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Featured News

COSSA's Analysis of the FY 2027 House CJS Appropriations Bill for Federal Science Agencies

The House Appropriations Committee has begun consideration of its fiscal year (FY) 2027 appropriations bills. The Committee is working to approve all 12 funding bills by the end of June. On May 13, the Appropriations Committee reported out the FY 2027 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations Bill, which includes funding proposals for the National Science Foundation (NSF), Census Bureau, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), and other agencies.

As we saw last year, the FY 2027 House CJS bill includes cuts to federal science agencies but does not go as far as the President's budget request, which proposed massive reductions, specifically to NSF (see COSSA's [full analysis](#) of the President's FY 2027 budget request to Congress).

Snapshot of the House CJS Appropriations Bill, FY 2027

(in millions)	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027			
		President's Request	House Bill	House v. 2026	House v. Request
National Science Foundation	8750.0	3963.2	7000.0	-20%	77%
Bureau of the Census	1490.3	2011.5	1490.3	--	-26%
Bureau of Economic Analysis	110.3	114.0	114.2	3.5%	0.2%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	33.0	33.0	33.0	--	--
National Institute of Justice	22.0	22.0	22.0	--	--

On the other side of the Capitol, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees are busy drafting their own FY 2027 bills. While not scheduled yet, the Senate Appropriations Committee is reportedly seeking to start considering their bills in June.

Read on for COSSA's analysis of the House CJS Appropriations bill. The bill language and accompanying report are available [here](#).

Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) for the latest developments.

New from COSSA

ACT NOW!

Interested in taking action in support of social and behavioral science research? Below is a list of ways you can stay informed and lend your support to COSSA's advocacy efforts.

READ:

- Science: [Democratic lawmakers demand Trump explain—and reverse—termination of NSF's governing board](#)

ACT:

- [★ Save SBE Toolkit](#)
- COSSA Action Alert: [Tell Congress to Save NSF's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate!](#)
- COSSA Action Alert: [Urge Congress to Prioritize Robust Science Funding!](#)

HELPFUL RESOURCES:

- [COSSA At-Home Advocacy Guide](#)
- [COSSA 101: A Crash Course on the Federal Government](#)
- [The Nation's Data at Risk: Ongoing Monitoring](#)
- [Grant Watch](#): Website for tracking terminated federal grants
 - [National Science Foundation](#)
 - [National Institutes of Health](#)
- [NSF Updates on Priorities and FAQs](#)
- [NIH Grants and Funding Information Status](#)
- [HHS Terminated Grants](#) (managed by HHS)

Please send any additional opportunities to ebailey@coffa.org to include in future Washington Updates.

Action Alert Reminder: Tell Congress to Save NSF's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate!

In early April, the Trump Administration released its budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2027. In it, the Administration states its intent to dismantle the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate in FY



2027. The SBE Directorate is responsible for nearly two-thirds of funding for academic research in the social and behavioral sciences in the U.S. However, even more concerning are reports that NSF leadership may be taking steps to begin dismantling the Directorate this year. In response to this news, COSSA immediately issued an [action alert](#) that has resulted in more than 2,000 letters

being sent to Congress.

Now is the time to come together as a community and urge Congress to intervene and protect the SBE Directorate from the Administration's devastating plan. Join the over 2,000 advocates and [write to your House Representative and Senators TODAY](#) to share your concerns and urge them to intervene.

Congressional News

Congress Turns to Appropriations After Returning from May Recess

Following a week-long May recess, Congress has turned their attention toward the fiscal year (FY) 2027 appropriations process. As [previously reported](#), the House has set their schedule for advancing their appropriations bills through May and June. On May 13, the House Appropriations Committee reported out the Commerce, Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) budget bill—which includes funding proposals for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Census Bureau, and more (see related article). The Committee is also scheduled to review the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) budget bill—which includes funding proposals for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), and more—in early June.

On the other side of Capitol Hill, the Senate has reportedly started drafting their respective bills and could schedule mark ups as soon as June. While Congress is currently on-schedule to complete the appropriations process, it is still unlikely that the community will see any final appropriations bills before the midterm elections in November.

In related news, election season has already started to shake up key committees important to the research community. Over the weekend, Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), who serves as the Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, lost in the Louisiana Senate Republican primary election. Notably, the Senate HELP Committee is charged with oversight of several scientific agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Education. In Sen. Cassidy's absence, there will be a leadership vacuum that could signal a change in priorities for the next Congressional session.

Stay tuned for [COSSA's continued coverage](#) on Congressional activities.

Executive Branch News

SPOTLIGHT ON NSF: Scientific Community Fights for NSF

It has been a particularly challenging few months for the National Science Foundation (NSF), between a massive, proposed budget cut, removal of members of the National Science Board (NSB), and the proposal to eliminate the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE). The research community has spent much of the Spring pushing back and urging Congress to defend NSF.

