

# **University of California Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Priorities**

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# SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

## Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$500 million for AFRI.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$ 500 million	\$445.2 million	TBD

**UC supports \$500** million for NIFA's AFRI program, which funds competitive research on human nutrition and health, agricultural productivity and sustainability, renewable energy and biofuels, water supply, and air and water quality. For FY 2023-24, UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) had 157 AFRI projects with over \$117.5 million in competitively awarded funding to find cutting edge solutions to high-priority issues affecting California's rural and urban communities. This increased funding is critical to existing as well as emerging crops in California, such as coffee, moringa and hemp.

## <u>USDA Capacity Grants programs – Hatch Act, Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c) and McIntire-Stennis</u> Cooperative Forestry

• **Recommendation:** UC supports \$300 million for the Hatch Act, \$420 million for Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c) and \$46 million for McIntire-Stennis capacity grant programs.

	UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
Hatch Act	\$300 million	\$265 million	TBD
Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c)	\$420 million	\$325 million	TBD
McIntire-Stennis	\$46 million	\$38 million	TBD

UC supports the above requested funding levels for the Hatch, Smith-Lever 3(b)-3(c) and McIntire-Stennis capacity grant programs, which are crucial to UC's agricultural research and extension work across every county in California. These programs enable UC to support California agricultural producers by improving varietal development, production efficiencies, cropping methods and conservation practices. This funding also allows UC to place Cooperative Extension advisors and specialists throughout the state to carry out research and extension projects, and to support California youth by providing 4-H programming and other education programs.

UC also supports \$45 million for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, robust funding for the Crop Protection/Pest Management (CP/PM) Program, \$25 million for the Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4) Program, \$4.5 million for the Veterinary Services Grant Program and \$2.5 million for the Food Avoidance Residue Databank.

## **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$90 million for EFNEP.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$90 million	\$70 million	TBD

**UC supports \$90 million for EFNEP**, through which UC delivers hands-on, practical lessons on food, nutrition and healthy lifestyles to low-income families. National studies show that for every \$1 invested in this Cooperative Extension program, approximately \$8 are saved in current and future health care costs for at risk populations.

## **Education Grants Program for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)**

Recommendation: UC supports \$50 million for Education Grants Program for HSIs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$50 million	\$16 million	TBD

**UC supports \$50 million for the Education Grants Program for HSIs**. This competitive grant program expands and strengthens academic programs in the agricultural sciences, natural resources, forestry and veterinary medicine. As home to five HSI institutions, this program is critical for UC's agricultural innovation.

Additionally, UC supports \$40 million for Institutional Capacity-Building Grant Programs at HSIs and \$10 million for Competitive Grants Program for Hispanic Agricultural Workers and Youth.

## **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)**

**UC** supports \$900 million for SNAP-Ed, a nationwide nutrition education program, through which UC carries out the UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program, referred to as CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California. As one of four state implementing agencies in California, UC's CalFresh Healthy Living helps to teach individuals eligible for SNAP benefits about nutrition-based education and physical activity practices, in educational settings, including in schools and in the community. A significant increase in funding will lead to more low-income individuals securing a healthier diet, which leads to a lower risk of chronic health problems such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

## Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI)

UC supports full funding for the SCRI program, which provides critical funding for specialty crop research. UC also supports the inclusion of language enacted in FY 2023 that allows the secretary of agriculture to waive the matching funds requirement under Section 412(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632(g)). Allowing the secretary of agriculture to continue to waive the matching funds requirement applicable to the SCRI program is critical to enabling cutting edge specialty crops research, including research to address diseases and challenges facing the specialty crop industry, such as citrus greening disease.

## **Citrus Disease Research**

- UC supports the highest possible funding level for research efforts to combat and further understand Huanglongbing (HLB), known as citrus greening disease, which continues to pose a critical threat to citrus crops.
- UC supports the highest possible level of funding for Agriculture Research Service Building and Facilities, including funding for citrus screen houses.

 UC supports continued funding for the Citrus Multi-Agency Coordination program in order to support growers' and researchers' abilities to quickly respond to citrus greening disease and Asian Citrus Psyllid.

## Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA)

**UC supports robust funding for AGARDA**, which was authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill to leverage successful public-private partnerships to improve efficiency and accelerate research and development in pursuit of overcoming long-term and high-risk agricultural and food related science challenges.

