



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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NEW FROM COSSA

- ACT NOW!

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

- House Advances LHHS Bill, Senate Delays Markups

EXECUTIVE BRANCH NEWS

- President Trump Executive Actions
- More than 8,000 Federal Employees Reclassified
- Research Community Organizing Around OMB Proposed Rule
- Register Now: Federal Justice Statistics Program Webinar

SCIENCE COMMUNITY NEWS

- NASEM Hosts Third Annual State of the Science Address
- Remembering Ken Prewitt

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- COSSA Welcomes the University of Oregon as its Newest Member
- 2027 LSA Awards Nominations are Open

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

- COSSA Letters & Statements
- Nomination Opportunities
- Funding Opportunities
- Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers
- Notices, Resources, & Reports
- Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities
- Upcoming Events

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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:

- **NEW:** IES: [An Idea Whose Time Has Come: IES Welcomes New Programs to NCEE and NCER](#)

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:

- SCIMaP: [Science & Community Impacts Mapping Project](#)
- [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@cossa.org to include in future Washington Updates.

Congressional News

House Advances LHHS Bill, Senate Delays Markups

On June 5, the House Appropriations Committee released the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2027. The bill was advanced out of the committee in a 34 to 28 vote along party lines. Earlier this year, the President's request called for sweeping cuts to the federal agencies that fund social and behavioral science research ([see analysis](#)). While the House bill still includes cuts to several agencies, the House has largely rejected the deep cuts proposed by the Trump Administration.

Notably, exceptions include several programs housed under the Department of Education, which have been a longtime target of the Administration. Under this bill, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), which is the research arm of the Department of Education, would receive a staggering 37.5 percent cut, and several programs, including International Education and Foreign Language Studies, would be eliminated. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) would also be eliminated under the bill, as proposed in 2016, 2024, 2025, and 2026. Stay tuned for COSSA's full analysis of the House LHHS appropriations bill.

	FY (in millions) 2026 Enacted	FY 2027			
		President's Request	House Bill	House v. 2026	House v. Request
National Institutes of Health	46990.0	41429.0	48816.0	3.9%	17.8%
Centers for Disease Control	9203.0	5485.0	8164.4	-11.3%	-40.4%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	345.4	240.0	0.0	-100.0%	-30.5%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	708.5	668.0	716.5	1.1%	-5.7%
Institute of Education Sciences	789.6	261.3	493.5	-37.5%	-66.9%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies (Dept. of Education)	80.7	0.0	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%

On the other side of Capitol Hill, the Senate Appropriations Committee has delayed consideration of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) bill, which was scheduled for June 4 ([see previous coverage](#)). With the rapidly approaching summer recesses, it's unclear if the Senate will release any of their appropriations bills before leaving Washington.

Stay tuned for [COSSA's continued coverage](#) of the appropriations process.

Executive Branch News

President Trump Executive Actions

- **NEW:** [Implementing Schedule Policy/Career in the Excepted Service](#) (6/3/26) ([MORE INFORMATION](#))
- **NEW:** [Promoting Advanced Artificial Intelligence Innovation and Security](#) (6/2/26)

Find COSSA's full list of Trump's Executive Actions and more information [here](#).

More than 8,000 Federal Employees Reclassified

As previously [reported](#), the White House Office of Personnel Management (OPM) finalized a [rule](#) in February that expands the use of the excepted service by creating "Schedule Policy/Career," a new category covering career employees in policy-influencing roles ([see previous coverage](#)). While OPM frames the change as a way to improve accountability and responsiveness, critics warn it weakens long-standing civil service protections.

On June 3, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) officially reclassifying roughly 8,000 federal employees, making it easier for agencies to fire workers in policy-influencing roles. The Administration says the change will improve accountability while preserving merit-based hiring and whistleblower protections. Critics, including labor unions and Congressional Democrats, argue it could enable politically motivated firings and discourage employees from reporting misconduct. The move revives a policy Trump first introduced during his first term and is already facing legal and legislative challenges.

