statements on Reversing the U.S. Opioid Epidemic](#) (Closes: April 15, 2019)

---

## COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

---

### Recent Reports

- **NEW:** AAA&S: [Science During Crisis](#)

---

## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting](#), March 21-23, 2019, Baltimore, MD
- [SPSSI: Protecting and Promoting the Human Rights of Scientists, Scholars, and Students Around the World](#), March 22, 2019, Washington, DC
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), March 26-30, 2019, Baltimore, MD
- [PAA: New Arrivals: Who Are the New Immigrants and How are They Doing](#), March 28, 2019, Washington, DC
- [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 3-7, 2019, Washington, DC
- [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 4-7, 2019, Chicago, IL
- [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 5-9, 2019, Toronto, Canada
- [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 10-13, 2019, Atlanta, GA
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), April 10-13, 2019, Austin, TX
- [COSSA Headlines | April Headlines & Deep Dive Topic TBA](#), April 12, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 17-20, 2019, Chicago, IL
- [American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting](#), April 25-27, 2019, New York, NY
- [COSSA 2019 Social Science Advocacy Day, April 30-May 1, 2019, Washington, DC](#)
- [COSSA Headlines | May Headlines & Deep Dive TBA](#), May 9, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration](#), May 15-17, 2019, Baltimore, MD
- [American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference](#), May 16-19, 2019, Toronto, Canada
- [NSF Grants Conference](#), May 20-21, 2019, Los Angeles, CA
- [Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting](#), May 28-31, 2019, San Francisco, CA
- [Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#), May 30-June 2, 2019, Washington, DC

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#). COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to [jmilton@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org).

**REGISTER NOW!**

# CSSA ★ 2019

**SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVOCACY DAY**  
April 30 - May 1, 2019 ★ Washington, DC

## Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

### Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Public Opinion Research  
American Economic Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society of Criminology  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
Law and Society Association  
Linguistic Society of America  
Midwest Political Science Association  
National Communication Association  
Population Association of America  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
Society for Research in Child Development

### Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
African Studies Association  
American Association of Geographers  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Evaluation Association  
American Historical Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of American Law Schools  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Council on Family Relations  
North American Regional Science Council  
Rural Sociological Society  
Social Science History Association  
Society for Prevention Research  
Society for Research on Adolescence  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

### Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Fielding Graduate University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University, The  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
Texas A&M University  
University of Arizona  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, San Antonio  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

## Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council

---

### COSSA

**Executive Director:** Wendy A. Naus

**Director of Public Affairs:** Julia Milton

**Assistant Director of Government Relations:** Camille Hosman

**Staff Assistant:** Ben Goodrich

*The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.*

ISSN 0749-4394.

---