

ANALYSIS of the

Trump Administration's FY 2026 Budget Request

for Social and Behavioral Science Research

PART 1

June 18, 2025

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Table of Contents

List of Tables	
Executive Summary	
Education Department	
Health and Human Services Department	
National Institutes of Health	1
National Science Foundation	19
Appendix A: List of Terminated HHS Programs	2

List of Tables

Figure 1 – Department of Education	6
Figure 2 – Department of Health and Human Services	
Figure 3 – National Institutes of Health	. 17
Figure 4 – National Science Foundation	. 21
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How to interpret budget figures in this document

The budget numbers provided in this report account for the Trump Administration's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 request for discretionary spending, unless noted otherwise. All figures in the agency tables are in millions of current dollars, and, in most cases, are rounded to one figure after the decimal. Totals may contain rounding errors.

At the time of this writing, final FY 2025 funding levels for some subaccounts and programs are not available; therefore, where noted, comparisons are made to the FY 2024 enacted level.

Throughout this analysis, the tables list the amounts enacted by Congress for FY 2024 and FY 2025 (if available), the amount proposed in the President's FY 2026 budget request, and a comparison of the FY 2026 proposed amount to the enacted FY 2025 level expressed as percent change. Tables marked "n/a" indicate accounts with funding levels that are currently unavailable.

FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 26 Request vs.
Enacted	Enacted	Request	FY 25 Enacted

NOTE: The Trump Administration's FY 2026 budget request proposes major government reorganizations. We tried our best to track the movement of agencies and programs across the government and provide the most accurate funding comparisons. In some cases, the FY 2026 budget lacks sufficient detail to allow us to track funding with complete certainty.

The President's FY 2026 Budget Request for Social and Behavioral Science Research *PART 1:*

Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation

On May 3, the Trump Administration released preliminary, high-level details of its fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget request, referred to as a "skinny budget." On May 30, additional details emerged. At the time of this writing, the FY 2026 budget request for most of the federal government has been publicly released. Given the delay in this year's budget release, COSSA will be delivering its annual analysis of the President's budget request in two parts. This first part contains our analysis of the Trump Administration's FY 2026 funding proposals for the **Department of Education**, **Department of Health and Human Services**, **National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation**. The second part, which will be released within a week, will include details on all remaining agencies important to the social and behavioral science community.

The President's FY 2026 budget reiterates the Administration's commitment to "reducing waste" and "improving efficiency" through targeted investments in specific areas and major funding terminations for initiatives that do not align with the President's policy positions (e.g., DEI). If Congress enacts the President's proposal, nearly every federal agency would see large cuts to their budgets in FY 2026. However, many of the proposals, such as a 40 percent cut to the National Institutes of Health, are viewed as nonstarters with bipartisan champions in Congress.

When considering an Administration's budget proposal, it is important to remember that it remains a largely symbolic policy document outlining 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 have already begun marking up their annual appropriations bills, with the science-related funding bills scheduled for consideration in early July.

Still, given the ongoing gridlock in Congress, it remains unlikely that FY 2026 appropriations bills will be completed on time (i.e., by October 1). This is especially true this year as the Republican leadership in both chambers prioritize passage of a large tax-cut and reconciliation package (see COSSA's coverage). FY 2026 is all but guaranteed to begin under a continuing resolution (CR) come October 1.

Snapshot of the President's FY 2026 Budget Request				
(in millions)	FY 2026 Request	% Change		
National Institutes of Health	27915.1	-39.3%		
National Science Foundation	3903.2	-56.9%		
Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health	945.0	-37.0%		
Institute of Education Sciences	261.3	-67.1%		
National Center for Health Statistics	175.0	-6.6%		
International Education and Foreign Language Studies (Dept. of Education)	0	-100%		

COSSA will continue to report on the progress of FY 2026 funding legislation in the weeks and months ahead. You can follow our coverage at: https://cossa.org/tag/fy-2026/.

In the meantime, we invite you to read on to learn about the President's proposals as they pertain to social and behavioral science research.

Education Department

The President's proposed FY 2026 budget includes \$66.7 billion in discretionary spending for the Department of Education, a nearly \$12 billion reduction from FY 2025 appropriations. The proposed budget includes significant cuts to the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), with several accounts lacking dedicated funding.

Departmental Restructuring

Notably, the FY 2026 budget request includes a major restructuring of funding for 18 competitive grant programs across the Department, which would be consolidated into a single \$2 billion block grant for states. Among the proposed consolidated grant programs are the comprehensive literacy state development, innovative approaches to literacy, American history and civics education, education innovation and research, and English language acquisition grants. The justification for each consolidation is minimal, with the request only asserting that "States and localities, not the Federal government, are best suited to determine whether to support the activities authorized under this program or similar activities within their own budgets and without unnecessary administrative burden imposed by the Federal government."

Finally, the FY 2026 budget request includes \$2.5 billion for the **Salaries and Expenses** account, a \$254.7 million reduction from FY 2025. The FY 2026 budget request supports 2,179 full-time equivalents (FTEs), a decrease of 1,920 FTEs from FY 2024. This is particularly concerning given the Administration's recent calls to completely shutter the department (see previous COSSA coverage here.)

