Washington Update
CBMS Spring 2026

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Karen Saxe

AMS

kxs@ams.org

www.ams.org/government

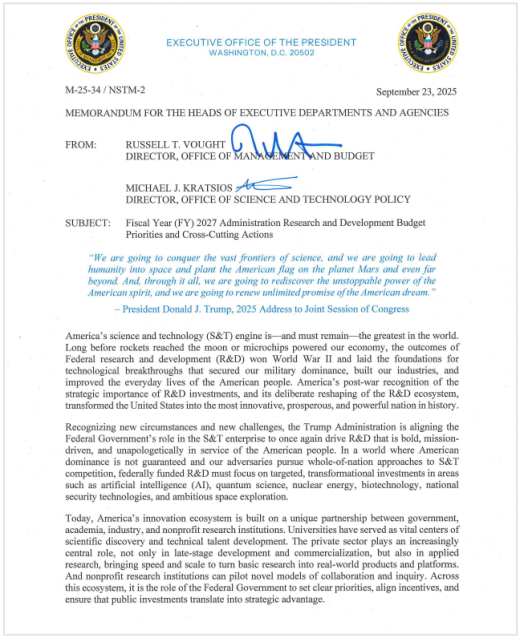
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Outline

1. Federal Funding Update
2. Congress Watch
3. News from the White House
4. Election Outlook

1. Federal Funding Update

FY2027 R&D White House Budget Priorities and Cross-cutting Actions



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

M-25-34 / NSTM-2 September 23, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: RUSSELL T. VOUGHT
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

MICHAEL J. KRATSIOS
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Administration Research and Development Budget Priorities and Cross-Cutting Actions

"We are going to conquer the vast frontiers of science, and we are going to lead humanity into space and plant the American flag on the planet Mars and even far beyond. And, through it all, we are going to rediscover the unstoppable power of the American spirit, and we are going to renew unlimited promise of the American dream."

– President Donald J. Trump, 2025 Address to Joint Session of Congress

America's science and technology (S&T) engine is—and must remain—the greatest in the world. Long before rockets reached the moon or microchips powered our economy, the outcomes of Federal research and development (R&D) won World War II and laid the foundations for technological breakthroughs that secured our military dominance, built our industries, and improved the everyday lives of the American people. America's post-war recognition of the strategic importance of R&D investments, and its deliberate reshaping of the R&D ecosystem, transformed the United States into the most innovative, prosperous, and powerful nation in history.

Recognizing new circumstances and new challenges, the Trump Administration is aligning the Federal Government's role in the S&T enterprise to once again drive R&D that is bold, mission-driven, and unapologetically in service of the American people. In a world where American dominance is not guaranteed and our adversaries pursue whole-of-nation approaches to S&T competition, federally funded R&D must focus on targeted, transformational investments in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), quantum science, nuclear energy, biotechnology, national security technologies, and ambitious space exploration.

Today, America's innovation ecosystem is built on a unique partnership between government, academia, industry, and nonprofit research institutions. Universities have served as vital centers of scientific discovery and technical talent development. The private sector plays an increasingly central role, not only in late-stage development and commercialization, but also in applied research, bringing speed and scale to turn basic research into real-world products and platforms. And nonprofit research institutions can pilot novel models of collaboration and inquiry. Across this ecosystem, it is the role of the Federal Government to set clear priorities, align incentives, and ensure that public investments translate into strategic advantage.

5 Budget Priorities:

1. Critical and Emerging Technologies
2. Energy Dominance
3. American Security
4. American Health and Biotechnology
5. Space Dominance

5 Cross-cutting Actions:

1. Implement and Support Gold Standard Science
2. Build the S&T Workforce of the Future
3. Expand and Make Accessible World-Class Research Infrastructure
4. Revitalize and Strengthen America's S&T Ecosystem
5. Focus on High-Value Research Efforts

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National Science Foundation



NSF Budget

- FY 2025: $9.060 B
- FY 2026: $8.750 B
- FY 2027: President Request is $3.99 B

Next slides dive into 4 of the Directorates…….

