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# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## FEATURED NEWS

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### **Trump Releases FY 2019 Budget Request; Read COSSA's Analysis of Social Science Impacts**

On February 12, the Trump Administration began releasing details of its [fiscal year \(FY\) 2019 budget request to Congress](#), although details for some agencies (such as the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health) have yet to be released and are expected in the coming days or weeks. In light of a recent bipartisan agreement to increase discretionary spending over the next two years, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released an [addendum to the FY 2019 budget](#) outlining a number of adjustments to the budget request. However, the President's views the new spending caps as a "ceiling" for FY 2019 funding, not as a funding target. As such, the request violates the budget deal by seeking to

shift \$57 billion away from nondefense discretionary spending and over to the defense side of the ledger.

The bottom line when considering the Trump Administration's proposals for FY 2019 is that it remains a political, largely symbolic document that outlines the Administration's priorities for the year ahead; take note of the policy priorities contained within the budget as they could shape some legislative and/or executive actions later in the year. However, Congress is not likely to go along with the bulk of the President's recommendations, especially cuts for research and domestic programs writ large.

[Read on](#) for COSSA's full analysis of the President's proposals as they pertain to social and behavioral science research. **Supplements to this report will be issued as additional agency details are released.**

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## COSSA IN ACTION

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### Don't Forget to Register for COSSA Science Policy Conference & Advocacy Day

There is still time to register for COSSA's [2018 Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day](#) on April 30-May 1 in Washington, DC! More information about the conference is available on [COSSA's website](#). Remember: **All** participants affiliated with [COSSA member organizations and universities](#) are eligible for a discount on Conference registration. Check your inbox for a previous email from COSSA with the discount code or email [jmilton@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org). And undergraduate and graduate students can register for only \$50, an 80% savings off the base price. Interested students should send an email to [jmilton@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org) with their program, university, and anticipated year of graduate to receive the discount.

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## CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

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### Congress Passes Bipartisan Budget Deal to Raise Spending Caps, Keep Government Open Until March 23

On February 9, Congressional leaders reached an agreement on a two-year deal to raise the budget caps that have limited federal spending since 2011. As COSSA has [previously reported](#), these spending caps have limited the ability of Congress to pass full-year appropriations for fiscal year (FY) 2018 and diminished the chances of federal science agencies would see funding increases.

The budget deal, known as the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018*, increases discretionary spending by \$385 billion above the existing caps for the next two years. This increase includes \$131 billion in non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding, which includes federal research funding. The deal also includes additional funds to areas affected by natural disasters and funds for the Census Bureau to continue to prepare for the 2020 Census. This budget agreement is seen as major progress in a difficult fiscal and political environment.

Next on the appropriations agenda will be funding the government after March 23. The budget deal that passed on February 9 included another continuing resolution (CR) to maintain FY 2017 funding levels through March 23 to give Congressional leaders more time to finalize FY 2018 spending. Read COSSA's full coverage of FY 2018 appropriations [here](#).

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## FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

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# NSF Issues 2018-2022 Strategic Plan

Alongside the release of the fiscal year (FY) 2019 budget request (see related article), the National Science Foundation issued its latest five-year strategic plan, [Building the Future: Investing in Discovery and Innovation, NSF Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2022](#). The new report outlines the agency's strategic goals and objectives, which include: (1) expand knowledge in science, engineering, and learning; (2) advance the capability of the Nation to meet current and future challenges; and (3) enhance NSF's performance of its mission.

The plan also states that a "Performance Plan for FY 2019" has been developed and that it includes the following "Agency Priority Goal": "Expand public and private partnerships to enhance the impact of NSF's investments and contribute to American economic competitiveness and security." Regarding this goal, the strategic plan states that "by September 30, 2019, NSF's number of partnerships and/or award actions with other federal agencies, private industry, and foundations/philanthropies will grow by 5 percent..." The plan also lists three long-term performance goals: (1) ensure that key FY 2019 NSF-wide program investments are implemented and on track; (2) ensure program integrity and responsible stewardship of major research facilities and infrastructure; and (3) inform applicants whether their proposals have been declined or recommended for funding in a timely manner. Full details of NSF's FY 2019 Performance Plan are not currently public since NSF has not yet released its complete FY 2019 budget request.