Institute of Education Sciences

The FY 2026 budget request for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is \$261 million, a nearly 67 percent reduction from the FY 2025 appropriation. IES supports research, evaluation, and statistics programs through its four centers: the National Center for Education Research (NCER), the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE), and the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER).

Within the request, \$137.3 million would be used for the **Assessment** account within IES, a reduction from the \$193.3 million appropriated in FY 2024 (FY 2025 funding amounts are not available). This includes funding for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), which oversees NAEP by setting its policies and determining achievement standards.

The remaining \$124 million is included as funding for IES on an undistributed line to "enable IES to meet statutory requirements, continue critical data collections and studies, and fund administrative expenses in the short-term."

Unlike previous budgets, the FY 2026 request does not include specific funding allocations for IES' primary functions, including: the Research, Development, and Dissemination account; the Statistics account (which includes the National Center for Education Statistics); Regional Educational Laboratories; Research in Special Education; Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems; and Special Education Studies and Evaluations (see the table below for details).

International Education and Foreign Language Programs

The International Education and Foreign Language Studies Domestic and Overseas Programs (known as Title VI and Fulbright-Hays) would be eliminated under the President's FY 2026 budget request. This is not the first time these programs have been the subject of proposed elimination; however, Congress has successfully reinstated funding each time.

Figure 1 - Department of Education

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted ¹	FY 2026 Request	FY 26 Request vs. FY 25 Enacted
Institute of Education Sciences	793.1	793.1	261.3	-67.1%
Research, Development, and Dissemination	245.0	245.0	n/a	n/a
Statistics	121.5	121.5	n/a	n/a
Regional Educational Laboratories	53.7	53.7	n/a	n/a
Research in Special Education	64.2	64.2	n/a	n/a
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	13.3	13.3	n/a	n/a
Assessment (NAEP)	193.3	193.3	137.3	-29.0%
Statewide Data Systems	28.5	28.5	n/a	n/a
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	85.6	85.6	0	-100%
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	75.5	75.5	0	-100%
Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays)	10.3	10.3	0	-100%

¹ The FY 2025 enacted level does not account for any grant terminations or other cuts taken to IES since January 20, 2025.

Health and Human Services Department

The President's budget request for FY 2026 includes a significant structural overhaul of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), proposing the relocation of several agencies and programs, along with the creation of new agencies and offices, consistent with the President's *Make America Healthy Again* (MAHA) initiative (see the Administration's recent MAHA report here). This reorganization includes the establishment of an Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), Office of Strategy, and Office of the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future. The restructuring also includes a proposal to reduce the National Institutes of Health (NIH) institutes and centers (ICs) from 27 to 8 (see related section).

The budget proposal claims that the goal of this restructuring is to "prioritize resources" and "efficiency" across the department, stating that the agencies have "worked in competition with each other, not in complementary or coordinated ways." Regardless of how one feels about the reorganization details themselves, most troubling is the Administration's attempt to implement significant changes to the HHS agencies without holding a single hearing or seeking any input from the public or research community. While Congress has singular authority over the enacted budget and rarely follows the Presidential Budget Request completely, it is unclear whether these proposed changes will become a priority for Congressional Republicans who, so far this year, have been in lockstep with the President.

The President's full FY 2026 budget request for HHS can be found at: https://www.hhs.gov/about/budget/fy2026/index.html.

Figure 2 – Department of Health and Human Services

	FY 2024 Enacted ²	FY 2025 Enacted ³	FY 2026 Request	FY 26 Request vs. FY 25 Enacted (%)
Department of Health and Human Services	115500.0	117000.0	94700.0	-19.1%
Office of UUS Secretory				
Office of HHS Secretary	705.0	707.0	450.0	
Office of Strategy (new)	725.0	727.0	458.0	-37.0%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) (merged into OS)	369.0	369.0	240.0	-35.0%
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination (from AHRQ)	107.1	107.1	66.0	-38.4%
Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS)	71.8	71.8	76.0	5.8%
National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) (from CDC)	187.4	187.4	175.0	-6.6%
Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (new)	4745.0	4725.0	3672.0	-22.3%
Advanced Research Projects Agency for	1500.0	1500.0	945.0	-37.0%
Health (ARPA-H) (from NIH)	1300.0	1300.0	343.0	-37.0%
Administration for a Healthy America (new)	27654.0	24267.0	19015.0	-21.6%

² The FY 2024 and 2025 numbers reflect the reorganization of HHS agencies and programs. Therefore, comparisons to previous appropriations are estimates and may not include all accounts prior to reorganization.

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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services	7446.4	7446.4	6200.0	-15.9%
Administration (SAMHSA) (merged into AHA)				
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) (merged into AHA)	15466.0	12203.0	10919.0	-10.5%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) (from NIH)	914.0	914.0	594.1	-35.0%
From CDC: Injury Prevention and Control, Environmental Health, HIV/AIDS, NIOSH	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (new)	36631.0	36631.0	29416.0	-19.7%
Administration for Children and Families (ACF) (merged into ACFC)	33995.0	34025.0	29416.0	-13.5%
Administration for Community Living (ACL) (merged into ACFC)	2635.0	2606.0	2374.0	-8.9%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	9222.1	9222.1	4321.0	-53.1%
Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention ⁴	535.1	535.1	0.0	-100%
Global Health	370.6	n/a	0.0	-100%
National Institutes of Health (program level)	46357.9	46001.3	27915.1	-39.3%

Office of the HHS Secretary Office of Strategy (NEW)

The President's budget proposes the creation of a new Office of Strategy within the Office of the HHS Secretary. This new entity would consolidate the current Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (APSE), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the HHS Office of Research Integrity, and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which is currently housed within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). According to the budget, the mission of the Office of Strategy would be to:

"Drive transformative change by advancing data-driven and evidence-based policy development and strategic planning to improve transparency in decision-making and enhance the health and well-being of all Americans."