## **Agriculture Research Infrastructure Needs**

UC supports \$500 million to support agriculture research infrastructure needs on campuses throughout the United States, including needs on UC campuses, as well as at UC ANR facilities. Many existing agriculture research-related buildings and facilities, such as greenhouses and research and extension sites, are aging and in need of replacement or upgrades. Bringing agriculture research facilities up to modern standards would allow for agriculture-related research to be conducted more effectiviely and efficiently.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** 

# NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$9 billion for the NASA SMD.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$9 billion	\$7.334 billion	TBD

**UC supports \$9 billion for the NASA SMD**, which funds research on the Earth, our solar system and the universe. UC researchers are highly successful in competing for NASA research awards, further enabling them to be international leaders in astronomy, earth and space sciences.

Within SMD, UC supports **\$3 billion for NASA Earth Science programs**, the mission of which is to "develop a scientific understanding of the Earth system and its response to natural and human-induced changes...[which] enables us to improve prediction of climate, weather, and natural hazards."

UC supports robust funding for the Astrophysics and Planetary Science programs.

**UC also supports \$1 billion for the NASA Heliophysics program**, which has the goal to "study the nature of the Sun and how it influences the very nature of space—and, in turn, the atmospheres of planets and the technology that exists there."

## **NASA Space Technology Programs**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$1.5 billion for the NASA Space Technology Programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.5 billion	\$1.1 billion	TBD

UC supports \$1.5 billion for NASA Space Technology Programs, including innovation initiatives such as the Space Technology Research Institutes (STRIs), Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. Under these programs, UC and other academic institutions partner with NASA and other stakeholders to research and rapidly develop new space technologies. There are four NASA STRI's and UC is home to two of them—the CUBES Institute at UC Berkeley and HOMES Institute at UC Davis.

## **Space Grant College and Fellowship Program**

• **Recommendation:** UC supports \$65 million for the Space Grant College and Fellowship Program.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$65 million	\$58 million	TBD

UC supports \$65 million for the Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, a national network that gives students practical hands-on training in support of NASA's aeronautics and space missions, and inspires them to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers. Headquartered at UC San Diego, the California Space Grant Consortium engages 28 California affiliates, including nine UC campuses, 10 California State University campuses, three NASA centers and other universities.

## **National Science Foundation (NSF)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$9.9 billion for the NSF.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$9.9 billion	\$9.06 billion	TBD

**UC supports \$9.9 billion for NSF programs** supporting merit-reviewed, fundamental research across all areas of science, engineering and education in NSF's nine research directorates and in cross-cutting research programs.

NSF sponsors approximately 24 percent of all federally funded university research across every discipline and helps to train and educate the next generation of the scientific and engineering workforce. California researchers compete extremely well for NSF funding. In FY 2024, UC researchers successfully competed for \$555 million in NSF funding across 2,089 grant awards. Historically, UC's NSF research funding represents more than half of the total for all California institutions.

**UC** supports robust funding for Mid-scale Research Infrastructure (MRI) projects. NSF, the National Science Board, Congress and the scientific community have all identified mid-scale research infrastructure as a critical need for NSF to bridge the gap between MRI and Major Research Equipment

and Facilities Construction (MREFC). **UC also supports a robust increase for the MREFC account to fund needed facility and equipment construction and instrumentation improvement programs.** 

UC supports federal funding for multidisciplinary public health research to better understand the nature, causes and consequences of violence, unintended injury and death involving firearms.

Recognizing the critical importance of artificial intelligence (AI) research, UC supports robust funding for the establishment of the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) and applauds the efforts of NSF to launch a NAIRR pilot. The NAIRR will ensure groundbreaking AI research continues to take place at our universities and national laboratories.

Additionally, UC encourages Congress to provide MSIs with robust NSF funding and ensure programs continue to identify opportunities to strengthen the research capacity at MSIs. By funding MSIs, NSF can ensure the research enterprise is accessible and equitable for the future scientific workforce.

## Department of Commerce, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NOAA plays a vital role in informing our understanding of weather, oceans and coasts, as well as managing coastal and marine ecosystems and resources, including commercial fisheries. Although it is always a critical resource, its expertise is especially essential in times of natural disasters such as hurricanes, atmospheric rivers, tornadoes and wildfires. University of California institutions partner with NOAA to advance this knowledge and share lifesaving information. Efforts to reorganize or consolidate NOAA threaten the agency's specialization, risking the scientific leadership urgently needed to address the changing environment. We ask that Congress preserve NOAA's current structure and maintain the agency as codified.

#### Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$840 million for OAR.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$840 million	*The FY2025 continuing resolution provided overall funding levels; specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

**UC** supports \$840 million for OAR research programs. UC researchers rely on NOAA competitive research funding for the collection of climate, weather and water data, including ocean observing, for accurate weather forecasting, which is essential to California agriculture, energy and fisheries. UC also contributes to national initiatives for world-class weather, atmospheric, water and drought research and observations that are vital for effective disaster preparedness, as well as the mission needs of the U.S. Navy, NASA and other federal agencies.

Within OAR, UC supports robust funding for climate, weather and oceans research programs, including:

- \$63 million for the Regional Climate Data and Information Program;
- \$114 million for the Climate Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes;
- \$75 million for Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring; and
- \$20 million for the Integrated Ocean Acidification Program.

UC supports \$10 million for a competitive research grant program focused on Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) insecticide contamination, fate and transport in deep ocean sediments within the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Sciences (NCCOS) competitive research program.

Historically, UC receives about 10 percent of OAR funding annually. This account also funds the **National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)** and the **Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA)** programs, which provide dynamic and accessible drought information for the nation, and support research teams that work with public and private users to build our capacity to prepare for and adapt to environmental variability and change.

## National Sea Grant College Program, OAR

• Recommendation: UC supports \$116.9 million for the National Sea Grant College Program.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$116.9 million	TBD*  *The FY2025 continuing resolution provided overall funding levels; specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

**UC** supports \$116.9 million for the National Sea Grant College Program, a university-based coastal and marine research network, which facilitates knowledge transfer from researchers to the marine industry and the public. Based at the UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography, California's Sea Grant Program sponsors research and extension activities involving public and private institutions throughout the state.

# Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO), Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services, Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF)

Recommendation: UC supports \$50 million for OMAO ORF.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$50 million	*The FY2025 continuing resolution provided overall funding levels; specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

**UC supports \$50 million for the OMAO ORF.** The location, timing and intensity of heavy precipitation events on the U.S. West Coast are controlled largely by the characteristics of land-falling atmospheric rivers (ARs). There is a pressing need to improve prediction of ARs to support water management and flood control information needs—as revealed by the Oroville Dam Spillway event in 2017. Enhanced observations, modeling and data assimilation are critical to improving predictability of AR landfalls with lead times of weeks to months.

## Regional Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) in the National Ocean Service

Recommendation: UC supports \$56 million for IOOS.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$56 million	*The FY2025 continuing resolution provided overall funding levels; specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

**UC supports \$56 million for IOOS**. IOOS involves 17 federal agencies and a national network that provides new tools and forecasts for maritime commerce, fisheries, aquaculture, offshore energy, coastal communities, public health and other users' needs. UC is active in two systems, the Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS) and the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS).

## **Department of Commerce, Economic Development Agency**

## Economic Development Agency (EDA), Regional Innovation Program

UC supports robust funding for the EDA Regional Innovation Program for university-based incubators. UC encourages EDA to invest in university-based, high-tech business incubators to encourage entrepreneurship and promote technology commercialization through business startups. In addition, UC recommends that this program support public-private partnerships for economic growth and job creation in areas with historically high unemployment and with a focus on MSIs.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE

#### **Department of Defense (DOD)**

#### Basic Research (6.1)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$2.785 billion for Defense Basic Research (6.1).

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$2.785 billion	TBD*  *The FY2025 continuing resolution provided overall funding levels; specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

UC supports \$2.785 billion for Defense 6.1 Basic Research within a total request of \$22.817 billion for the Defense Science and Technology (6.1-6.3) research and development portfolio. This funding ratio will help to ensure a balanced research and development pipeline that is vital to our national security. Conducted by the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Office of the Secretary, Defense Basic (6.1) and Applied (6.2) research programs fund the largest share of DOD-sponsored university research, especially in the physical and computer sciences and engineering. The UC research partnership with DOD spans more than 50 years and has led to a wide range of technological innovations, including new advanced materials, communications and computing, and life-saving medical discoveries and technologies.

Additionally, with five designated campuses, UC supports Congress urging the DOD to identify new partnerships with HSIs to leverage their expertise in STEM education and research to meet the

DOD's innovation needs in areas of urgent national security priorities. Such efforts may include providing new grant and fellowship opportunities and initiatives focused on HSIs.

