



WASHINGTON UPDATE

October 6, 2026 | Volume 45 Issue 19

[Subscribe to COSSA Washington Update](#) | [Subscribe to Members-Only Emails from COSSA](#)

NEW FROM COSSA

- ACT NOW!
- Alycia Chin and Baruch Fischhoff Answer "Why Social Science?"

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

- New Fiscal Year Officially Begins, Lawmakers Leave Washington Until November 9
- Senate Republicans Warn Against Grant Terminations at NIH

EXECUTIVE BRANCH NEWS

- President Trump Executive Actions
- Trump Administration Rescinds \$810 Million in Appropriated Funds, Lawsuits Pending
- Deadline Extended for Census RFI on Demographic Questions – Respond by Nov. 2

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

DONATE TODAY

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.

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:

- [Federal Data Terminations Tracker](#)
- CRS Reports: [An Overview of Federal Regulations and the Rulemaking Process](#)
- 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@cozza.org to include in future Washington Updates.

Alycia Chin and Baruch Fischhoff Answer "Why Social Science?"

The most recent [Why Social Science?](#) post comes from Alycia Chin (US Securities and Exchange Commission) and Baruch Fischhoff (Carnegie Mellon University) highlighting three key examples of work done by social and behavioral scientists that have affected American life in essential ways.



[Read on](#) for more.

Congressional News

New Fiscal Year Officially Begins, Lawmakers Leave Washington Until November 9

Senators and House Members are now back in their states and districts campaigning ahead of the November midterm elections. Both chambers are expected to reconvene November 9 for the lame duck session. Immediately confronting lawmakers will be the fiscal year (FY) 2027 appropriations bills, for which Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) last month pushing the deadline to December 11. The path forward for completing the FY 2027 process—FY 2027 officially began on October 1—will likely depend heavily on the outcome of the elections and which party will control each chamber next year. Lawmakers may decide to complete work on FY 2027 during the lame duck session so the 120th Congress, which will be sworn in on January 3, 2027, can start fresh. Or, if either chamber flips to Democratic control, the funding bills could be pushed into next year, giving the new majority control over the final product.

Senate Republicans Warn Against Grant Terminations at NIH

Six Republican Senators penned a [letter](#) to Trump Administration officials last month raising concern about “the potential effects of terminating ongoing, multi-year research grants after significant federal resources have already been invested,” specifically at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Instead, the letter, which is signed by Sens. David H. McCormick (R-PA), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Susan Collins (R-ME), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) and Steve Daines (R-MT), asks that efforts be made to modify funded projects that may not currently align with Administration priorities to “help advance the Administration’s objectives while preserving the value of taxpayer investments already made.”

Sen. McCormick also authored an [op-ed](#) in the Washington Post last month calling for a redoubling of the NIH budget over the next five years among other reforms.

Executive Branch News

President Trump Executive Actions

- **NEW:** [Inaugurating the Era of Super Intelligence](#) (9/29/26)

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

Trump Administration Rescinds \$810 Million in Appropriated Funds, Lawsuits Pending

The President issued a so-called [pocket rescission](#) on September 25 canceling \$810 million in already appropriated funding for fiscal year (FY) 2026, citing “wasteful and harmful government spending that does not benefit American citizens.”

Within the rescission are cuts for immigration services and several health and education programs, such as the Department of Education’s International Education and Foreign Language programs. Also included are rescissions to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health, climate change initiatives, and programs dealing with transgender/gender identity and racism within the healthcare system.

The legality of the move is in question. The Administration contends that it can rescind, or “impound,” already-appropriated funds without Congressional approval if said rescission occurs within 45 days of the end of the fiscal year and Congress is not in session to respond. However, the [Government Accountability Office](#) (GAO) finds that pocket rescissions are illegal given that impoundment requires action by Congress. A [lawsuit](#) was filed in California on September 30 calling for the rescission to be blocked, [citing](#) violation of the Constitution’s spending clause. Members of Congress have also started speaking out against the rescission. This is a developing story.