The FY 2026 budget request includes \$458 million for the Office of Strategy. This includes \$240 million in discretionary funding for "Healthcare Research" activities and another \$219 million in Public Health Service (PHS) transfers for "Planning, Evaluation, and Research Integrity." Within the PHS funds, the budget includes \$175 million for NCHS. See the table below for additional details about these new accounts.

HHS Office of Strategy—FY 2026 Budget Request

Function	FY 2026 Budget
Healthcare Research (discretionary funding, transferred from AHRQ)	\$240 million
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination	\$66 million

 $^{^4}$ CDC funding for Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Research is moved to AHA in the FY 2026 budget; therefore, the FY 2024 and 2025 comparisons also exclude that funding.

Patient Safety	\$43 million
U.S. Preventative Services Task Force	\$7 million
Medical Expenditure Panel Survey	\$76 million
Program Support	\$47 million
Planning, Evaluation, and Research Integrity (using PHS transfers)	\$219 million
National Center for Health Statistics (from CDC)	\$175 million
Planning and Evaluation (formerly ASPE)	\$43 million
Office of Research Integrity (non-add) (from OASH)	\$14 million

Healthcare Research

As noted, the budget request includes \$240 million in discretionary funds for "Healthcare Research" within the Office of Strategy. This represents programs and functions that would be transferred from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); ARHQ would no longer exist under the new structure. The budget request, if appropriated, would constitute a decrease of \$129.5 million or 35 percent below AHRQ's FY 2025 appropriation. The total does not include \$126 million in mandatory funding from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund (PCORTF), which has transferred millions of dollars to AHRQ each year since 2010 to support dissemination of findings from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). The funding, which is mandated through authorizing law, would be eliminated by the Administration; however, the PCOR Trust Fund is set to receive funding until FY 2029, about 20 percent of which is distributed to HHS (and subsequently to AHRQ, among other programs). It is unclear where the mandatory funding would be redistributed but, as per the law, Congress would be required to appropriate the funds.

In addition, the portfolio of **Patient Safety** research would receive \$43 million, which is \$46.6 million below the FY 2025 appropriation.

Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination would receive \$66 million under the President's budget, a 34.7 percent decrease from FY 2025. In previous years, the proposal has included funding for new primary care research grants, such as research grants for opioid research, Long COVID, and scaling behavioral healthcare integration. There is no mention of these grants in the Trump Administration's request, signaling to a change of priorities under the new Administration. Additionally, the request would eliminate funding for AHRQ's Digital Healthcare Research portfolio, which was previously directed to explore ways to modernize the digital healthcare ecosystem.

The President's budget proposes \$76 million, a \$4.2 million or 5.8 percent increase to the FY 2025 appropriation, for the **Medical Expenditure Panel Survey** (MEPS), which collects data from families on medical expenses, insurance, access, and other variables.

Finally, the portfolio on **Program Support** would receive \$47 million for FY 2026, which is a \$26.1 million or 35.7 percent decrease from the FY 2025 appropriation.

Planning, Evaluation, and Research Integrity

The President's budget includes \$219 million for Planning, Evaluation, and Research Integrity, pulling in programs from other HHS agencies and offices. The proposal would use U.S. Public Health Service transfers for these activities, not direct appropriations from Congress.

⁵ The Patient Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund authorizing law can be found here: https://www.pcori.org/sites/default/files/PCORI-Authorizing-Legislation.pdf.

Within the total, \$175 million would be allocated to the **National Center for Health Statistics** (NCHS), which would be moved from CDC, a 6.6 percent cut below the FY 2025 enacted amount. If appropriated, funding would be used to maintain core data systems and information bases and continue to manage baseline sample sizes on public health statistics and data. The President's budget also includes \$43 million for "Planning and Evaluation," which would move over from the current Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE). That \$43 million includes \$14 million for the **Office of Research Integrity**, which would be moved to the Office of Strategy from the **Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)**.

The Office of Strategy's FY 2026 funding request can be found at: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-gdm-cj.pdf

Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future (NEW)

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future, another new office proposed by the Administration, would consolidate the **Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response** and the **Advanced Research Project Agency for Health** (ARPA-H), which is currently housed within the National Institutes of Health.

The mission of the new office would be to "Make America Healthy Again by supporting the development of high-impact solutions to society's most challenging health problems and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies and disasters."

HHS Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future —FY 2026 Budget Request

Function	FY 2026 Budget
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)	\$654 million
ARPA-H	\$945 million
Project Bio Shield	\$725 million
Pandemic Influenza	\$308 million
Strategic National Stockpile	\$750 million

Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), which is currently housed within the National Institutes of Health, would be moved over to this new office. The budget includes a total of \$945 million, a decrease of \$555 million or 37 percent from FY 2025.