## Nomination Opportunities

- CDC: [Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health \(ICSH\)](#) (Closes: February 28, 2018)

## Funding Opportunities

- NIH: [Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women: Sexual Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, Stalking, and Teen Dating Violence](#) (Closes: April 12, 2018)
- CDC: [Research Grants for Preventing Violence and Violence Related Injury \(R01\)](#) (Closes: March 26, 2018)
- IARPA: [Geopolitical Forecasting Challenge](#) (Launches: February 21, 2018)

## Notices & Requests for Comment

- NEW: NSF: [New Steps to Help Eliminate Sexual Harassment](#)
- NIH: [All of Us Research Program Seeks Input on Research Priorities](#) (Closes: February 23, 2018)
- OMB: [Request for Information on Linking and Combining Data](#) (Closes: March 13, 2018)

## Fellowships & Professional Development

- FDA Center for Tobacco Products: [Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship](#) (Closes: March 1, 2018)
- National Endowment for the Humanities: [Summer Programs for Teachers and Faculty](#) (Closes: March 1, 2018)

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## COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

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### Notices & Requests for Comment

- NASEM: [Request for Input on Social Science Ideas to Improve Intelligence Analysis](#) (Closes: March 2018)

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## COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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### **American Academy of Arts and Sciences Issues *Perceptions of Science in America* Report**

On February 12, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a COSSA member, issued a new report assessing the current state of public trust for science in the U.S. [Perceptions of Science in America](#) is the first report to be issued as part of the Academy's [Public Face of Science project](#), a three-year activity that looks to better understand and explain the complex relationship between the scientific community and the public.

Drawing from existing public opinion survey data sources, including government and non-governmental surveys, the report identifies three main takeaways about the state of science among public audiences: (1) confidence in scientific leaders has remained relatively stable over the last 30 years; (2) confidence in science varies based on age, race, educational attainment, region, political ideology, and other characteristics; and (3) there is no single anti-science population, but more research is needed to understand what drives skepticism about specific scientific issues.

Check out the [Academy's website](#) for details.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [The Lab @ DC: The Revolving Door of the School Administrator's Office](#), February 22, 2018, Washington, DC
- [Public Session of the NASEM Committee on Reproducibility and Replicability in Science](#), February 22-23, 2018, Washington, DC
- [Friends of IES Congressional Briefing: Advances in Educating Underprepared College Students](#), February 26, 2018, Washington, DC
- [Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention](#), March 1-3, 2018, Atlanta, GA
- [American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#), March 7-10, 2018, Louisville, KY
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), March 22-25, 2018, Minneapolis, MN
- [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 4-7, 2018, New Orleans, LA
- [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 5-8, Chicago, IL
- [American Psychological Association Conference on Technology, Mind, and Society](#), April 5-7, Washington, DC
- [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 10-14, 2018, New Orleans, LA
- [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), April 11-14, 2018, New Orleans, LA
- [Society for Research on Adolescence Annual Meeting](#), April 12-14, 2018, Minneapolis, MN
- [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 13-17, 2018, New York, NY
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), April 26-28, 2018, Denver, CO
- [American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting](#), April 26-28, 2018, Philadelphia, PA
- [COSSA Science Policy Conference & Social Science Advocacy Day, April 30-May 1, 2018, Washington, DC](#)

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

**REGISTER NOW!**



**Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Members**

**Governing Associations**

American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Public Opinion Research  
American Economic Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society of Criminology  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
Association of American Law Schools  
Law and Society Association  
Linguistic Society of America  
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  
American Association of Geographers  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Evaluation Association  
American Historical Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Council on Family Relations  
North American Regional Science Council  
Rural Sociological Society  
Social Science History Association  
Society for Prevention Research  
Society for Research on Adolescence  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

**Colleges and Universities**

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Fielding Graduate University  
Florida State University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University, The  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
Texas A&M University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, San Antonio

Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

## Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
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

## COSSA

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*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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