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The Coalition for National Science Funding Opposes the Deep Cuts to the National Science Foundation Proposed in the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

The Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) – a broad-based group of professional organizations, universities, businesses, and scientific societies that advocate for sustained, robust federal support for science – today issued the following statement on the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026.

"The budget request would eviscerate the National Science Foundation, a successful, already lean agency tasked with advancing U.S. science and national security. If enacted, the proposed budget would dramatically cut science and engineering efforts across every area of NSF, reducing the number of people supported by NSF funding by 73 percent, from over 330,000 in FY 2024 to only 90,000. Significantly fewer grants would be issued, reducing discoveries and innovations and threatening world-leading research facilities with closure. These cuts would greatly diminish our research ecosystem and future STEM workforce, which power innovation in every state in the nation, at a time when our competitors are bolstering their own investments.

CNSF calls on Congress to reject these massive cuts and instead sustain and grow NSF in FY 2026 to invest in our innovation, discovery, and competitiveness. As a pillar of America's scientific enterprise for 75 years, NSF-funded research is vital to the nation's economy, national security, and the preparation of the next generation of STEM talent. The President's proposed budget would cede the U.S. position as a global leader in science, technology, and innovation, contradicting a longstanding and bipartisan Congressional priority.

Furthermore, CNSF urges Congress to ensure that NSF is able to spend funds Congress appropriated to the agency for FY 2025. If the uncertainty continues and adequate funding is not actuated in FY 2025 and restored in FY 2026, Congress will have squandered the U.S. scientific global standing and our future innovation workforce."

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