In line with HHS Secretary Kennedy's MAHA movement, ARPA-H would prioritize five focus areas: "(1) Addressing Chronic Disease; (2) America-Made Manufacturing and Rural Access; (3) Proactive Approaches to Healthy Well-Being; (4) Healthcare Security, Efficiency, and Transparency; and (5) American Leadership in Frontier Health Technologies."

The Assistant Secretary for a Healthy America's FY 2026 funding request can be found at: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-qdm-cj.pdf

Administration for a Healthy America (NEW)

The budget includes \$14.1 billion for the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), a newly proposed agency that would absorb several other agencies, programs, and priorities. This would be the first year of appropriated funding to this program if Congress adopts this proposal into their final appropriation bills.

In line with the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) movement pioneered by HHS Secretary Kennedy, the administration would prioritize chronic disease, primary care, maternal and child health, mental health and substance use, HIV/AIDS, and workforce development.

AHA would absorb some or all of the following agencies and programs: the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health (OASH), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and several components of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The budget documents also include a long list of proposed eliminations (see Appendix).

HHS Administration for a Healthy America —FY 2026 Budget Request

Function	FY 2026 Budget
Occupational Safety and Health (transferred from NIOSH)	\$73 million
Injury Control and Prevention (transferred from CDC)	\$550 million
Intentional Injury	\$12 thousand
Opiod Abuse and Overdose Prevention and Surveillance	\$476 million
Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research	
National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS)	\$24.5
Mental and Behavioral Health (transferred from SAMHSA)	\$5.8 billion
Mental Health	\$1.5 billion
Substance Use Prevention	\$88.7 million
Substance Use Treatment	\$19.8 million
988 Suicide Prevention Hotline	\$519.6 million
Policy, Research, and Oversight (transferred from SAMHSA)	\$568.5 million
Health Surveillance	\$50.6 million
Public Awareness and Support	\$5 million
Performance and Quality Information Systems	\$10.2 million
Drug Abuse Warning Network	

Occupational Safety and Health

The request would allocate \$73 million to the **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health**⁶ (NIOSH). This would be a staggering 79.9 percent decrease from FY 2025 and follows the loss of nearly 90 percent of NIOSH's workforce in April.

Under the proposal, the Trump Administration would eliminate several programs, including the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), Education and Research Centers, Personal Protection Technology, and Other Occupational Safety and Health Research. The Global Health portfolio would also be eliminated. The programs remaining in the account, including Mining Research, the National Mesothelioma Registry and Tissue Bank, and the Firefighter Cancer Registry, would receive flat funding from FY 2024 levels (FY 2025 levels are not available).

⁶ The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is currently housed within CDC.

Injury Prevention and Control

The **Injury Prevention and Control** programs⁷ would receive a total of \$550 million in FY 2026, \$211 million below FY 2025. This investment reflects significant changes for programs in the portfolio, such as \$12 million for Intentional Injury, which is \$153 million below the FY 2024 funding level (FY 2025 funding amounts are not available), and \$476 million for Opioid Abuse and Overdose Prevention and Surveillance, a decrease of \$30 million. The request would also eliminate funding for Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research. The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) would receive \$24.5 million in FY 2026, flat with FY 2025 funding levels.

Mental and Behavioral Health

In the new **Mental and Behavioral Health** program, the Administration would provide \$5.8 billion to mental health and substance abuse services. This would include \$1.5 billion for Mental Health to address the mental health crisis and provide \$519.6 million to the **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**, keeping the program flat with FY 2024 funding levels but eliminating the specialized services for LGBTQ youth (FY 2025 funding amounts are not available). The proposal also includes \$88.7 million for Substance Use Prevention and \$19.8 million for Substance Use Treatment.

Policy, Research, and Oversight

In the new **Policy, Research, and Oversight** program, the Administration would provide \$568.5 million, with a transfer of \$238 million for MAHA initiatives, including AHA operations, covering support staff, business processes, IT, overhead costs, etc. After the planned transfer, the account would receive \$330.5 million.

The proposal would provide \$65.8 million for programs relocated from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), including the **Health Surveillance** account, which would be held relatively flat at \$50.6 million, the **Public Awareness and Support** account, which would receive \$5 million (a 62.4 percent decrease in funding from FY 2024; FY 2025 amount is not available), and the **Performance and Quality Information Systems** account, which would be held relatively flat at \$10.2 million.

The proposal would also eliminate funding for the **Drug Abuse Warning Network**.

The Administration for a Healthy America's FY 2026 funding request can be found at: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-aha-cj.pdf.

Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (NEW)

The President's budget proposes the reorganization of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) by consolidating it with the Administration for Community Living (ACL) into the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC). The FY 2026 budget request includes \$68.8 billion for the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities.

HHS Administration for Children, Families, and Communities —FY 2026 Budget Request

Function	FY 2026 Budget
Head Start	\$12.3 million

⁷ The World Trade Center Health Program and the Injury Prevention Control programs are currently housed within CDC.

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)	\$12.3 million
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	\$36 million
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	\$17.3 billion
Welfare Research	\$44.7 million
Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation	\$10 million
Social Services Research and Demonstration (SSRD)	\$27.5 million

The budget request includes flat funding of \$12.3 billion for **Head Start**, which provides grants directly to local public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive early learning and development services to low-income areas. It would also provide \$12.3 billion for the **Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)**, flat with the FY 2025 level. CCDF provides funds to help working families with low incomes afford childcare. The request also reserves "up to one-half of one percent" of the discretionary funds to conduct research and demonstration activities and evaluations of the program.