An [appendix](#) to the EO lists federal agency positions subject to the change, including several research grant and policy-related roles at the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health.

Research Community Organizing Around OMB Proposed Rule

As previously [reported](#), the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a [proposed rule](#) in late May that would make major changes to the [Uniform Guidance](#) governing federal financial assistance, including federal research grants. The rule seeks to implement proposals made by the Trump Administration through various executive orders and other actions taken since January 2025. Public comments will be accepted through July 13; public requests that the 45-day comment period be extended have been denied by OMB.

As the research community prepares to respond, scientific and higher education groups are providing guidance to help make sense of the more than 400-page proposed rule. COGR, for example, produced a brief [factsheet](#) on the proposed rule and has made available the [PowerPoint presentation](#) from a June 11 meeting (COGR member universities may be able to log in to view the recording of the meeting). The Association of American Universities (AAU) has set up a [page](#) on its website with additional resources for responding to the rule. COSSA is in the process of preparing our own guide to assist the social and behavioral science community.

Other organizations are holding **webinars this week** to further discuss the community's response, including [Research!America](#) and the [American Institute of Physics](#).

Institutions, associations, and individual researchers are all encouraged to submit comments and, whenever possible, use the comments to share specific examples of potential impact of the changed policies.

Register Now: Federal Justice Statistics Program Webinar

On June 25 at 1:00pm EST, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) will be hosting a Federal Justice Statistics Program Webinar.

BJs statisticians will present an in-depth introduction to the [Federal Justice Statistics Program](#). During the webinar, attendees will learn how to:

1. Track federal cases from investigation through incarceration and community supervision
2. Use the BJS Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics tool for research
3. Explore the innovative Dyad Link File methodology that connects data across agencies
4. Apply federal justice data to topics like immigration enforcement
5. Access resources, including published reports, data tools, and archived datasets.

Whether you're a researcher, policy analyst, criminal justice professional, student, or interested member of the public, this webinar will equip you with valuable tools to navigate federal justice statistics. Register now on the [BJS website](#).

Science Community News

NASEM Hosts Third Annual State of the Science Address

On June 2, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) hosted the [State of the Science Address](#), an annual review of the status of the U.S.'s research enterprise, science innovation, and global science leadership ([see previous coverage](#)). During her [address](#), NASEM President Marcia McNutt reiterated a concern from her 2025 address—that the U.S. scientific research enterprise is weakening as American and international researchers pursue research opportunities outside of the U.S.

McNutt discussed the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) recently proposed rule titled Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance ([see COSSA's coverage here](#)). McNutt raised concerns that this rule would take decision-making away from scientists on issues such as:

1. What research receives funding;
2. What meetings scientists are allowed to attend;
3. If and where results can be published.

McNutt addressed some of the most pressing concerns in U.S. science, encouraging the community to explore ways to:

1. Improve collaboration between universities and industries on research;
2. Encourage innovation and curiosity over quantity of publications and citations;
3. Offer students more opportunities to pursue graduate degrees in STEM;
4. Streamline the application processes for federal funding to reduce administrative burden;
5. Employ artificial intelligence (AI) to reduce menial research labor; and
6. Support "high-risk, high-reward research."

McNutt concluded by emphasizing how the U.S. scientific enterprise needs to make changes soon or else U.S. talent will pursue careers internationally and citizens' trust in science will continue to degrade.

A recording of the address can be found [here](#).

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Caroline Seo.

Remembering Ken Prewitt

Earlier this month the COSSA community lost one of its most stalwart champions and dedicated public servants, Dr. Kenneth Prewitt.

Ken's connections with COSSA run deep, having served numerous positions at COSSA member universities, as director of NORC at the University of Chicago, president of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC), and president of the American Academy of

Political and Social Science (AAPSS). He was nominated by President Bill Clinton to serve as Director of the Census Bureau (1998-2001).

During his time at SSRC in the early 1980s, Ken was responsible for assisting with the launch of COSSA. He later served as COSSA President from 2011-2012.

