



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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Featured News

Biden Signs *American Rescue Plan*, with Funding for NSF, IES, Universities

On March 11, President Biden signed into law the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* (H.R. 1319). As [previously reported](#), the \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill includes \$600 million in funding to support research related to the pandemic at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and \$100 million to support research related to K-12 learning loss at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). The bill also includes \$39.9 billion in funding to support colleges and universities. Now that this major piece of legislation has been enacted, lawmakers' attention will turn to appropriations for the coming fiscal year. In addition, discussions will begin for another aid bill targeted for later in the spring that will be more broadly focused on recovery and infrastructure.

New from COSSA

Registration Opens for COSSA's Virtual Social Science Advocacy Day

COSSA members are invited to register for COSSA's 2021 virtual [Social Science Advocacy Day](#) on April 27.

Social Science Advocacy Day is the only annual, coordinated advocacy day in support of all of the social and behavioral sciences. The event brings

together social scientists and other science advocates from across the country to engage with policymakers. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, the registration fee for Advocacy Day is only \$25, but spots are limited, so [register soon](#).



FROM THE ARCHIVES: Congress Passes Competitiveness Legislation (August 6, 2007)

In celebration of COSSA's 40th anniversary, we are diving into the decades of [Washington Update archives](#) to share articles from years past that resonate with today's news.

Culminating a two-year effort, on August 2 Congress cleared the America COMPETES Act. Combining many aspects of House and Senate legislation that traveled through both bodies in 2006 and 2007, the over 450 page bill includes provisions affecting the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Department of Energy, NASA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Department of Education (DOE), and the White House Office of Science and Technology (OSTP). As a number of House Members noted during the debate on the House-Senate conference report, this is only an authorization bill and many of the funding levels may not be provided by the appropriators. Nonetheless, House Science Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN) and Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) led this successful effort through many mine fields during its route to passage.

The NSF portion of the legislation reauthorizes the agency for three years at funding levels that will keep the agency on a path to double its budget in seven years. The bill particularly increases authorization levels for K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education by increasing funding for scholarship programs to train and retrain math and science teachers and by further encouraging math and science partnerships between universities and elementary and secondary schools. The legislation also provides for expansion of the Graduate Fellowship program, the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program, and the early career grants program (CAREER), and creates a new pilot program of seed grants for outstanding new investigators.

In addition, the bill includes provisions to help broaden participation in STEM fields at all levels. It requests a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report to identify barriers to and opportunities for increasing the number of underrepresented minorities in STEM fields.

The bill resists calls for open access within a certain time period as required in the bill appropriating FY 2008 funds for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (see Update June, 25, 2007). The COMPETES bill simply says that the NSF Director shall ensure that "final project reports and citations resulting from research funded...are made available to the public in a timely manner and in electronic form through the Foundation's Web site." It does, however, cut off subsequent grants to investigators who fail to share their data within a reasonable time as required by Section 734 of the NSF Grants Manual.

[Read more from this issue.](#)

Congressional News

Earmarks Return to House Under New Name

Last month, House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) [announced](#) the intent of the committee to accept requests for "Community Project Funding" in the fiscal year (FY) 2022 appropriations bills. Although the announcement essentially reverses the decade-long House ban on earmarks set by the Republican majority in 2011, Chairwoman DeLauro's plan includes [new rules](#) to govern the process. Among the reforms include posting every request online for public viewing, limiting the number of requests allowed per member to 10, and a cap on the total amount of funding to be used for projects at no more than one percent of total discretionary spending. The Senate has not yet announced whether or how it might reintroduce earmarks this year. Additional details are expected in the coming weeks as activity around the FY 2022 process ramp up.

Executive Branch News

Biden Issues Executive Orders Establishing Gender Policy Council & Protections on Sex and Gender Identity in Schools

On March 8, 2021, President Biden issued two executive orders signaling his Administration's priorities on national gender policy. The first executive order ([EO 14020](#)) establishes a new White House Council on Gender Policy, which would largely be responsible for coordinating federal government efforts to advance gender equity and programs that address gender-based issues. The Council will include co-chairs chosen by the White House as well as representatives from major Federal departments and agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the National Science Foundation, and would be tasked with

developing a government-wide strategy to advance gender equity and equality within 200 days of the issuance of the order.

The second executive order ([EO 14021](#)) guarantees protections against discrimination on the basis of sex or gender, including sexual orientation and gender identity, in schools that receive federal funding, as codified in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The order also authorizes the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Attorney General, to review existing regulations that affect sex and gender in schools to consider suspending, revising, or revoking those that do not align with the Administration's protections.

Both executive orders are available on the [White House website](#).

Science Community News

NASEM Releases Report Documenting COVID-19's Impact on Women in STEM, Compiles New COVID Resource

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) has released a new consensus study that details how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected women in STEM fields. The report, [Impact of COVID-19 on the Careers of Women in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#), "identifies, names, and documents how the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the careers of women in academic STEM during the initial 9-month period since March 2020 and considers how these disruptions—both positive and negative—might shape future progress for women." NASEM has also compiled its most important reports, findings, and activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic released over the past year into a new publication: [Critical Findings on COVID-19](#).

COSSA Member Spotlight

Saima Hedrick Named New SRCD Director

The Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), a COSSA governing member, has [announced](#) the selection of Saima K. Hedrick as its next executive director effective April 5. Hedrick comes to SRCD from the Society for the Study of Reproduction, where she has served as executive director for over three years. She will succeed Martha Zaslow, who has been acting as interim executive director.

