COSSA Washington Update

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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.

READ:
- *AAMC:* Tracking Two Years of Change in NIH Funding
- *CRS Report*: H-1B Executive Actions in 2026

WATCH:
- President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) Meeting: November 6, 2026.

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
- **NEW:** Grant Witness: Website for tracking terminated federal grants **(NEW AGENCIES ADDED)**
  - 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.

Reminder to Register: COSSA's Final Headlines Webinars of 2026

COSSA will be hosting two final members-only Headlines Webinars for 2026 in November and December. See the information below and register to attend:

- **Midterm Elections 2026 and Social and Behavioral Science Research:** On November 19, join COSSA as we discuss the results of the 2026 midterm elections and the implications for federal social science policy and the research community in the upcoming 120th Congress. Register now and join the conversation.
- **Reviewing 2026 & What's Next:** On December 17, join COSSA for the final Headlines webinar of the year. We will cover key policy developments and Congressional activity that affected the social and behavioral sciences in 2026 and preview what's ahead for 2027. Register now and join the conversation.

Headlines is a webinar series available exclusively to COSSA member organizations. Watch for additional webinar announcements, and previous webinar recordings, on the COSSA website.

Save the Date: Social Science Advocacy Day 2027



COSSA's annual Social Science Advocacy Day is BACK and will be taking place April 5-6, 2027 in Washington, DC! This signature, members-only event brings together social and behavioral science researchers, faculty, students, association professionals, and other

advocates from across the country to meet with their elected officials in Congress to discuss the value of our sciences and the importance of federal funding.

Stay tuned for additional details in the coming weeks. Early bird registration will be here before you know it! Until then, mark your calendars and share this exciting opportunity with your colleagues.

We hope to see you in Washington, DC in April 2027!

Visit the COSSA website for the latest information on Social Science Advocacy Day.

Congressional News

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!



It's election day in America and the balance of power in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate is up for grabs, not to mention the countless state and local races that promise to have lasting impact. COSSA is closely monitoring the results of the elections and will be providing an analysis in the coming days, including what the results could mean for funding and policy for social and behavioral science research. In the meantime, COSSA urges all registered voters to exercise their fundamental right and vote!

House Democrats Prepare for Oversight of Trump Science Actions

Democratic lawmakers are preparing for a potential change in leadership in the House following today's midterm elections. Democrats on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee have identified several ways they would assert their oversight authority over Trump Administration actions should they gain the majority next year. Science Committee Ranking Member Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) has been most vocal in her concerns about the Administration's dismantling of federal science agencies and would be expected to hit the ground running with oversight and investigations as chair of the committee should Democrats gain the majority next year.

Executive Branch News

NSF Faces Another Leadership Shake-Up as Top Officials Prepare to Depart

Uncertainty mounts at the National Science Foundation (NSF) with the recent announcement of the upcoming departure of Acting Director Brian Stone and Acting Chief of Staff Rebecca Keiser. According to an internal staff memo, Stone announced his plans to retire at the end of the year, while Keiser will depart at the end of November. The White House is said to be working with the agency to identify a new acting director.

As COSSA has been reporting, NSF has been without a Senate confirmed director since the departure of Sethuraman Panchanathan in April of last year. The President's nominee, Jim O'Neill, has not yet received a vote by the Senate. The research community has raised concerns about O'Neill's qualifications to serve as NSF head given his lack of scientific research experience.

Despite the lack of permanent leadership at NSF, the White House has significantly reshaped the agency over the last year, aligning its activities with Trump Administration priorities and away from NSF's basic science, investigator-initiated research mission. Under acting leadership and as directed by the White House, NSF experienced extensive grant terminations, proposed budget reductions, changes to fellowship programs, dismissal of the National Science Board, and the defunding of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE). Members of Congress have voiced serious concern about these actions, especially without adequate leadership at the helm of the agency.

Keiser's departure raises additional questions about the future of NSF's research security office, which she established as the agency's inaugural chief of research security in 2020. The *CHIPS and Science Act* requires NSF to maintain a chief of research security and four full-time staff members. NSF is reviewing candidates for a permanent replacement, while Dean Evasius is serving in an acting leadership capacity.

Rob Moller, head of NSF's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, will become acting chief of staff following Keiser's departure.