The **Child Abuse Discretionary Activities** program would receive \$36 million under this proposal, flat with FY 2025. This program funds research on the causes, prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect as well as prevention and treatment activities.

The budget also includes \$17.3 billion for **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families** (TANF), a program that aids low-income families directly through the state. This includes \$44.7 million to Welfare Research and \$10 million to provide support for the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation, both flat funded from FY 2025.

Social Services Research and Demonstration (SSRD) would receive \$27.5 million, a significant decrease of \$48.5 million from FY 2024 (FY 2025 funding amounts are not available). This program supports behavioral science research, evaluation, and demonstration efforts that address cross-program anti-poverty initiatives and the effectiveness of programs lacking dedicated funds for research and evaluation.

The Administration for Children, Families, and Communities' FY 2026 funding request can be found at: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-acfc-cj.pdf.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The FY 2026 budget request for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) calls for \$4.3 billion in total funding, excluding transfers through the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which has been zeroed out by the Administration in this request. The request does include \$205,000 in Public Health Services (PHS) Evaluation transfers. The total represents a decrease of nearly \$4.9 billion or 53.18 percent below the FY 2025 appropriation.

Not included in the Trump Administration's proposal is an added investment into the Public Health Data Modernization account that appeared in previous requests. This investment was intended to ensure that the U.S. public health data system is adequately prepared for public health crises. The FY 2025 request, under President Biden, used the following language:

"Modernized public health data infrastructure also enables more complete data on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and urban versus rural status. In addition to characterizing

⁸ The CDC budget contains a reorganization proposal that includes relocating programs to other agencies. As such, the decrease in funding is not representative of all of the programs currently operating within the CDC.

the disparate impact of diseases and conditions among different communities, this data informs policies, practices, and guidance that promote equity among groups that have historically been economically and socially marginalized."

Like previous Presidential Requests (FY 2025 and FY 2024), the FY 2026 blueprint includes a proposal that would allocate new mandatory funding to the CDC. The **World Trade Center Health Program** would receive \$913 million in FY 2026. This program is housed within CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), however, with the proposed reorganization, it would be relocated to the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA).

The following initiatives were not included in the proposal, which were previously proposed during the Biden Administration:

- The Vaccines for Adults initiative, providing uninsured adults with access to vaccines at no cost. This initiative was originally proposed in FY 2023 by the Biden Administration.
- The **Pandemic Preparedness** initiative which would "prepare for pandemics and other biological threats." This initiative was originally proposed in FY 2023 by the Biden Administration.
- An expansion of the currently mandatory **Vaccines for Children** program. This expansion was proposed in FY 2024 and 2025 by the Biden Administration.

The Administration's proposal calls for a total of \$963 million for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Infections, and Tuberculosis Prevention, 30 percent below the FY 2025 level. The request would transfer the Domestic HIV Prevention and Research budget to AHA; however, the mandatory program, Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.⁹ (EHE), would receive \$220 million, as per authorizing law passed in 2019 by President Trump during his first term.

The proposal includes a consolidation of the following programs into the **Consolidated Hepatitis, STD and Tuberculosis Prevention Grant**: Consolidated Viral Hepatitis, STD and Tuberculosis Prevention Grant, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), Domestic TB, and Infectious Diseases and the Opioid Epidemic. The President's request includes \$300 million for this new grant.

Under the budget request, the **Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion** account would be eliminated.

The request would relocate the **Environmental Health** account to the Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) and increase the budget from \$243 million to \$728 million. However, the account would absorb other programs, which are not accounted for in the comparison. It would also eliminate the Climate and Health, and Environmental Health Activities programs.

Under the President's request, the CDC's **Injury Prevention and Control** programs would receive a total of \$550 million in FY 2026, \$211 million below FY 2025. These programs would be relocated to the newly proposed Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) (see section for more details).

The request includes \$175 million in PHS Evaluation Funds to the **National Center for Health Statistics** (NCHS), 6.6 percent below the FY 2025 enacted amount. NCHS would be relocated to the newly proposed Office of Strategy under this proposal (see section for more details).

⁹ More information on the program, Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S., can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/ehe/php/about/index.html

The request would allocate \$73 million to the **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health** (NIOSH), a staggering 79.9 percent decrease from FY 2025. NIOSH would also be relocated to the newly proposed Administration for a Healthy America (AHA) (see section for more details).

Finally, the President's budget proposes eliminating funding for the **Global Health** portfolio. The request does, however, request \$293.2 million for the Global Public Health Protection program and would subsequently be relocated to the Cross-Cutting Activities and Program Support account. The Global Immunization Program would be eliminated under the proposal.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's FY 2026 funding request can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/budget/documents/fy2026/fy-2026-cdc-cj.pdf

National Institutes of Health

The President's FY 2026 budget request for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) would signal a seismic change to the agency and the U.S. biomedical research enterprise. In addition to a major reduction in the NIH budget, the proposal includes a wholesale reorganization of its institutes and centers (ICs).