Deadline Extended for Census RFI on Demographic Questions – Respond by Nov. 2

The original 30-day comment period for a Census Bureau proposed rule, [Decennial Census of the Population of Americans; Proposed Residence Criteria and Proposed Regulations for Demographic Questions](#), has been extended to November 2 (originally October 13). If implemented, the proposed rule would mark a significant change to the 2030 Census, specifically by excluding non-U.S. citizens without a green card from apportionment used to set Congressional districts. It would also remove race and ethnicity questions from the decennial. [The Census Project](#) has been covering the issue in detail.

Given the dramatic changes proposed, the deadline extension for public comment is welcome news. **Submit your comments at [regulations.gov](#) by November 2.**

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- **NEW:** 9/23/2026: [Friends of IES Letter to Department of Education on EDGAR](#)
- 9/21/2026: [APSA Joint Statement on the NSF’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program](#)

Nomination Opportunities

- AAPSS: [2027 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize](#) (Closes: November 1, 2026)
- NIST: [Request for Nominations for Members to serve on NIST Federal Advisory Committees](#) (Ongoing)

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: [The Research on Research Security Program \(RoRS\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)
- SSRC: [Economic Research Rescue Fund](#) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NIH: [Request for Information on Proposed Changes to Reporting Outcomes from NIH Peer Review](#) (Closes: October 13, 2026)
- **NEW:** NSF: [Request for Comment: Notice of Intent To Reinstate Information Collection](#) (Closes: October 27, 2026)
- DHS: [Request for Comment on proposed rule eliminating the discretionary 60-day grace period for H-1B and other visa holders](#) (Closes: November 10, 2026)
- **NEW:** Census Bureau: [Request for Public Comment on Proposed Data Sharing Activity](#) (Closes: November 23, 2026)
- APS: [Call for Ideas for the NSF Forward Initiative](#) (Ongoing)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- BJS: [Violent Victimization with a Firearm, 2024](#)
- Trust for America's Health: [Underfunded and Under Strain: The State of America's Public Health System](#)
- NASEM: [On Being a Scientist: A Guide to the Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research: Fourth Edition](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- **NEW:** [NAEd/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship](#) (Closes: October 8, 2026)
- **NEW:** [NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) (Closes: October 8, 2026)
- AAAS: [Pathways to Policy Fellowship](#) (Closes: November 1, 2026)
- AIP: [Science Policy Fellowship, Congress](#) (Closes: December 1, 2026)
- **NEW:** ICF: [Public Policy Researcher](#) (Ongoing)
- APS: [Head of Scientific Programs](#) (Ongoing)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Ongoing)
- FAS: [Public Impact S&T Open Call](#) (Ongoing)

Upcoming Events

- **NEW:** NIH: [Matilda White Riley Distinguished Lecturer](#), October 7, 2026, Virtual
- MPSA: [2027 Call for Papers, Roundtables, Complete Panels and Working Groups](#), October 13, 2026
- APPAM: [Innovation Day](#), November 4, 2026, Boston, MA
- AERA: [2026 Annual Brown Lecture in Education Research](#), November 5, 2026, Virtual
- APPAM: [Fall Research Conference](#), November 5-7, 2026, Boston, MA
- ASC: [2026 ASC Annual Meeting](#), November 18-21, 2026, Chicago, IL
- AAA: [2026 AAA Annual Meeting](#), November 18-22, 2026, St. Louis, MO
- NCA: [112th NCA Annual Convention](#), November 19-22, 2026, New Orleans, LA

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@cossa.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
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

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 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

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.

Executive Director

Wendy A. Naus

Director of Public Affairs

Elyse Bailey

Fall Term Intern

Ananya Bamidipati

ISSN 0749-4394



#WhySocialScience

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS | www.cossa.org

Consortium of Social Science Associations | 1436 Duke Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!