To learn about the annual budget process: https://www.ams.org/government/dc-budgetprimer
NSF Budget tracker: https://www.aip.org/fyi/fy2026-national-science-foundation

National Science Foundation

Number of People Involved in NSF Activities

	FY 2025 Plan Estimate	FY 2026 (TBD)	FY 2027 Request Estimate
Senior Researchers	50,900		17,700
Other Professionals	10,200		4,300
Postdoctoral Associates	4,500		1,000
Graduate Students	40,200		13,000
Undergraduate Students	30,700		8,300
PreK-12 Teachers	37,000		8,600
PreK-12 Students	131,900		41,200
Total Number of People	**305,400**		**94,100**

National Science Foundation

NSF Funding Profile[1]

	FY 2025 Current Plan Estimate	FY 2026 (TBD)	FY 2027 Request Estimate
Statistics for Competitive Awards			
Number of Proposals	38,700		37,800
Number of Awards	7,400		2,900
Funding Rate	19%		8%
Statistics for Research Grant Awards			
Number of Research Grant Proposals	32,200		31,100
Number of Research Grant Awards	5,800		2,100
Funding Rate	18%		7%
Median Annualized Award Size	$154,200		$175,100
Average Annualized Award Size	$192,400		$218,800
Average Duration (years)	3.0		3.2

[1] Display excludes NSB, OIG, and staff offices.

National Science Foundation



The Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (NSF MPS) is targeted for a large cut. Priorities to be AI, quantum, biotech.

MPS Funding

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2025 Current Plan	FY 2026 (TBD)	FY 2027 Request	Change over FY 2025 Current Plan Amount	Change over FY 2025 Current Plan Percent
Total	**$1,548.25**		**$515.28**	**-$1,032.97**	**-66.7%**
Research	1,107.66		273.38	-834.28	-75.3%
Education	34.67		-	-34.67	-100.0%
Infrastructure	405.92		241.90	-164.02	-40.4%

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The President's budget once again proposes consolidating the EDU Directorate into the Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account, eliminating its standalone budget line, and significantly reducing the overall investments in EDU activities.

EDU Funding
(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2025 Current Plan[1]	FY 2026 (TBD)	FY 2027 Request	Change over FY 2025 Current Plan Amount	Change over FY 2025 Current Plan Percent
Total	**$1,197.00**		**$427.68**	**-$769.32**	**-64.3%**
Research	459.63		130.32	-329.31	-71.6%
Education	737.37		297.36	-440.01	-59.7%

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The Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (NSF TIP) is relatively new, with a 43.4% cut proposed for FY 2027.

One of its three primary strategies: *Attract and train a world-class science and technology talent base and workforce ready for global competition.*

National Science Foundation



The Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (NSF SBE) is being dismantled.

The National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NSF NCSES) sits inside SBE. The FY2027 budget closes all of SBE except NCSES, which it claims will "operate independently of the directorates and continue to be supported through the R&RA appropriation."

National Science Foundation

On April 24 President Trump fired the entire National Science Board, the body that oversees the NSF. All 24 members received email that read: “On behalf of President Donald J Trump, I am writing to inform you that your position as a member of the National Science Board is terminated, effective immediately.”

The NSF has been without a Director for 1 year. Jim O’Neill has been nominated. O’Neill became deputy secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in June 2025 after spending several years in Silicon Valley working for a hedge fund and venture capital firm led by billionaire Peter Thiel. Two months later he took on an even higher profile role, acting head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He was removed from both jobs in February. He lacks a

Department of Education

"The Budget continues the Department of Education's path to elimination, returning control of education back to America's families"

Notes:

- Programs that support students (like McNair and GAANN) are moving to the Department of Labor
- Institute for Education Sciences is being re-imagined

Program move tracker: https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/see-which-ed-dept-programs-are-moving-to-new-agencies-a-tracker/2026/04
IES report: https://ies.ed.gov/ies/2026/02/reimagining-ies

