COSSA Releases Analysis of President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for Social Science

On March 9, the Biden Administration began releasing details of its fiscal year (FY) 2024 budget request to Congress, with additional information rolling out over subsequent days.

In total, the Biden Administration is requesting $209.7 billion for research and development activities across the federal government in FY 2024, an increase of $8.9 billion. Within that amount, $101.2 billion is sought for basic and applied research activities, an increase of $3.5 billion.

The budget identifies several cross-government priorities for the President, including:

- Cutting the cancer death rate by at least 50 percent over the next 25 years.
- Preparing for and preventing future pandemics.
- Combating climate change.
- Advancing national security and technological competitiveness.
- Broadening participation in science and applying science to achieve equity.
- Investing in STEM education and workforce.

As you will read, the FY 2024 budget request prioritizes investment in these and other areas of central importance to the Biden Administration.
As always, when considering an Administration’s budget proposal, it is important to remember that it remains a largely symbolic policy document that outlines the Administration’s priorities for the year ahead. While it is possible that some of the President’s requests will be enacted, Congress has the final say over the appropriation of funds. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees will soon set their own spending parameters for each of the 12 annual appropriations bills, which may or may not be able to accommodate all the President’s prioritized investments.

The release of the FY 2024 budget request is the official kick-off of “appropriations season.” Congressional committees have begun their oversight hearings for departments and agencies under their purview featuring testimony by Biden Administration officials. House Appropriations Committees typically try to introduce and mark up their versions of the bills in late spring or early summer with the Senate often lagging several weeks behind. The start of the month-long August recess in which lawmakers return home to engage with constituents is a typical target for Appropriations Committees to complete their work on the bills and bring them to the floor for consideration.

However, as COSSA has been reporting, the new House Republican majority under the leadership of Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) is laser-focused on cutting spending for discretionary accounts. Calls in the House to reverse spending back to FY 2022 levels is all but certain to be met with fierce opposition in the Democrat-controlled Senate. The fight over funding is expected to come to a head over the summer as the U.S. approaches the debt limit and threatens to default on its obligations. Republicans are going to demand steep budget cuts in exchange for lifting the debt ceiling.

In addition, as we inch closer to the 2024 Presidential election, finding agreement on appropriations legislation will become all the more complicated. The research community should prepare for any and all scenarios to play out for FY 2024, including the possibility of a year-long continuing resolution that would maintain funding at FY 2023 levels (likely best case), or real cuts to discretionary funding (worst case).

COSSA will continue to report on the progress of FY 2024 funding legislation in the weeks and months ahead. In the meantime, we invite you to read our analysis to learn about the President’s proposals as they pertain to social and behavioral science research.
Can't make it to DC this Spring? Watch your inbox for info on how you can engage from home.

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**Congressional News**

**118th Congress: Profile of the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Subcommittee**

The Senate Appropriations [Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies](https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/) (LHHS) is an important committee to the research community in that it is responsible for securing appropriations and drafting legislation for the Department of Education (ED), Department of Labor (DOL), and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which includes the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The LHHS Subcommittee is one of the most sought-after committee appointments in the Senate due to the wide scope of agencies and priorities under the Subcommittee’s jurisdiction.

Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman, Patty Murray (D-WA), and Ranking Member Susan Collins (R-ME) announced the [subcommittee leadership roles](https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/) on February 15. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) was announced as Chairwoman of the LHHS Subcommittee and Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV) as Ranking Member. Previously, Senator Murray served as the Chair of the LHHS subcommittee, but left the position when she became Chairwoman of the full Appropriations Committee. The Ranking Member position was previously held by Roy Blunt (R-MO) who retired at the end of the last Congress.

The subcommittee is expected to begin work on the FY 2024 appropriations bill now that the President’s Budget Request has been released ([see COSSA’s in-depth analysis](https://www.cossa.org/)).

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**Executive Branch News**

**DOD Announces Awards for Social Science Research Under the Defense Education and Civilian University Partnership**

The Department of Defense (DOD) has announced a $2 million award for partnerships between six university and Defense Professional Military Education (PME) institution faculty teams in an effort to facilitate connections between faculty who share complementary research interests. These Defense Education and Civilian University Research (DECUR) Partnerships exist under DoD’s [Minerva Research Initiative](https://www.minerva.navy.mil/), which strengthens the DOD’s connections with the social science community and helps DoD better understand and prepare for future challenges.