Within the Defense Science and Technology portfolio, UC supports:

- \$4.369 billion for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), which invests in high-risk, high-reward research to develop breakthrough military capabilities.
- \$352.272 million for Basic Research Sciences-Defense Wide (PE 0601110D8Z), including \$30 million for the Hispanic Serving Research and STEM Education Cohort Program.
- \$138.442 million for Army University and Industry Research Centers (PE 0601104A), including \$4 million for the Army University Affiliated Research Center (UARC)—the Institute of Collaborative Biotechnologies—at UC Santa Barbara.
- \$590.587 million for Navy Defense Research Science Programs (PE 0601153N), which support scientific study and experimentation to increase knowledge and understanding in national security-related aspects of physical, engineering, environmental and life sciences.
- \$132.736 million for Navy University Research Initiatives, including an increase of \$20 million for the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP) (PE 0601103N).
- \$123 million for Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, including an increase of \$10 million for Research at Sea in support of the U.S. Navy's Task Force Ocean priorities.
- \$142.489 million for Basic Research Initiatives (PE 060111D8Z), including \$24 million for the Minerva Initiative, which deepens our understanding of the cultural and political conditions in areas of the world of strategic importance to our national security.
- \$328 million for the Language Flagship program within the National Security Education
  Office within the DOD operations and maintenance budget, which builds domestic and
  overseas language programs that produce professionally proficient language speakers. UC also
  supports robust and consistent funding for the National Security Administration's
  STARTALK Teacher Training Grant program, which funds innovative programs with strong
  language learning outcomes for K-16 students.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

## **Department of Energy (DOE)**

## Office of Science (OS)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$9.5 billion for the DOE OS.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$9.5 billion	\$8.24 billion	TBD

**UC supports \$9.5 billion for the DOE OS**, the primary federal agency supporting basic physical sciences research, which is vitally important to our country's economic and national security. DOE OS research at UC includes basic energy sciences, advanced clean energy sources, energy efficiency technologies, biological and environmental research, high performance scientific computing, new materials, engineering and STEM education and fellowship programs. UC researchers also collaborate at DOE's 17 world-class national laboratories with access to the largest collection of major scientific user facilities in the world. Collectively, these facilities serve over 32,000 university researchers, students and industry scientists every year.

Within DOE OS, UC supports research programs and scientific infrastructure investments that are fundamental to U.S. scientific and technological leadership, including:

- \$100 million for the Advanced Light Source Upgrade at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab), which will yield revolutionary x-ray capabilities.
- \$1.048 billion for Fusion Energy Sciences. UC Irvine, UCLA, UC Riverside, UC San Diego and Berkeley Lab are performing leading-edge fusion research and training the next generation of researchers.
- \$200 million for microelectronics research, including up to \$25 million each for four microelectronics science research centers.
- \$150 million for Berkeley Lab's National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center and \$98 million for the Energy Sciences Network (ESnet), which play vital roles in the nation's high-performance computing and advanced computing networking ecosystem (Advanced Scientific Computing Research).
- \$9 million to provide adequate funding for the Cosmic Microwave Background Stage IV experiment, a critical international scientific collaboration led by Berkeley Lab in partnership with other national laboratories and the NSF (High Energy Physics).
- In order to sustain world leadership in scientific user facilities, UC supports \$852.5 million for operation of the department's light sources and \$191.9 million for the Nanoscale Science Research Centers (NSRC).
- \$118 million for the Bioenergy Research Centers and \$116 million for the Joint Genome Institute through the Biological and Environmental Research program.
- Funding to support additional critical Science Laboratories Infrastructure projects, including \$45.3 million for the Linear Assets Modernization Project.
- Robust funding for the High Energy Physics program, which explores the elementary
  constituents of matter and energy, the interactions between them and the nature of space and
  time
- Robust funding for a DOE-led Al for Science, Energy, and Security proposal that will leverage existing resources and capabilities to drive scientific discovery and innovation.

#### Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$3.5 billion for EERE.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$3.5 billion	\$3.46 billion	TBD

**UC supports \$3.5 billion for EERE**, which supports UC and UC-affiliated labs to research, develop, demonstrate and deploy clean energy technologies.

UC supports DOE's efforts to address "energy-water nexus" issues related to the interconnections between our nation's energy and water systems, including \$15 million for the Energy-Water Desalination Hub under the Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office.

## Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$475 million for ARPA-E.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$475 million	\$460 million	TBD

**UC supports \$475 million for ARPA-E**, which funds technology concepts with potential to radically transform the energy sector but are too early in development to attract private-sector investments. UC researchers are among the most successful ARPA-E awardees.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

**Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** 

## Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate

• Recommendation: UC supports \$750 million for DHS S&T Directorate.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$750 million	\$741.634 million	TBD

**UC** supports \$750 million for the DHS S&T Directorate, which funds basic and applied research to develop advanced technologies and methodologies to protect the nation's communities, ports, coasts, food supplies, borders and infrastructure. UC researchers have successfully competed for research grants on nuclear detection, food system protection, public health assessment and first responder safety.

