

Innovation and Equal Representation in STEM

AWIS Supports Increased Funding for Innovative Scientific Research

Federal research funding is vital to our nation's innovation and economy. Through federal science funding, jobs are created, directly – for the principal investigators, research teams, lab technicians, materials and equipment manufacturers and others who help support the work – and indirectly, through innovations that lead to new technologies, new companies and new industries. Funding for the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency is crucial for American technological achievement and domestic job creation.

	FY16	FY17	FY18	President's FY19 Request	Suggested Level
NSF Overall Funding Level	\$ 7.46 B	\$ 7.50 B	TBD	\$ 7.47 B	\$ 8.45 B
Research and Related Activities	\$ 5.99 B	\$ 6.00 B	TBD	\$ 6.15 B	\$ 6.7 B
SBIR	\$ 191.7 M	\$ 192 M	TBD	\$ 196.8 M	\$220 M
NOAA Overall	\$5.77 B	\$5.67 B	TBD	\$ 4.56 B	\$5.70 B
SBIR	\$ 12 M	\$ 19 M	TBD	\$ 14 M	\$ 19 M
EPA Overall	\$ 8.1 B	\$ 8.2 B	TBD	\$ 6.146 B	\$8.0 B
SBIR	\$ 22 M	\$ 23 M	TBD	\$ 14 M	\$ 25 M

NSF Drives Innovative Research Across STEM Disciplines

- NSF supports 360,000 research positions and funds cutting edge basic and applied research at over 1,800 academic institutions in all 50 states, DC, and four US territories
- Full funding of NSF science and research directorates is necessary to support the NSF Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program which seeds private sector innovation by enabling small businesses to explore their technological potential and providing the incentive to profit from its commercialization
- Prestigious NSF graduate research fellowships, a long-running program, help states receiving relatively small amounts of NSF funding produce qualified and recognized researchers

NOAA Provides Essential Services and Supports Critical Safety Needs

- Cuts to NOAA's research and operations would delay hurricane forecast improvements, eliminate critical tornado warning program, terminate arctic research protecting fishermen and slow flood forecasting improvements
- The NOAA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program provides much needed skills and research opportunities to solve some of America's most pressing issues including how to remove lead from drinking water and remediate contaminated soil

EPA Research Protects Public Health and the Environment

- Funding for EPA science and technology supports valuable research that is used to identify and mitigate health and environmental problems facing our nation
- The EPA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program funds nascent American businesses to develop technologies that will help protect human health and the environment by detecting chemicals in the air, ensuring cleaner water, and creating greener materials

AWIS Supports Equitable Representation of Women and People of Color in Federal Research and Programs

H.R. 1358/S.338 Scientific Integrity Act

- This bill creates a requirement that federal scientific agencies openly and actively communicate their scientific data and findings to the public, policy makers, and other federal agencies
- The bill also amends the America COMPETES Act to require that agencies which conduct research develop and enforce a Scientific Integrity Policy

H.R. 3397 Building Blocks of STEM Act

- This bill, which has already passed the House and has been received in the Senate, supports STEM education and takes steps to address the gender disparity of women in STEM fields through directing the NSF to fund programs that address this need, and provide competitive grants to institutions that research factors that contribute to girls participation in STEM or engage parents and teachers in the promotion of women in STEM fields

The Association for Women in Science

The Association for Women in Science (AWIS), founded in 1971, is the leading organization that advocates on behalf of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to achieve business growth, social change, and innovation. We are dedicated to driving excellence in STEM by achieving equity and full participation of women in all disciplines and across all employment sectors. AWIS has helped guide Congress, the United Nations, pharmaceutical and biotech companies, institutions and other professional organizations on decisions and best practices to achieve gender diversity and positive system transformation in STEM. AWIS is a global network with 80 grassroots chapters and affiliates connecting more than 100,000 professionals in STEM with members, allies and supporters worldwide.

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