Saving the SBE Directorate

COSSA along with our many partners across the STEM enterprise have been working tirelessly to [urge Congress](#) to reject the President's [proposal](#) to eliminate the SBE Directorate in FY 2027. With House and Senate appropriators currently at work on their FY 2027 funding bills, we have been busy meeting with Congressional offices to make the case about the importance of SBE and social and behavioral science generally.

We are fortunate to have dedicated partners across the sciences who are willing to assist in our efforts. Earlier this month, about 40 scientific societies spanning the physical, biological, and computer sciences, mathematics, and engineering fields signed a [letter](#) to the House and Senate appropriations committees urging them to reject the President's proposal in their FY 2027 appropriations bills (see related articles). The letter states, "Many of the nation's most pressing policy questions have a scientific or technological component that needs to be understood through a human lens, including through integrated modeling and design approaches that combine technical systems with human behavior. That is where the research that SBE supports comes into play, providing crucial data and theoretical frameworks that inform work across the entire research enterprise, including the biological, computer and information sciences, engineering, and the mathematical and physical sciences."

Another [letter](#) sent recently to Capitol Hill notes, "SBE research is a force multiplier for federal investments in science and technology. Advances in artificial intelligence, public health, energy, cybersecurity, and defense depend not only on technical breakthroughs, but also on understanding how individuals, organizations, and societies respond to new technologies and policies."

COSSA is collecting these and other statements in support of SBE on our [Save SBE website](#).

National Science Board

As previously [reported](#), in April the Trump Administration dismissed all 22 members of the National Science Board, the policymaking and oversight body of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Here, too, the scientific community has responded in force, calling on Congress to assert its oversight authority by directing NSF to explain this decision and, as recommended by some groups, reverse it. In addition to countless statements issued in response to the action, including one by [COSSA](#), is a [letter](#) signed by former NSF directors and NSB chairs as well as an [open letter](#) led by members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM). Democrats in the [House](#) and [Senate](#) have also sent letters to the Administration requesting answers to several questions about move, including the legal and constitutional basis for the terminations and information on how the decision was made.

NSF Director

NSF has been without a confirmed director for [more than a year](#). This coupled with the firing of the National Science Board means that all of the decisions being made at NSF, including [reorganization](#), the proposal to eliminate the SBE Directorate, changes to the merit review process, and the [move](#) to new office space, are being directed by acting leadership and the White House.

The President [nominated](#) Jim O'Neill earlier this year to be the next NSF director. O'Neill is not the typical pick for the NSF post as he does not come from the scientific community and does not appear to have experience in basic science. Given how little is known about O'Neill and his plans for NSF, advocates have been [urging](#) Congress to hold a hearing with the nominee before a confirmation vote. NSF director nominees traditionally have not had confirmation hearings, although previous nominations were of individuals already familiar with NSF.

Reorganization

After more than nine months, NSF finally released details of its reorganized directorate leadership. As COSSA as been reporting, NSF's interim leadership made several changes to across the agency over the last year, including the removal of "rotators" from supervisory positions. Most recently, rotators comprised six of the eight assistant directors

leading NSF's directorates. Under the new structure, which was said to have been implemented last August but not made public until recently, rotators have been removed from their leadership roles and replaced with "career" employees who now serve as "directorate heads." Former assistant directors who are rotators will keep their title but serve in more of an advisory role. The current list of directorate heads is available [here](#). Notably, the SBE Directorate is the only one that does not also have a deputy directorate head and/or assistant director.

Nominations Open for 2026 NIH Matilda White Riley Honoree

The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is now accepting nominations for outstanding behavioral and social scientists as Distinguished Lecturer candidates at the 19th Matilda White Riley Honors.

The Matilda White Riley Honors are an annual event recognizing transformative work in the fields of social and behavioral science along with early-career researchers. Nominees should have a research career that has "advanced behavioral and social scientific knowledge in areas within NIH's mission and that expands upon Dr. White Riley's work." More information is available on the [OBSSR website](#).

Nominee information should be saved as a PDF file and sent to [Dr. Erica Spotts](#) by May 28. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

The State of U.S. Science and Engineering 2026 Released

The National Science Board (NSB) recently released [The State of U.S. Science and Engineering 2026](#) report. Every two years, the NSB prepares this report, which examines the state of U.S. science and engineering over time and within a global context. It summarizes key findings in areas such as education and workforce; U.S. and international research and development performance, including in high-tech industries; and technology transfer, invention and innovation.

In the 2026 report, the NSB highlights many key takeaways including:

- The STEM workforce grew faster than the non-STEM workforce between 2014 and 2024 and now accounts for roughly 26% of total domestic employment.
- STEM workers experienced lower unemployment and higher median earnings than workers in other occupations.
- Average scores on national mathematics and science assessments for K–12 students have declined from their pre-pandemic levels, and U.S. eighth graders performed at or below the international average on science, mathematics, and computer and information literacy assessments in 2023.