#### **University Programs, S&T Directorate**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$55 million for University Programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$55 million	\$51.037 million	TBD TBD

**UC** supports \$55 million for University Programs within the DHS S&T Directorate. University Programs support collaborative, multi-disciplinary research at universities across the country that contribute to the prevention and response to homeland security threats, as well as STEM education programs. **UC** also supports expanding the Center of Excellence program to align with industries of the future.

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

## **Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation**

## **Bureau of Reclamation**

**UC supports \$22 million for projects that mitigate the Salton Sea's decline.** These resources will support the multi-faceted approach that is key to making progress in protecting the health of local residents and the environment around the Salton Sea.

## Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

## **USGS Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$105 million for EHP.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$105 million	\$92.6 million	TBD

UC supports \$105 million for the USGS EHP. Within the EHP program, UC requests \$32.6 million to fully develop and operate the West Coast Earthquake Early Warning System. UC scientists are working to improve capabilities of the Central and Eastern United States Network (CEUSN). Effective earthquake preparedness and monitoring tools are critical to public safety in California and the nation.

**UC supports \$4.2 million for Subduction Zone Science** to support work to improve the understanding of risks posed to vulnerable communities in subduction zones environments and expand support for subduction zone science, hazard characterization and risk reduction.

## USGS State Water Resources Research Institutes (WRRI), Water Resources Research Program

• Recommendation: UC supports \$18 million for WRRI.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$18 million	\$15.5 million	TBD

**UC supports \$18 million for the USGS WRRI Program**, which is the only federally supported national network for applied water resource research, education, training and outreach. The California Institute for Water Resources (CIWR) within the University of California supports researchers in developing solutions to water management challenges that affect cities, farms, and ecosystems across the state. CIWR is actively engaged in conducting applied research and providing resources to California producers, consumers, businesses, and state and local governments. <a href="CIWR maintains a website that is updated daily with flood- and drought-related information">CIWR maintains a website that is updated daily with flood- and drought-related information</a> and works closely with local, state and federal agencies in California.

## **Department of Interior, Wildland Fire Management**

## Joint Fire Science Program

• Recommendation: UC supports \$20 million for the Joint Fire Science program.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$20 million	\$6 million	TBD

**UC supports \$20 million for the Joint Fire Science Program.** Wildfires are a significant threat to communities, ecosystems and families in California and across the nation. As fire seasons grow longer and increasingly severe, our nation needs to increase investment in high-quality fire science delivery to support policymakers, managers and first responders in addressing the complex challenges of wildfire.

# **Related Agencies: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$225 million for the NEH.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$225 million	\$207 million	TBD

**UC** supports \$225 million for the NEH, which provides critical support to the only federal agency dedicated to promoting and enhancing research, education and public programs in the humanities. UC researchers and scholars compete for NEH funds to strengthen teaching and learning; create new knowledge through extensive, in-depth study; and preserve and protect cultural and educational treasures. Across all 10 UC campuses, the humanities support, stimulates and facilitates excellence in humanities research. In FY 2024, eight UC campuses received NEH grants. This allows for important academic discourse, while promoting knowledge, discovery and understanding.

## **Related Agencies: National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$225 million for the NEA.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$225 million	\$207 million	TBD

**UC supports \$225 million for the NEA**, which is dedicated to providing people across the country with opportunities to participate in and experience the arts. NEA funding supports arts partnerships, special initiatives, individual projects and research in all 50 states that contribute to the strength and success of our nation's students, schools, communities and cultural life. UC researchers and scholars compete for NEA funds, and successful NEA-funded projects benefit students and the public by providing access to art that would not otherwise be available in many California communities.

## **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

## EPA, Office of Science and Technology (S&T)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$876 million for the EPA S&T.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$876 million	\$756.1 million	TBD

UC supports \$876 million for EPA S&T programs to protect human health and the environment. EPA's research programs—Air, Climate and Energy (ACE), Safe and Sustainable Water Resources (SSWR), Sustainable and Healthy Communities (SHC) and Chemical Safety for Sustainability (CSS)—fund foundational science related to chemical safety, land restoration, air and water pollution prevention, and national security. UC researchers have EPA research grants on issues such as nutrient transport in groundwater, the future use of pesticides in warming environments and environmental risks to children's health.

# SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

## **Department of Education (ED)**

## **Pell Grant Maximum Award**

• **Recommendation:** UC supports funding the Pell Grant at the highest level possible, while remaining committed to doubling the maximum annual Pell Grant so that it reaches at least \$14,790 and indexing the grant to inflation.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$14,790	\$7,395	TBD

UC urges Congress to fund the Pell Grant at the highest funding level possible and remains committed to efforts to double the maximum Pell Grant so that it reaches \$14,790 and is also indexed to inflation. These efforts would help ensure that students who wish to attend higher education can afford to do so while protecting the Pell Grant from inflationary pressures that have eroded the grant's purchasing power over time. This increase would substantially contribute to students' overall aid packages, and will help sustain students' basic needs—including housing and food security, health care and access to child care—and promote on-time graduation among the most vulnerable student populations.

## **Pell Grant Discretionary Appropriations**

• **Recommendation:** UC supports the funding level necessary to reach the highest maximum award possible.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
Sums necessary to double the maximum award	\$22.475 billion	TBD

More than 80,000 UC undergraduate students currently receive Pell Grants, a critical foundation for the state and institutional aid UC students receive. Currently, California residents with family incomes of up to \$80,000 receive aid that covers their tuition, and nearly two-thirds of UC undergraduates receive grant assistance that allows them to cover part of the cost of food, housing and other expenses. All UC students are expected to contribute to their own cost of education with loans, earnings from work or savings. Without robust funding for Pell Grants, UC students would have to borrow more and/or work beyond what is considered manageable, and it may take longer to complete their degrees.

#### **Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$1.15 billion for SEOG.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.15 billion	\$910 million	TBD

**SEOG** provides students who have exceptional financial need with additional grant aid to help promote degree completion. These grants range from \$100-\$4,000, and during the 2023-24 academic year, 17,934 UC students received an average award of \$1,084. Investing in this program is critical to ensuring that students who are most financially vulnerable have the support they need to complete their

academic studies. SEOG is complementary to efforts to help students graduate on time—this aid should not be viewed as an alternative to the Pell Grant program, but as a *supplement* for exceptional situations.

## Federal Work-Study (FWS)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$1.306 billion for FWS.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.306 billion	\$1.23 billion	TBD

FWS supports students who elect to work during their academic studies and encourages community service and on-campus work. During the 2023-24 academic year, more than 9,300 UC students received work opportunities through FWS. This critical funding makes up a portion of a student's earnings, and the remainder is provided by the employer, thereby encouraging employers to hire students who have earned FWS as part of their financial aid package. Many students gain valuable work experience through their FWS opportunity, often guiding them to a career path they want to pursue upon graduation.

#### **Student Basic Needs**

UC supports the funding for the Basic Needs pilot program as previously funded in the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) program at \$45 million. This funding supports programs that address the basic needs of students and reports on best practices. Addressing the basic needs of students is essential to ensuring students have the resources needed to achieve their full potential. The rising cost of college, coupled with a high cost of living, has increased the stress of managing expenses, especially among low-income and economically vulnerable students. That is why UC has scaled up a basic needs initiative that seeks to identify the root causes of basic needs insecurity and provide a systemwide safety net so that students can succeed and thrive. All 10 UC campuses provide on-site basic needs centers with food, emergency housing and a comprehensive range of support services. Any UC student can access services at the basic needs center nearest them, not just on the campus where they are enrolled.

#### **Student Loans**

UC supports strong and sustained efforts to keep the cost of student loans manageable, and to ensure that the federal government provides borrowers with the essential services and protections they need. UC also supports the restoration of federal loan subsidies for graduate students, maintaining the subsidy for low-income undergraduate students and the elimination of origination fees. Proposals that provide relief to needy students are the basis of the federal investment in federal student aid, and efforts to reform and streamline loan repayment plans, including the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, and improve program effectiveness of the Income Driven Repayment Plans will benefit borrowers and the federal government.

# **TRIO Programs**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$1.227 billion for TRIO Programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.227 billion	\$1.191 billion	TBD

#### **GEAR UP**

Recommendation: UC supports \$400 million for GEAR UP.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$410 million	\$388 million	TBD

UC supports \$1.227 billion and \$410 million for TRIO and GEAR UP, respectively. These complementary and demonstrably successful early intervention and academic preparation programs only reach a small fraction of eligible students and should be expanded to allow further participation. TRIO's Student Support Services program is specifically targeted to help low-income, first-generation students with undergraduate retention, transfer and completion success. At UC, 36 percent of undergraduate students are first-generation, and 35 percent of undergraduate students receive Pell Grants.