Department of Education FY2027 – President's Proposal

K–12 Education

- Continues the following programs:
  - Title I (level-funded)
  - Impact Aid (level-funded)
  - Charter Schools (increase proposed)
  - Indian Education (level-funded)
  - IDEA state grants (increase proposed)
  - IDEA early childhood grants (increase proposed)
  - Special Olympics (level-funded)
- Consolidates other K–12 programs into a new block grant with reduced overall funding, including Title II-A, Title IV-A, 21CCLC
- Eliminates:
  - Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grants
  - Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED)

Higher Education

- Pell Grants: Maximum award of $7,395 is maintained.
- Federal Work-Study: Reduced by approximately 90%.
- Eliminates TRIO, GEAR UP, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and several institutional aid programs.
- Continues a limited number of institutional aid programs, generally level-funded.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Adult Education

- No funding requested within ED.
- Programs are identified as part of the Department of Labor budget, though adult education is not included.

Other agencies and their education/workforce programs FY2027 – President's Proposal

Department of Labor (DOL)

- Proposes a consolidated workforce development grant program ("Make America Skilled Again").
- Reduces overall workforce development funding by approximately 14%.
- Maintains CTE state grants and reduces national program funding.
- Adult education funding is not included.

A budget chart for ED and Labor Programs can be found **here.**

NASA STEM Engagement

- Eliminates NASA STEM Engagement activities.

Department of Energy (DOE)

- Decreases the Office of Science by 14%, including a 6% cut to the Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists Program

Department of War/Defense (DoW/DoD)

- Broadly maintains RDTE and STEM investments consistent with FY26 levels

Department of Justice

In 2024, DOJ issued a final ruling under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requiring state and local government websites and mobile apps to conform to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. For institutions serving more than 50,000 people the deadline was April 24, 2026 and for smaller institutions it was April 27, 2027.

Why does this matter to the mathematical sciences?
*Your online mathematics content **may not** align with these guidelines.*

On April 20, 2026, a one-year extension of the deadline was announced.

See:
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/04/20/2026-07663/extension-of-compliance-dates-for-nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-disability-accessibility-of-web

Note: Many states have passed legislation and many institutions have adopted rules related to the original timeline.

2. Congress Watch

Congress


U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


UNITED STATES SENATE
LIBERTY
E PLURIBUS UNUM

Sen. Cassidy's inquiry into mathematics education

- In February 2026, Sen. Cassidy, Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, sent inquiries to 35 "selective" institutions of higher education "to uncover the root cause of students' dramatic decline in preparedness for collegiate level math courses."

- This inquiry, in part, stemmed from the report on mathematics assessments at UCSD.

- Separate from the institutions' responses, member societies submitted a letter on April 22 to HELP, outlining ideas for improving mathematics education with federal funding and policies. Signers: AMS, ASA, AWM, COMAP, DS4E, INFORMS, MAA, NCTM, SIAM, TPSE Math

Press release: https://www.help.senate.gov/rep/newsroom/press/chair-cassidy-launches-inquiry-into-students-declining-math-scores-preparedness-for-college

The Mathematical and Statistical Modeling Education Act

- This bipartisan bill asks the NSF to expand research efforts to improve teaching and learning in K-12 and postsecondary education.

- It specifically asks the NSF Director to enter into an agreement with the National Academies to perform a consensus study and deliver a report on modeling education.

- The bill passed the House in this, the 119th, Congress. The bill has been introduced in the Senate and was passed out of the HELP Committee in March 2026.

3. News from the White House

White House

Appointed to PCAST on March 25
Marc Andreessen
Sergey Brin
Safra Catz
Michael Dell
Jacob DeWitte
Fred Ehrsam
Larry Ellison
David Friedberg
Jensen Huang
John Martinis
Bob Mumgaard
Lisa Su
Mark Zuckerberg