Resources & Opportunities

Nomination Opportunities

- **EXTENDED:** NASEM: [Call for Nominations: Addressing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism in 21st Century STEMM Organizations: A Summit](#) (Closes: March 18, 2021)

New & Expiring Funding Opportunities

- NSF: [Future Manufacturing \(FM\)](#) (Closes: May 14, 2021)
- NSF: [Understanding the Rules of Life: Emergent Networks](#) (Closes: May 10, 2021)
- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Advancing Health Communication Research on HIV Prevention, Treatment and Cure](#) (Closes: May 8, 2021)
- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research \(R21/R33 Clinical Trial Optional\) \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Opens: March 30, 2021) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Competitive and Administrative Supplements for the Impact of COVID-19 Outbreak on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIA: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): NIA Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- BJS: [NICS Act Record Improvement Program \(NARIP\)](#) (Closes: April 22, 2021)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for NIH Grants to Add or Expand Research Focused on Maternal Health, Structural Racism and Discrimination, and COVID-19](#) (Closes: April 21, 2021)
- NIH/NIMH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Mental Health Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: April 16, 2021)
- **EXTENDED:** BJS: [Continuation of the Federal Justice Statistics Program](#) (Closes: April 13, 2021)
- **EXTENDED:** BJS: [Census of Law Enforcement Training Academies](#) (Closes: April 12, 2021)
- BJS: [National Criminal History Improvement Program \(NCHIP\)](#) (Closes: April 8, 2021)
- [HEAL Initiative: HEALthy Brain and Child Development Consortium Administrative Core](#) (Opens March 1, 2021; Closes: April 1, 2021)

- [HEAL Initiative: HEALthy Brain and Child Development Data Coordinating Center \(U24\)](#) (Opens March 1, 2021; Closes: April 1, 2021)
- [HEAL Initiative: HEALthy Brain and Child Development Study \(Collaborative U01-Clinical Trial Not Allowed\) \(U01 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#) (Closes: April 1, 2021)
- [NIH: Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus and the Behavioral and Social Sciences](#) (Closes: April 1, 2021)
- [NIH/NIDA: Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: March 31, 2021)
- [NSF: Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier: Core Research \(FW-HTF\)](#) (Closes: March 23, 2021)
- [NIH: Research on Biopsychosocial Factors of Social Connectedness and Isolation on Health, Wellbeing, Illness, and Recovery \(R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required\) \(R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed\)](#) (Closes: March 18, 2021)
- [NIH: Mid-Career Enhancement Awards to Integrate Basic Behavioral, Biomedical, and/or Social Scientific Processes \(K18 No Independent Clinical Trials\)](#) (Closes: March 17, 2021)
- [NIH: Mid-Career Enhancement Awards to Integrate Basic Behavioral, Biomedical, and/or Social Scientific Processes \(K18 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required\)](#) (Closes: March 17, 2021)

[More funding opportunities.](#)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- **NEW:** NASEM/DBASSE: [Requesting Comments: Call to Action for Science Education](#)
- **NEW:** AHRQ: [Request for Information on the Use of Clinical Algorithms that Have the Potential to Introduce Racial/Ethnic Bias into Healthcare Delivery](#) (Closes: May 4, 2021)
- **NEW:** SPSSI: [Call for Proposals: SPSSI's 2021 Virtual Conference](#) (Closes: April 16, 2021)
- [NIH: Inviting Comments and Suggestions to Advance and Strengthen Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the Biomedical Research Workforce and Advance Health Disparities and Health Equity Research](#) (Closes: April 9, 2021)
- [DOJ/BJS: Public comments requested on the proposed reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved BJS data collection: 2021 Identity Theft Supplement](#) (Closes: April 5, 2021)
- [NSF: Dear Colleague Letter: Interdisciplinary Frontiers of Understanding the Brain](#) (Closes: March 31, 2021)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Impact of COVID-19 on the Careers of Women in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine](#)
- **NEW:** NASEM: [Critical Findings on COVID-19](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- **NEW:** NIH: [Faculty Institutional Recruitment for Sustainable Transformation \(FIRST\) Program: FIRST Coordination and Evaluation Center \(U24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#) (Opens: March 23, 2021) (Closes: April 23, 2021)
- NASEM: [New Voices in Sciences, Engineering and Medicine 2021](#) Cohort (Closes: March 31, 2021)
- ED: [Summer Internship Opportunities](#) (Closes: March 31, 2021)
- NASEM/DBASSE: [Associate Program Officer - Behavioral/Social Sciences and Communications](#)

Upcoming Events



- **VIRTUAL:** [Society for Personality Assessment Annual Convention](#), March 17-20, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [NASEM Reducing Racial Inequalities Workshop - Transforming Education and Youth-Serving Systems](#), March 18, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [CASBS Webinar - America's Black-White Divide: Looking Back, Looking Around, Looking Forward](#), March 18, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [NIH OBSSR Director's Webinar: Behavioral Health and Injury Prevention: The Emergency Department as a Window to Community and Population Health](#), March 23, 2021, 2:00pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [NASEM Workshop: Overcoming Barriers to Diversifying Clinical Trials](#), March 23, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 7-10, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 7-11, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | April](#), April 8, 2021

- **VIRTUAL:** [Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting](#), April 8-10, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 9-12, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), April 12-16, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), April 13-17, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 14-18, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting](#), April 15-17, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 18-21, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting](#), April 22-24, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Social Science Advocacy Day, April 27, 2021](#)
- **VIRTUAL:** [Association of Research Libraries Meeting](#), April 27-29, 2021

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@coossa.org.

COSSA 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
 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
 Rural Sociological Society
 Social Science History Association
 Society for Personality Assessment
 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
 Southwestern Social Science Association

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Centers and Institutes

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

About COSSA

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.

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#WhySocialScience

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