# <u>Aid for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) – Title V, Part A – Strengthening Hispanic-Serving Institutions</u>

• **Recommendation:** UC supports \$350 million for Title V Part A programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$350 million	\$228.8 million	TBD

# <u>Aid for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) – Title V, Part B – Promoting Postbaccalaureate</u> Opportunities for Hispanic Americans

Recommendation: UC supports \$150 million for Title V Part B programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$150 million	\$27.4 million	TBD

UC supports \$350 million for Title V, Part A competitive grants to help HSIs expand and enhance their undergraduate academic programs, and \$150 million for Title V, Part B, which promotes postbaccalaureate opportunities for Hispanic Americans designed to help them succeed in graduate school. UC has several campuses that serve large numbers of Latinx students and would be eligible to apply for these funds. These funds not only provide support services for Latinx students but also offer services to the campus community as a whole.

UC supports the inclusion of a \$20 million pilot program to increase the number of Latinx Ph.D.'s via the FIPSE program. This funding should support an award to a consortium of HSIs that currently award Ph.D.'s. Funding should be used to develop and test new models of cross-institutional intellectual, research, and resource-sharing communities, create mentorship programs for PhD. students, support graduate research experiences, and other uses associated with the pursuit of Ph.D.'s by Latinx students. While the number of Latinx university students continues to increase across the country, fewer than six percent of Ph.D.'s go to students that identify as Latinx. Moreover, because Latinx terminal degree holders pursue academic careers at lower percentages than average, fewer than five percent of faculty nationwide are Latinx.

## **Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants**

Recommendation: UC supports \$2.19 billion for Teacher Preparation Grants.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$2.19 billion	\$2.19 billion	TBD

UC supports \$2.19 billion for Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants authorized in Title II of the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act. These funds improve teacher preparation programs and help recruit and train high-quality K-12 teachers, as well as reduce classroom sizes.

## **Teacher Quality Partnership Program**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$95 million for Teacher Quality Partnership Grants.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$95 million	\$70 million	TBD

**UC** supports \$95 million for Teacher Quality Partnership Grants. UC supports robust funding for programs that promote teacher quality, spark improvements in computer science instruction, promote preparation of STEM education teachers, support school leadership training, enhance professional development and advance innovations in teaching and learning. Additionally, UC calls for the full restoration of rescinded TQP grants, which impacts the ability to create an educator pipeline, particularly in underserved areas.

## **Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$75 million for CCAMPIS.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$75 million	\$75 million	TBD

**UC supports \$75** million for CCAMPIS, which provides low-income student-parents with reliable and affordable access to campus-based child care services, allowing parents to pursue higher education while raising young children. Current funding levels only allow for a small number of student-parents to benefit from this assistance nationally. Expansion of CCAMPIS would address basic needs issues prevalent on campuses across the country and provide safe, affordable and local educational opportunities for students' children.

#### **Title VI International Education Programs**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$91 million for Title VI Programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$91 million	\$85.7 million	TBD

**UC supports \$91 million for Title VI International Education Programs.** At UC, Title VI supports research and expertise through National Resource Centers, which are important tools in serving the

nation's economic, diplomatic, defense and national security needs. Increased investments in Title VI programs are needed to support our nation's increasingly global economy and to ensure a steady pipeline of individuals with global understanding and language proficiency across professions. The increase in funding would support new National Resource Centers and Centers for International Business Education and Research (CIBER). Additional funding would also make Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship stipends equal to NSF graduate student stipends and increase the number of FLAS fellowships. Within this request, **UC supports \$11 million for the Fulbright-Hays Program**, which provides grants to support overseas projects in training, research and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for teachers, students and faculty.

## **Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$28.6 million for GAANN.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$28.6 million	\$23.5 million	TBD

UC supports \$28.6 million for graduate education support in the Department of Education to drive excellence and innovation in business, science, academia and government. Graduate fellowship support, including GAANN, which awards fellowships to graduate students who contribute to federally-determined fields of national interest, is vitally important to the country and the talented scholars who require this support to continue their work. A stronger federal commitment to graduate education is needed to sustain a pipeline of skilled workers in all sectors of the economy, as well as qualified professors who will mentor and train the teachers and students of tomorrow.