Trump's PCAST to Hold First Meeting November 6

The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) will meet for the first time of the second Trump administration on November 6. PCAST is a body of external advisors charged with making science, technology, and innovation policy recommendations to the President and White House officials. In a departure to past councils, Trump's PCAST is populated with several private sector executives in the tech sphere, including Oracle's David Ellison and Meta's Mark Zuckerberg. Historically, PCAST largely consisted of academic and industry researchers. Venture capitalist David Sacks and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) director Michael Kratsios co-chair the panel. **Watch live here.**

Science Community News

National Academies Seeks Experts for Study on Telehealth in Disability Evaluations

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) is seeking experts to participate in a new study examining the use of telehealth and remote testing in Social Security Administration disability evaluations. The study will review current research on the reliability and validity of remote medical examinations, compare remote assessments with in-person testing, and identify best practices and limitations in evaluating medical severity and functional capacity.

NASEM is interested in experts with backgrounds in telehealth services and health services research, psychiatry, psychology, mental health, neurology, Social Security disability evaluation, policy, and medical assessment. The study will also examine remote

intelligence and psychological testing, the use of technology in clinical examinations, and differences in telehealth practices for adult and pediatric populations.

Nominations must be submitted by November 9. Learn more and recommend an expert on the NASEM website.

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Ananya Bamidipati.

National Academies Seeks Experts for Workshop on Emerging Adults in the Criminal/Legal System

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) is seeking experts to participate in a workshop examining how the criminal/legal system responds to emerging adults ages 18 to 25. The workshop will explore research on cognitive, emotional, and social development during this period and consider the implications for criminal justice policies and practices. It will also examine promising interventions to improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and promote individual and community well-being.

NASEM is interested in experts with backgrounds in adolescent and young adult development, criminology, criminal justice, psychology, sociology, law, public safety, and evidence-based justice interventions. The workshop will also consider appropriate measures of success for justice-involved emerging adults, research and data gaps, and priorities for future research.

Nominations must be submitted by November 6. Learn more and recommend an expert on the NASEM website.

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Ananya Bamidipati.

COSSA Member Spotlight

COSSA Welcomes Pi Gamma Mu as New Member 🎉

COSSA is thrilled to welcome Pi Gamma Mu- International Honor Society in Social Sciences as its newest member! Pi Gamma Mu is the oldest and preeminent interdisciplinary social science honor society working to encourage and promote excellence in the Social Sciences and to uphold and nurture scholarship, leadership, and service.

COSSA's full membership list can be found here. Information on how to join is on the COSSA website.

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- 9/23/2026: Friends of IES Letter to Department of Education on EDGAR

Nomination Opportunities

- Research!America: Public Engagement Content Awards (Closes: November 20, 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)
- Research!America: 2026-27 Civic Engagement Microgrants Program (Closes: November 20, 2026)
- NSF: The Research on Research Security Program (RoRS) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- **NEW:** NASEM: Call for Experts: Telehealth and Opportunities for Remote Testing in Disability Evaluation (Closes: November 9, 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:** NASEM: Call for Experts: Emerging Adults in the Criminal/Legal System: A Workshop (Closes: November 13, 2026)
- Census Bureau: Request for Public Comment on Proposed Data Sharing Activity (Closes: November 23, 2026)
- **NEW:** NSF: Request for Comment: Survey of Earned Doctorates (Closes: December 28, 2026)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** AAMC: Tracking Two Years of Change in NIH Funding
- **NEW:** CRS Report: H-1B Executive Actions in 2026
- GAO: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality at Department of Health and Human Services
- GAO: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- AIP: Science Policy Fellowship, Congress (Closes: December 1, 2026)
- NIH: Summer Internship Program (SIP) (Closes: January 26, 2027)
- NASEM: Research Associate, Science and Engineering Education and Workforce (Ongoing)
- APSA: Pracademic Fellowship (Ongoing)
- FAS: Public Impact S&T Open Call (Ongoing)

Upcoming Events

- 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
- **NEW:** PCAST Public Meeting, November 6, 2026, Virtual
- ASC: 2026 ASC Annual Meeting, November 18-21, 2026, Chicago, IL
- AAA: 2026 AAA Annual Meeting, November 18-22, 2026, St. Louis, MO
- COSSA Headlines Webinar: Midterm Elections 2026 and Social and Behavioral Science Research, November 19, 2026, Virtual
- **NEW:** 50th Annual AAAS Science and Technology Policy Forum, November 19-20, 2026, Washington, DC
- 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
Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society in Social Sciences
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

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

SAGE Publishing

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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