“I will remember Ken as a prolific writer and thoughtful leader, always working to push the social and behavioral sciences forward,” says Wendy Naus, COSSA Executive Director. “COSSA and the broader research community simply would not be who we are without Ken’s decades of scholarship and service.”



COSSA Member Spotlight

COSSA Welcomes the University of Oregon as its Newest Member



COSSA is thrilled to welcome the [University of Oregon](#) its newest member! UO is a leading public research institution and currently ranks 26th on COSSA's [annual list](#) of top universities competing for federal social and behavioral science research funding.

COSSA's full membership list can be found [here](#). Information on how to join is on the [COSSA website](#).

2027 LSA Awards Nominations are Open

The [Linguistic Society of America](#) (LSA), a COSSA member organization, announced that they are now accepting nominations for several of their annual awards. Each year, LSA recognizes a wide range of contributions to the discipline of linguistics through the bestowal of awards.

Learn about a specific award, the nomination and selection process, view a list of past winners, and submit a nomination on the [LSA awards webpage](#). Deadline for a majority of the awards is **June 30, 2026**.

People in the News

- On June 4, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Jay Bhattacharya, [announced the selection](#) of Dr. Steven Schiff, as the next director of the **Fogarty International Center (FIC)** and **NIH associate director for international research**.
- On June 11, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Jay Bhattacharya, [announced the selection](#) of Dr. Raymond H. Jacobson, as the director of **NIH's Center for Scientific Review (CSR)**, which ensures expert and fair review of the tens of thousands of grant applications received by the agency each year.
- The National Institutes of Health (NIH) [announced](#) John Powers III will replace Jeffrey Taubenberger as the **acting director of the National Institute of Allergy**

- and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)**. Previously, he was principal senior advisor to the director of NIAID and director of collaborative research with Leidos Biomedical Research in support of the Office of the Director at NIAID.
- In late May, President Trump [appointed](#) former Attorney General Pam Bondi to the **President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST)**.

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- 5/18/2026: [COSSA's Analysis of the FY 2027 House CJS Appropriations Bill for Federal Science Agencies](#)
- 5/14/2026: [CNSF Letter Requesting for a NSF Director Confirmation Hearing](#)

Nomination Opportunities

- Research!America: [2027 Advocacy Awards](#) (Closes: July 17, 2026)
- **NEW:** LSA: [2027 LSA Awards](#) (Closes: June 30, 2026)
- AAS: [2027 AAS Honors, Grants, and Prizes](#) (Closes: June 30, 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

- NSF: [Request for Comment on Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation Program](#) (Closes: June 30, 2026)
- OMB: [Request for Comment on Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance](#) (Closes: July 13, 2026)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- IES: [Report on the Condition of Education 2026](#)
- Brennan Center for Justice: [The Cost of the Trump Administration's Attacks on Research Funding](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- **NEW:** AAAS: [Center for STEMM Education and Workforce Project Manager](#) (Closes: June 19, 2026)
- **NEW:** NIH: [OBSSR Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) (Closes: July 1, 2026)
- National Academies: [Senior Program Officer, Science and Technology Policy and Law](#) (Ongoing)
- NIST: [Submit a Letter of Interest to join the NIST AI Consortium](#) (Ongoing)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Ongoing)

Upcoming Events

- **NEW:** Research!America: [Alliance Discussion: Responding to OMB's Proposed Grants Rule](#), June 17, 2026, Virtual
- **NEW:** AIP: [What OMB's Uniform Guidance Proposal Means for Research](#), June 17, 2026, Virtual
- NIMHD: [Shaping the Next Era of NIMHD Science Webinar](#), June 22, 2026, Virtual
- **NEW:** BJS: [Federal Justice Statistics Program Webinar](#), June 25, 2026, Virtual
- 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@coffa.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
Economic History Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Sociological Society
National Council on Family Relations
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association

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 Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas, Austin
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Tech
Yale University

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Political and Social

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

SAGE Publishing

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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