Featured News

NSF Invites Proposals for New SBE-Led Initiatives on Strengthening Infrastructure, Broadening Participation in Entrepreneurship, and Enhancing Social Science Capacity at Minority-Serving Institutions

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a pair of Dear Colleague Letters (DCL) soliciting applications from the research community on two new crosscutting initiatives led by the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE). The first letter, Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI), signed by the Assistant Directors of all seven research directorates and the head of the Office of Integrative Activities, seeks Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) proposals that “incorporate scientific insights about human behavior and social dynamics to better develop, design, build, rehabilitate, and maintain strong and effective American infrastructure” (which can include cyber, economic, educational, physical, and social). According to the DCL, “NSF is particularly interested in proposals that integrate a deep understanding of human cognition, perception, information processing, decision making, social and cultural behavior, legal frameworks, governmental structures, and related areas into the design, development, and sustainability of infrastructure.” The deadline for EAGER concept outline proposals is December 11. More information is available in the Dear Colleague Letter.

The second announcement invites proposals on “identifying contextual factors and mitigation strategies to enhance participation and success of various populations in STEM
entrepreneurship and innovation." This effort, Broadening Participation in STEM Entrepreneurship and Innovation (BPINNOVATE), falls within SBE’s Science of Science program but receives support from the Education and Human Resources (EHR), Engineering (ENG), and Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Directorates, as well as the NSF Office of Integrative Activities. In addition, other NSF programs will also support opportunities for research on this topic, including the NSF Innovation Corps (NSF I-Corps), the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP), the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic Serving Institutions Program (HSI), and the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP) programs. Proposals through the Science of Science program are due by February 9, 2021. More information is available in the Dear Colleague Letter.

SBE has also announced a new program, Build and Broaden 2.0: Enhancing Social, Behavioral and Economic Science Research and Capacity at Minority-Serving Institutions (B2 2.0). This program is part of SBE’s efforts to broaden participation of underrepresented groups in SBE programs by encouraging research collaborations between minority institutions and other research institutions. The new DCL follows on the original Build and Broaden solicitation that came out earlier this year but, because of COVID, was limited to workshop/conference proposals. The solicitation is expected to be posted shortly in the coming days at this link. Proposals are due by March 5, 2021.

In addition to these new efforts, SBE’s Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS) program, which was formerly the Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (RIDIR) program, has released its second annual solicitation under its new name. The revised program now includes two tracks: HNDS-Infrastructure (formerly RIDIR) and HNDS-Core Research. Details on the new research component are available in the solicitation. Proposals are due by February 4, 2021.

**New from COSSA**

**December Headlines to Feature Deep Dive on 2021 Policy Landscape**

COSSA members are invited to register for the monthly Headlines webchat on Thursday, December 10 at 2:00 pm Eastern Time. The COSSA team will break down the most important social and behavioral science news from the past month, followed by a deep dive discussion on the social science policy landscape facing the new Congress and the Biden Administration next year. Individuals employed by or affiliated with a COSSA member organization or university can register for the webchat [here](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331).

**Congressional News**

**Congress Works to Close Out Term as Leaders Named for 117th Congress**

With time running out before the current continuing resolution (CR) funding the government expires on December 11, Congressional leaders are still working to negotiate a final deal for an omnibus spending package to fully fund the government for the remainder of fiscal year (FY) 2021. Reportedly, appropriators have reached an agreement on the top-line funding levels for the various appropriations bills (see COSSA's analyses of the [House](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331) and [Senate](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331) proposals). The main obstacle appears to disagreement be on the size and composition of an additional COVID-19 relief funding package, which would be attached to one of the appropriations bills to ensure passage. Although appropriators have reaffirmed their commitments to the December 11 deadline, they may pass an additional CR to give themselves additional time to wrap up spending. However, time before the end of the session is running out, particularly if Members...
hope to set aside time to quarantine ahead of returning home to their families for the Christmas holiday.

In the meantime, House Democrats have named leaders of several key committees important to the social sciences. The House majority selected Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) to take the helm of the House Appropriations Committee, replacing Nita Lowey (D-NY), who is retiring at the end of this year. Rep. DeLauro is a senior appropriator and current chair of Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS). During her tenure on the Labor-HHS subcommittee, DeLauro has been a big supporter of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and health research. In addition, Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), a longtime champion of the social sciences, was unanimously re-elected to serve as Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee, which oversees the National Science Foundation. Control of the Senate still depends on the results of the upcoming Georgia runoff elections. COSSA will continue to report on additional Committee appointments important to the social sciences as they are announced.