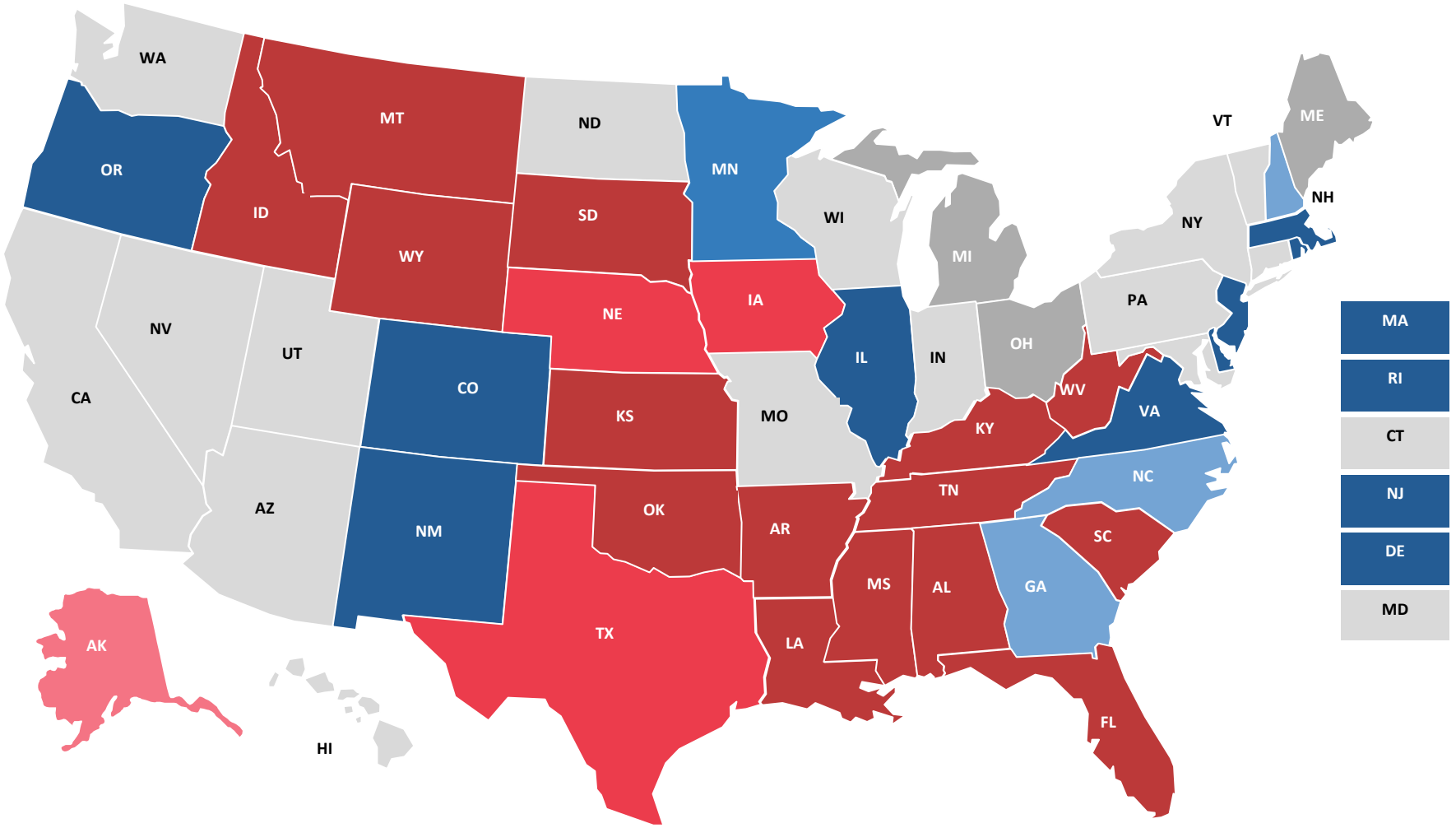
Since President Franklin D. Roosevelt created his Science Advisory Board in 1933, each President has established his own PCAST advisory committee of scientists, engineers, and industry leaders.

Under President Trump, “PCAST will focus on topics related to the opportunities and challenges that emerging technologies present to the American workforce, and ensuring all Americans thrive in the Golden Age of Innovation.”