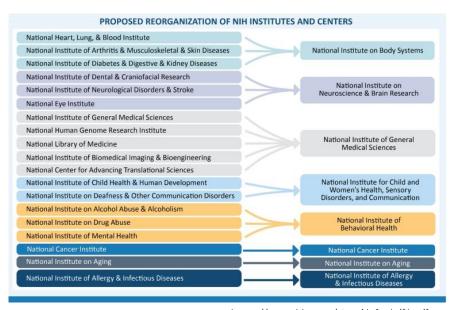
The President's FY 2026 budget includes a total of \$27.9 billion. If appropriated, this would represent an \$18 billion or 39.3 percent reduction from its FY 2025 enacted level. This follows a decade of multi-billion-dollar annual investments in the agency by Congress. The budget request would return NIH below its FY 2003 level without adjusting for inflation.

The proposed cut would be achieved in several ways: reductions in funding for all NIH ICs and initiatives, consolidation of ICs in order to "create efficiencies within NIH that will allow the agency to focus on true science, and coordinate research to make the best use of federal funds," and elimination of ICs, namely: the National Institute for Nursing Research, National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, Fogarty International Center, and National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

The budget also proposes continuing the policy of a flat 15 percent indirect cost rate (see <u>past coverage</u>), which the budget materials claim will account for a significant portion of the funding reductions across the agency.

Reorganization

The proposed restructuring is not unexpected. We have witnessed similar efforts by Republicans in Congress over the last few years: the House Appropriations Committee included a restructuring in its FY 2025 funding bill, which did not pass (see COSSA's analysis here); Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), who at the time was Chair of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, released her own framework proposal (see previous COSSA coverage <a href=here); and Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) proposed reform through a white paper following a period of community input (see previous COSSA coverage <a href=here). President Trump also proposed reorganization of the agency in his first term (see previous COSSA coverage <a href=here).



Source: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-budget-in-brief.pdf

NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya has publicly discussed his goals for the agency in recent weeks, which include: (1) focus on improving population health; (2) reproducibility and rigor; (3) innovation and collaboration; (4) research safety and transparency; and (5) academic freedom. These themes are found throughout the budget proposal. For example, the budget materials state that NIH will "prioritize research that focuses on ending the chronic disease epidemic," end "wasteful practices focusing on DEI, gender ideology and [focus] on NIH's mission of only impactful science," "reward replication of science and data sharing as well as expand human-based science to yield more replicable results," "suspend federally funded dangerous gain-of-function research," and "foster a culture where scientists can express disagreements and pursue academic and scientific freedom."

The President's budget materials are light on details with respect to the goals and activities of the new ICs, aside from highlighting past accomplishments. It estimates how many research project grants (RPGs), centers, and training awards each IC would be able to fund under the budgets proposed. Budget details for the individual ICs are available at: https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/insti center subs.html.

For the NIH Office of the Director, the President's budget includes \$1.68 billion, a cut of 36.2 percent. The budget materials state that, despite the funding cut, "funding will be preserved without reduction to the Office of Nutrition Research, Office of Dietary Supplements, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, Office of Disease Prevention, BRAIN Initiative, and Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives core functions."

The National Institutes of Health's FY 2026 budget request can be found at: https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/br.html.

Figure 3 – National Institutes of Health

	FY 2024 Enacted ¹¹	FY 2025 Enacted ¹²	FY 2026 Request	FY 26 Request vs. FY 25 Enacted (%)
National Institutes of Health (program level)	46357.9	46001.3	27915.1	-39.3%
21st Century Cures Act ¹³	407.0	127.0	226.0	78.0%
NIH Office of the Director ¹⁴	2832.4	2633.4	1681.1	-36.2%
Institutes and Centers (reorganization):				
National Cancer Institute (NCI)	7221.2	7221.2	4531.0	-37.3%
National Institute on Body Systems (NIBS)	7181.6	7105.0	4311.1	-39.3%
Consolidates: National Health Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), and National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)				
National Institute on Neuroscience and Brain Research (NINBR)	4101.7	4061.2	2445.0	-39.8%

¹⁰ https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-budget-in-brief.pdf

¹¹ The FY 2024 and 2025 numbers reflect the consolidation of ICs under the structure proposed in the FY 2026 budget. Therefore, comparisons to ICs prior to consolidation are not available.

¹² The FY 2024 and 2025 numbers reflect the consolidation of ICs under the structure proposed in the FY 2026 budget. Therefore, comparisons to ICs prior to consolidation are not available.

¹³ FY 2026 is the last scheduled year of 21st Century Cures Act funding: https://www.nih.gov/research-training/medical-research-initiatives/21st-century-cures-act.

¹⁴ The FY 2026 budget request does not include specific funding proposals for the various offices within the NIH OD, such as the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR).

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Consolidates: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), National Eye Institute (NEI)				
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)	6561.7	6561.7	4175.0	-36.4%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)	5768.6	5768.6	3677.3	-36.3%
Consolidates: National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), National Library of Medicine (NLM), National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), and National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)				
National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication (NICWHSDC) Consolidates: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)	2292.1	2292.1	1413.6	-38.3%
National Institute on Aging (NIA)	4512.1	4512.1	2686.5	-40.5%
National Institute of Behavioral Health (NIBH)	4538.1	4497.6	2784.7	-38.1%
Consolidates: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAA)				
Eliminations:				
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	535.1	535.1	0.0	-100%
National Institute for Nursing Research	197.7	197.7	0.0	-100%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	170.4	170.4	0.0	-100%
Fogarty International Center	95.1	95.1	0.0	-100%
Transfers:				
National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences ¹⁵	914.0	914.0	594.1	-35.0%
Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) ¹⁶	1500.0	1500.0	945.0	-37.0%

 $^{^{15}}$ NIEHS would be moved to the new Administration for a Healthy America. 16 ARPA-H would be moved to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for a Healthy Future.