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**Executive Branch News**

**White House Announces Final Appointments for National Science Board**

On November 24, the White House announced nominations and appointments for several key federal positions including the final two appointments filling out the National Science Board (NSB), the advisory body for the National Science Foundation (NSF). These appointments mark the first time since May that the NSB has had all seats filled and will be the last opportunity for the Trump White House to submit appointments to the NSB before the Presidential transition. The two NSB appointees are:

- **Matthew Malkan**, Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of California, Los Angeles
- **Scott Stanley**, Vice President of Technology and Co-Founder of aerospace engineering firm Techno Planet

The next meeting of the NSB is December 9-10. More information and the meeting agenda are available on the [NSB website](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331).

**NIMH Seeking Guidance for Research on Preventing Black Youth Suicide**

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has released a request for information (RFI) seeking input from stakeholders on the prevention of suicide among Black children and adolescents. The RFI seeks information on approaches to understanding suicide risk among Black youth, research needed to expand evidence-based prevention programs and services, and input on additional topics that may be relevant to preventing Black youth suicide. This request follows up on the recommendations included in a 2019 report from the Congressional Black Caucus examining ways to address Black youth suicide and mental health.

Comments will be accepted through January 15, 2021. More information is available on the [NIH website](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331).

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**COSSA Member Spotlight**

**AERA and National Academies to Host Forum on Educational Equity Research Needs**
The American Educational Research Association (AERA), a COSSA governing member, and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) are partnering on a forum on the research needs and implications of the 2019 Academies’ report Monitoring Educational Equity.

The forum will feature experts who served on the National Academies panel that produced the report and explore a select set of the 16 indicators proposed in the report, including exposure to racial, ethnic, and economic segregation; non-exclusionary disciplinary policies; access to non-academic support for students; and access to high-quality academic supports. The forum will take place on December 15, 2020 from 3:30-5:00 PM EST. More information registering and list of speakers is available here.

Resources & Opportunities

New & Expiring Funding Opportunities

- **NEW:** NSF: Broadening Participation in STEM Entrepreneurship and Innovation (BPINNOVATE) (Closes: February 9, 2021)
- NIH/NIGMS: Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) regarding the Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the Causative Virus SARS-CoV-2 (Closes: February 6, 2021)
- **NEW:** NSF/SBE: Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS) (Closes: February 4, 2021)
- **NEW:** NSF: Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-2 (Mid-scale RI-2) (Closes: February 3, 2021)
- **NEW:** NSF: Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI) (Closes: January 15, 2021)
- NIH/NIMH: Request for Information (RFI): Fostering Innovative Research to Improve Mental Health Outcomes Among Minority and Health Disparities Populations (Closes: December 11, 2020)

More funding opportunities.

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NSF: Request for Information - Evidence-Building Activities (Closes: December 31, 2020)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- OBSSR/JHU: Mixed Methods Research Training Program for the Health Sciences (Closes: January 19, 2021)
- OES: Annual Fellowships (Closes: December 13, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/NCI: Program Director position, Health Behaviors Research Branch (Vacancy Pre-Announcement)
Upcoming Events

- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | December](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), December 10, 2020, 2:00 pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [AERA-National Academies Forum: Monitoring Educational Equity](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), December 15, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Economic Association Virtual Annual Meeting](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), January 3-5, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), January 6-9, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), January 7-10, 2021
- **VIRTUAL:** [Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/3bd7aa94-0ffe-4626-a712-fe5318fe0331), February 9-13, 2021

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 jmilton@cossa.org.

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**COSSA 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
- 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

### Colleges and Universities

- Arizona State University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- George Mason University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State 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 Arizona
- University of Arkansas
- 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

### 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 American Law Schools
- 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 Personality Assessment
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

Affiliates

SAGE Publishing
Wiley

Council on Social Work Education
University of Minnesota
Economic History Association
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
History of Science Society
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Midwest Sociological Society
University of Pennsylvania
National Association of Social Workers
University of Pittsburgh
National Council on Family Relations
University of Texas, Austin
North American Regional Science Council
University of Virginia
Rural Sociological Society
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Social Science History Association
Virginia Tech
Society for Personality Assessment
West Virginia University
Society for Prevention Research
Yale University
Society for Research on Adolescence

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

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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