4. Election Outlook

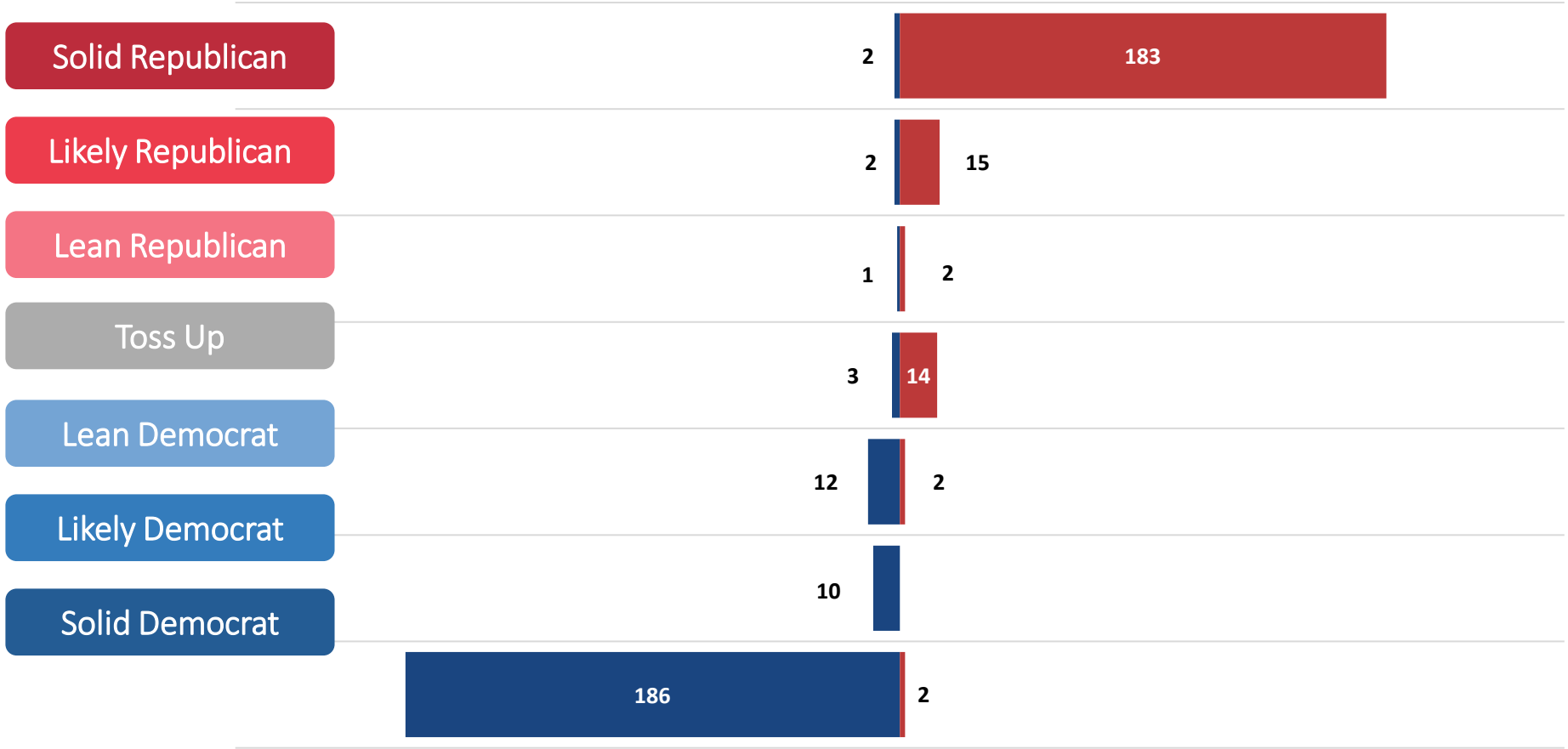
Solid D | Likely D | Lean D | Toss Up | Lean R | Likely R | Solid R | No election

April 13 ratings for the 35 Senate seats up for election in 2026



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As of April 13, ratings for all 435 House districts.



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Questions?

Contact:
American Mathematical Society
Office of Government Relations
kxs@ams.org
www.ams.org/government

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