Each DECUR partnership is set to pursue one of the following research projects:

- Critical Minerals, Battery Technology, and Reducing Dependence on Hostile Suppliers in the Clean Energy Supply Chain
- Strategic Competition in Cyberspace: Measuring the Effects of Cyber Campaigning through Experimental Methodology
- Understanding Multi-stakeholder Regime Formation: The Case of Cislunar Space
- Characterizing and Countering the Normalization of Extremism and Communal Violence in Cyber-Social Space
- Assessing the Influence of China’s Belt and Road Initiative in Local Communities at Global Scale
- Artificial Intelligence Design across Cultures: Cognitive Linguistics Describes Ethical Implications
COSSA Member Spotlight

COSSA Board Member Sara Curran Comments on U.S. Race & Ethnicity Standards

On March 16, *The Seattle Times* quoted Director of the University of Washington’s Center for Studies in Demography & Ecology and At-Large member of COSSA’s Board of Directors Sara Curran in an article on the need to update the U.S. standards of collecting race and ethnicity data. The recent push to revise the race and ethnicity data standards has been a priority of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which has led town halls to collect public feedback on the proposed changes to the standards (see previous COSSA coverage).

In the article, Dr. Curran states that “these categories change as communities form and identify themselves and become differentially meaningful over time, and we need to keep up with that.” Read the full article for more details.

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- 3/21/2023: Analysis of the President's FY 2024 Budget Request for Social Science
- 3/15/2023: Coalition for National Science Funding Letter to the Senate on FY 2024 Funding for the National Science Foundation
- 3/15/2023: Coalition for National Science Funding Letter to the House on FY 2024 Funding for the National Science Foundation
- 3/15/2023: Friends of IES Letter to Congress on FY 2024 Funding for the Institute of Education Sciences
- 3/13/2023: Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Recommendation for FY 2024 Funding for the National Institutes of Health
- 3/9/2023: Friends of NCHS Letter to Congress on FY 2024 Funding for the National Center for Health Statistics
- 3/8/2023: Friends of AHRQ Letter to Congress on FY 2024 Funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Nomination Opportunities

- NSF: National Medal of Science (Closes: May 26, 2023)

Funding Opportunities

- NIH: Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity (Closes: November 16, 2023)
- HUD: Hispanic Serving Institutions (HIS) Research Center of Excellence (Closes: May 18, 2023)
- NSF/TIP: Accelerating Research Translation (ART) (Closes: May 9, 2023)
- NEW: ARPA-H: ARPA-H Dash (Closes: April 7, 2023)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers
NIH/NIMH: Request for Information: Gaps and Opportunities in Global Mental Health Research (Closes: May 5, 2023)
NEW: NIH: Request for Information on the NIH Plan to Enhance Public Access to the Results of NIH-Supported Research (Closes: April 24, 2023)
OMB: Initial Proposals for Updating OMB’s Race and Ethnicity Statistical Standards (Closes: April 12, 2023)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

NEW: NASEM: Addressing the Long-Term Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Children and Families

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

William T. Grant Foundation: William T. Grant Scholars Program (Closes: July 5, 2023)

Upcoming Events

Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, March 23-25, 2023, Salt Lake City, UT
Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 23-26, 2023, Minneapolis, MN
Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting, March 30 - April 1, 2023, Fort Worth, TX
Population Association of America Annual Meeting, April 12-15, 2023, New Orleans, LA
Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 13-16, 2023, Chicago, IL
American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, April 13-16, 2023, Chicago, IL
2023 Social Science Advocacy Day, April 24-25, 2023, Washington, DC
American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting, April 27-29, 2023, Philadelphia, PA
American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference, May 10-12, 2023, Philadelphia, PA
Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, May 30-June 2, 2023, 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 bgoodrich@cossa.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

Colleges and Universities
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Johns Hopkins University
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
Division for Research of the Council for Exceptional Children
Economic History Association
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 the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Southern Political Science Association
Southwestern Political Science Association

Affiliates

Sage

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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