National Science Foundation

The President's budget request includes a total of \$3.903 billion for NSF in FY 2026, which would slash the agency's funding by \$5.2 billion or 56.9 percent. The proposal, which would return NSF to its FY 2000 level *without* adjusting for inflation, distributes the cuts across the agency and includes several reorganizations and consolidations.

The **Research and Related Agencies Account (R&RA)**, which funds NSF's research directorates, would receive \$3.28 billion, a proposed cut of \$5.1 billion or 60.8 percent below the FY 2025 enacted level. Notably, the request is seeking to consolidate the **STEM Education Directorate** (EDU) into the R&RA account; currently, EDU receives a separate appropriation from Congress outside of R&RA (more ahead).

The request also seeks to consolidate several administrative functions that currently reside within individual directorates into a new **Mission Support Services** (MSS) function that was established in FY 2025. It also proposes consolidating IT services and "budget activities with an agency-wide benefit" from the **Agency Operations and Award Management** (AOAM) account to MSS.

Proposed cuts to the individual directorates range from 43.4 percent (Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships Directorate) to 75 percent (EDU and Engineering Directorates). The Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate would be cut by 67.6 percent (more below).

Despite the massive cuts proposed, the Administration continues to prioritize funding for research on emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum information science (QIS). If appropriated, the proposed cuts coupled with funding directed at Administration priorities would leave little remaining funding for other directorate programs.

NSF Funding for Administration Priorities—FY 2026 Budget Request

Priority Area	Total Proposed*	SBE Share	EDU Share	TIP Share
Advanced Manufacturing	\$110.1 million (-64.6%)	\$0.52 million	\$0	\$29.9 million
Advanced Wireless	\$59.5 million (-58.5%)	\$0	\$0	\$15.9 million
Artificial Intelligence	\$655.2 million (+3.1%)	\$15 million	\$35 million	\$72.23 million
Biotechnology	\$248.6 million (-29.7%)	\$2.5 million	\$2 million	\$36.7 million
Clean Energy Technology	\$3.7 million (-99.2%)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Microelectronics and	\$65.8 million (-53.9%)	\$0	\$2 million	\$28.6 million
Semiconductors				
National Nanotechnology	\$131.1 million (-63.8%)	\$0	\$0	\$7.1 million
Initiative				
Networking & Information	\$821.3 million (-53.5%)	\$12.9 million	\$0	\$186.8 million
Technology				
Quantum Information Science	\$231.2 million (+0.4%)	\$0	\$4 million	\$27.1 million
U.S. Global Change Research	\$25.2 million (-96.7%)	\$0.2 million	\$0	\$0
Program				

^{*}Comparisons are to FY 2024 funding as FY 2025 levels are not available.

The National Science Foundation's FY 2026 budget request can be found at: https://www.nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2026.

Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate

The President's budget includes \$94 million for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE). Given that the FY 2025 (current year) process ended with a year-long continuing resolution (CR) plus the recent cancellation of more than 1,700 funded grants across the agency, current funding details are not available at the directorate level. Compared to the FY 2024 enacted level, the President's request for SBE would represent a cut of \$196 million or 68 percent. Included in the \$94 million would be \$44 million specifically for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), leaving only \$50 million for the rest of SBE. Under the proposal, NCSES's share of the SBE total budget would grow from about 25 percent to 47 percent.

According to the budget materials, SBE funding would be used to:

- "Support the sciences of AI, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, and other critical and emerging industries" [as noted in the earlier table];"
- "Contribute to the science of national security, secure borders, and public safety;"
- "Fund the sciences of economic prosperity and innovation," including "the human aspects of energy, technology, health, and other infrastructures; spectrum sciences; and the future of digital assets...;"
- "Enable and support the science of a 21st-Century American education;" and
- "Contribute to the Nation's understanding of efficiency and oversight, freedoms and liberty, and other priorities of the Administration as indicated through the Administration's Presidential Actions."

STEM Education Directorate

The President's budget is seeking to eliminate the direct Congressional appropriation for the STEM Education Directorate (EDU) and move EDU's activities to the R&RA account alongside the other directorates. The President's request for EDU, which has already seen its funding decimated by recent grant terminations, would be further reduced to \$288.4 million, a cut of \$883.6 million or 75.4 percent.

According to the budget documents, FY 2026 EDU funding would be used to "support the translation of research findings into practical STEM education applications" with particular emphasis on AI, quantum information science and engineering, and biotechnology and nuclear sciences.

With respect to programs aimed at broadening participation in science, the FY 2026 NSF budget is seeking to eliminate funding for dozens of initiatives, including Advancing Informal STEM learning (AISL), Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST), the INCLUDES Initiative, <u>GRANTED</u>, Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) program, and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), among others. Further, the budget would cut the Graduate Research Fellowship Program by more than half.

Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships

The Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate, NSF's newest directorate, would be the relative winner in the President's budget as it is slated for the smallest—while still substantial—reduction. The request includes \$350 million for TIP, a reduction of 43.4 percent. The budget states that "TIP is well-positioned to advance American technological supremacy, national security, and community flourishing with investments that support the nation's top innovators and entrepreneurs, fuel the advancement of critical and emerging technologies, and prepare all Americans for tomorrow's jobs."

Figure 4 - National Science Foundation

FY 202 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request	FY 26 Request vs. FY 25 Enacted
9263.9	9060.0	3903.2	-56.9%
8348.5	8348.5	3276.2	-60.8%
234.0	234.0	251.0	7.3%
448.0	448.0	355.0	-20.8%
5.1	5.1	3.0	-41.1%
24.4	24.4	18.0	-26.3%
126.0	n/a	196.9	n/a
13.5	n/a	10.0	n/a
789.6	n/a	224.9	n/a
989.4	n/a	346.3	n/a
740.8	n/a	185.2	n/a
1577.1	n/a	873.6	n/a
1554.2	n/a	515.3	n/a
290.3	n/a	94.0	n/a
1154.3	1154.3	288.4	-75.0%
617.9	n/a	350.0	n/a
63.7	n/a	12.7	n/a
430.0	n/a	177.7	n/a
	Pacted 9263.9 8348.5 234.0 448.0 5.1 24.4 126.0 13.5 789.6 989.4 740.8 1577.1 1554.2 290.3 1154.3 617.9 63.7	Enacted Enacted 9263.9 9060.0 8348.5 8348.5 234.0 234.0 448.0 5.1 5.1 5.1 24.4 24.4 126.0 n/a 13.5 n/a 789.6 n/a 989.4 n/a 740.8 n/a 1577.1 n/a 1554.2 n/a 290.3 n/a 1154.3 1154.3 617.9 n/a 63.7 n/a	Enacted Enacted Request 9263.9 9060.0 3903.2 8348.5 8348.5 3276.2 234.0 234.0 251.0 448.0 448.0 355.0 5.1 5.1 3.0 24.4 24.4 18.0 126.0 n/a 196.9 13.5 n/a 10.0 789.6 n/a 224.9 989.4 n/a 346.3 740.8 n/a 185.2 1577.1 n/a 873.6 1554.2 n/a 515.3 290.3 n/a 94.0 1154.3 1154.3 288.4 617.9 n/a 350.0 63.7 n/a 12.7

¹⁷ Unlike past budgets, the FY 2026 budget request does not provide funding details at the division level for any of NSF's directorates. Instead, the budget includes funding lines for "Research," "Education," and "Infrastructure" as broad categories. ¹⁸ The FY 2026 budget proposes moving EDU funding into the R&RA account.

Appendix A: List of Terminated HHS Programs

The President's FY 2026 budget request proposes to eliminate funding for the following programs and investments within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). According to the request, these eliminations are meant to "align investments with the Administration's priorities, streamline the bureaucracy, reset the proper balance between federal and state responsibilities, and save taxpayer funds."

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- Healthy Start
- Newborn Screening for Heritable Disorders
- Early Hearing Detection and Intervention
- Emergency Medical Services for Children
- Ryan White Part F
- Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants
- State Offices of Rural Health
- Rural Hospital Stabilization
- Family Planning
- Workforce Programs (not listed)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Programs
- Youth Violence Prevention
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Elderly Falls
- Drowning
- Other Injury Prevention Activities
- Injury Control Research Centers
- National Occupational Research Agenda
- Education and Research Centers
- Personal Protective Technology
- Other Occupational Safety and Health Research
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry
- Climate and Health
- Trevor's Law
- Environmental and Health Outcome Tracking Network
- Asthma
- Domestic HIV/AIDS

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- Mental Health Awareness Training
- Healthy Transitions
- Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
- Mental Health Children and Family Programs
- Consumer and Family Network Grants
- Mental Health System Transformation
- Project LAUNCH
- Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration Programs
- Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program
- Homelessness Prevention
- Mental Health Criminal and Juvenile Justice Programs
- Assertive Community Treatment for Individuals with Serious Mental Health Illness
- Homelessness Technical Assistance
- Minority AIDS
- Seclusion and Restraints
- Minority Fellowship Program
- Tribal Behavioral Health Grants
- Interagency Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care
- Strategic Prevention Framework
- Sober Truth on Prevention Underage Drinking, Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment
- Targeted Capacity Expansion
- Grants to Prevent Prescription Drug and Opioid Overdose-Related Deaths
- First Responder Training
- Improving Access to Overdoes Treatment
- Pregnant and Postpartum Women
- Recovery Community Services Program

- Substance Abuse Treatment Children and Families
- Treatment Systems for Homeless
- Building Communities of Recovery
- Substance Abuse Treatment Criminal Justice activities
- Emergency Department Alternatives to Opioids
- Treatment, Recovery, and Workforce Support
- Peer Support Technical Assistance Center

- Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers
- Youth Prevention and Recovery Initiative
- Drug Abuse Warning Network

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)

- Office of Population Affairs
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Secretary's Minority HIV/AIDS Fund
- Kidney X
- Stillbirth Task Force
- Sexual Risk Avoidance



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