

Summary of the FY 2026 President's Budget Request

On May 2, 2025, President Donald Trump released his “skinny” fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget request. The package provides non-defense discretionary programs with a total of \$557 billion, which is \$163 billion (22.6% decrease) below FY 2025 enacted. For defense discretionary programs, the budget request is \$1.01 trillion, which is a \$118 billion (13% increase) above FY 2025 enacted. University of California Federal Governmental Relations (UC FGR) expects that a more detailed budget request will be released later in the Spring (late May/early June). Congressional hearings are expected to begin on the FY 2026 budget shortly with committee markups in the June/July timeframe.

As more specific information about the proposal becomes available, FGR will update the budget documents.

The proposed budget request, provided limited programmatic detail. Below is a high-level summary of budget provisions of importance to the University of California. A chart with the specific funding levels for UC's FY 2026 appropriations priorities can be [found here](#).

EDUCATION

- **Department of Education:**
 - The budget proposes zeroing out funding for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), a \$910 million reduction (100% decrease) from FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$250 million for Federal Work Study (FWS), a \$980 million reduction (79.6% decrease) from FY 2025 enacted. The budget request seeks to return FWS to the states and institutions of higher education that financially benefit from it.
 - The budget proposes zeroing out funding for TRIO and GEAR UP, a \$1.579 billion reduction (100% decrease) from FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes zeroing out funding for the Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) program, a \$75 million reduction (100% decrease) from FY 2025 enacted. The budget proposes eliminating the CCAMPIS program because the administration sees subsidizing childcare for parents in college as unaffordable and duplicative.
- The budget includes the elimination of, or the elimination of federal funding for, the following agencies:
 - National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
 - National Endowment for the Arts (NEH)
 - Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS)

RESEARCH

- **National Science Foundation (NSF):**
 - The budget proposes \$3.9 billion for NSF, which is \$4.9 billion below (55% decrease) FY 2025 enacted. The budget request proposes cuts for climate, clean energy, “woke social, behavioral and economic sciences” and “programs in low priority areas of science.”
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH):**
 - The budget proposes \$29.116 billion for the NIH, a \$17.97 billion reduction (38% decrease) from FY 2025 enacted. It also proposes reforms to the NIH, including consolidating programs into five new focus areas:
 - National Institute on Body Systems Research;
 - National Institute on Neuroscience and Brain Research;
 - National Institute of General Medical Sciences;
 - National Institute of Disability Related Research; and
 - National Institute on Behavioral Health.
 - NIH research would align with the president’s priorities to address chronic disease and other epidemics, implementing all executive orders, and eliminating research on climate change, radical gender ideology and divisive “racialism”. This new structure retains the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H).
 - The budget provides \$27 billion for NIH research.
- **Department of Energy (DOE):**
 - The budget proposes \$7.092 billion for the Office of Science, which is \$1.148 billion below (13.9% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$888 million for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), which is \$2.572 billion below (74% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$200 million for Advanced Research Projects Agency–Energy (ARPA-E), which is \$260 million below (56% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):**
 - The budget proposes a \$1.311 billion decrease for the NOAA Operations, Research and Grants program. Since the final FY 2025 continuing resolution did not provide the specific funding level, the base level is unknown. The budget cites a termination of “a variety of climate-dominated research, data, and grant programs, which are not aligned with the Administration’s policy-ending ‘Green New Deal’ initiatives.”
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA):**
 - The budget proposes \$5.069 billion for NASA Science Mission Directorate, which is \$2.265 billion below (30.8% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$1.034 billion for Earth Science, which is \$1.161 billion below (52.8% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$569 million for the Space Technology Directorate, which is \$531 million below (48.2% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID):**
 - The budget request proposes \$2.9 billion for a new America First Opportunity Fund (AIOF), which would focus on strategic investments to support “keeping America safe.” It also proposes \$2.8 billion for a Development Finance

Corporation (DFC), which will provide loans that would “generate returns to the taxpayer reduce reliance on foreign aid.”

- The budget request proposes elimination of programs focused on development assistance, disaster assistance, humanitarian aid, peacekeeping missions, education and cultural exchanges and global health.
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
 - The budget request proposes \$473 million for National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), which is a \$602 million below (47% decrease) FY 2025 enacted. The budget proposes cuts for “wasteful, woke programming in NIFA, such as activities related to climate change, renewable energy, and promoting DEI in education that were prioritized under the Biden Administration.” The budget states it protects funding to youth and K-12 programs such as 4-H clubs, tribal colleges and universities.
- **Department of the Interior (DOI)**
 - The budget request proposes \$11.7 billion, which is \$5.1 billion below (30.5% decrease) FY 2025 enacted level.
 - The budget proposes \$891 million for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Surveys, Investigations, and Research program, which is \$564 million below (38% decrease) FY 2025 enacted. The budget eliminates programs that “provide grants to universities, duplicate other Federal research programs and focus on social agendas (e.g., climate change) to instead focus on achieving dominance in energy and critical minerals.”
 - The budget proposes the Federal Wildland Fire Service (consolidation of USDA and DOI Wildland Fire Management programs under a unified agency within DOI). Federal wildfire risk mitigation and suppression responsibilities currently are split across five agencies in two departments: the U.S. Forest Service in USDA and Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service in DOI.

HEALTH CARE

- **Department of Health and Human Services**
 - The budget proposes \$93.8 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, which is \$33.3 billion below (26.2% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$5.578 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is \$3.588 billion below (39.1% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.
 - The budget proposes \$240 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), which is \$129 million below (34.9% decrease) FY 2025 enacted.

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