This report, the thematic reports, and the online data tool together make up the full suite of products. You can access them on the [NSB website](#).

COSSA Member Spotlight

Social Science Research Council Names Daniel Goroff as President

On May 18, the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) [named](#) Daniel Goroff as its 16th president. Prior to his appointment, Goroff served as the Vice President and Program Director at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Deputy Director for Science and Society at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and Division Director for Social and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF). About his appointment, Goroff stated:

“For more than a century, the Social Science Research Council has been a force for good by fostering inquiry, marshaling evidence, and helping turn research insights into public impact. Today’s global challenges call for even more and better ideas about how people can live, work, and thrive together. With humility and a deep sense of responsibility to our academic and philanthropic partners, I see the SSRC as having a unique role to play — building on our storied past, on our extraordinary portfolio of current work, and on the bold new initiatives we will launch together.”

SSRC is a COSSA [member organization](#). “Danny has dedicated his career to service and is a stalwart champion for the social and behavioral sciences,” said COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus. “I’m excited to work with him in this new role.”

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- **NEW:** 5/14/2026: [CNSF Letter Requesting for a NSF Director Confirmation Hearing](#)
- **NEW:** 4/28/2026: [Friends of Justice & Research Statistics Letter to Congress on FY 2027 Funding for NIJ and BJS](#)

Nomination Opportunities

- **NEW:** OBSSR: [2026 NIH Matilda White Riley Honoree](#) (Closes: May 28, 2026)
- AAAS: [2027 AAAS Awards & Prizes](#) (Closes: June 30, 2026)

Funding Opportunities

- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Small Research Grant \(R03 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 17, 2026)
- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Research \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 19, 2026)
- NIH: [Ethical, Legal and Social Implications \(ELSI\) Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: November 19, 2026)
- NSF: [Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity \(GRANTED\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)
- NSF: [The Research on Research Security Program \(RoRS\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)
- SSRC: [Economic Research Rescue Fund](#) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- **NEW:** AAS: [Call for Education Committee Members](#) (Closes: May 21, 2026)
- NSF: [Request for Information Inviting Comments and Suggestions on a Framework for the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2027-2031](#) (Closes: May 26, 2026)
- NSF: [Request for Comment on Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Program](#) (Closes: June 30, 2026)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** National Science Board: [The State of U.S. Science and Engineering 2026](#)
- **NEW:** ACT for NIH: [The Mounting Toll of Multi-Year Funding on American Biomedical Research](#)
- United for Medical Research: [The Economic Impact of Proposed Cuts to the NIH Budget](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- **NEW:** NSF: [OIG Criminal Investigator](#) (Closes: May 20, 2026)
- **NEW:** AAAS: [Program Manager, Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship and EPSCoR](#) (Closes: May 22, 2026)
- ANS: [Congressional Science and Engineering Fellowship](#) (Closes: June 5, 2026)
- AAU: [Fall 2026 AAU Internship](#) (Ongoing)
- Science Philanthropy Alliance: [Civic Science Fellow](#) (Ongoing)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Ongoing)

Upcoming Events

- **NEW:** Research!America: [Alliance Discussion with the Director of ARPA-H](#), May 21, 2026, Virtual
- NASEM: [Annual State of the Science Address](#), June 2, 2026, Virtual and Washington, DC
- APPAM: [Fall Research Conference](#), November 5-7, 2026, Boston, MA

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 ebailey@coossa.org.

COSSA Members

Governing Associations

American Association for Public Opinion Research
 American Economic Association
 American Educational Research Association
 American Political Science Association
 American Society of Criminology
 American Sociological Association
 American Statistical Association
 Law and Society Association
 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
 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association
 American Anthropological Association
 American Association of Geographers
 American Council of Learned Societies
 American Evaluation Association
 American Historical Association
 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

Colleges and Universities

Boston University
 Brown University
 California State University, San Bernardino
 College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Columbia University
 Cornell University
 George Mason University
 Georgetown University
 Harvard University
 Indiana University
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Michigan State University
 North Carolina State University
 Northwestern University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Princeton University
 Stanford University
 University of Arizona
 University of California, Irvine
 University of California, Riverside
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of Colorado, Boulder
 University of Georgia
 University of Illinois
 University of Maryland
 University of Michigan
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Texas, Austin
 University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Virginia Tech

Economic History Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Sociological Society
National Council on Family Relations
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of
Social Issues
Southern Political Science Association
Southwestern Social Science Association

Affiliates

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American Academy of Political and Social
Science
American Institutes for Research
Center for Advanced Study in the
Behavioral Sciences
Child Trends
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

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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