## **Institute of Education Sciences (IES)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$853.9 million for IES.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$853.9 million	\$793.1 million	TBD

**UC** supports \$853.9 million for IES programs. The University is a major innovator in educational research and is continuously working to increase the knowledge base on teacher effectiveness and the science of learning, while working in K-12 schools to improve the quality of educational practice. UC researchers use competitive funds from IES to address the nation's most pressing education needs, from early childhood to adult education, including increasing the number and quality of math and science teachers, improving teacher evaluations and the creation of successful professional development models. Following the pandemic, it is important to have regional research on how virtual learning affected our most vulnerable students.

Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH)

## <u>NIH</u>

Recommendation: UC supports a program level of \$51.303 billion for the base NIH budget.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$51.303 billion	\$47.081 billion	TBD

UC supports \$51.303 billion for the NIH base budget, which is needed to drive U.S. biomedical research progress and help lead to breakthrough discoveries in cancer, the brain and precision medicine—among others—and to achieve life-saving cures and treatments for chronic illnesses and life-threatening diseases. This request includes support for the highest levels of funding for the multi-year 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, in addition to increased annual NIH funding. Additionally, UC supports funding the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)—outside of NIH—and lists ARPA-H separately in this document. NIH research funding enables California's biomedical research industry to remain a global innovation leader and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs and economic growth in California and across the nation. In FY 2024, UC researchers successfully competed for \$2.7 billion in NIH awards in support of biomedical research and training, receiving just over half of the amount awarded to all California research institutions, and more than four times as much NIH funding as the next highest-funded institution.

The University of California urges Congress to ensure life-saving biomedical research at the NIH continues without impediment. We ask Congress to oppose the NIH's Feb. 7 guidance on facilities and administrative (F&A) costs and preserve bipartisan appropriations language (most recently included in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, 2025 (PL 119-4)), which directs the NIH and the federal agencies to adhere to the current process set forth by Congress.

UC also supports multidisciplinary public health research to better understand the nature, causes and consequences of violence, unintended injury and death involving firearms.

**UC** urges NIH to fund cannabis-related research. Across the UC system, researchers are studying the public health and safety effects of cannabis use. The current classification of cannabis as a Schedule I drug is an impediment to biomedical research and poses a significant barrier for researchers wanting to conduct research. **UC** urges changes in federal law that will facilitate researchers being able to both cultivate and study the cannabis sold in dispensaries within the states that have legalized cannabis consumption.

## Advanced Research Projects Agency-Health (ARPA-H)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$1.7 billion for ARPA-H.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.7 billion	\$1.5 billion	TBD

**UC supports \$1.7 billion for ARPA-H**, which is modeled after the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and tasked with developing high-risk, high reward capabilities to drive biomedical breakthroughs. These efforts have the potential to radically transform the medical sector but are too early in development to attract private-sector investments. As a world leader in biosciences innovation, UC researchers are highly competitive for these awards.

Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

#### **Title VII Health Professions Training**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$980 million for Title VII Health Professions Training programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$980 million	\$510 million	TBD

UC supports \$980 million for the HRSA Title VII Health Professions Training programs. Title VII programs provide grants to medical schools for primary care education and training activities, including residency, internships and other accredited professional training programs in family medicine, general internal medicine and pediatrics, and helps UC's medical school graduates offset their educational debt. Title VII medical education training and loan programs are critical sources of financial support for UC students and physician faculty, as they are designed to prepare providers practicing medicine in interdisciplinary settings to meet the needs of special and underserved populations, as well as increase minority representation in California's health care workforce. Programs under Title VII that reduce medical student debt in exchange for practicing in underserved areas are critical to encouraging new physicians to establish roots where their medical services are most needed. For example, data from HRSA shows that as many as 48 percent of National Health Service Corps (NHSC) recipients remain in the medical practice in which they fulfilled their Title VII funded work after their NHSC obligation is fulfilled. Title VII programs support programs at four UC campuses (Davis, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco).

# **<u>Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development</u>**

 Recommendation: UC supports \$530 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$530 million	\$305 million	TBD

UC supports \$530 million for HRSA Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs, which provide training for entry-level and advanced degree nurses to improve access to and the quality of health care in underserved areas. Under these programs, nurses working in designated shortage areas have access to two student loan repayment programs. Primary care nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and psychiatric nurse specialists are eligible to apply to the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, while registered nurses, including nurse practitioners, are eligible to apply to the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program. Title VIII programs has supported students who study in nursing programs at four UC campuses (Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, and San Francisco).

#### **Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education (CHGME)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$778 million for CHGME.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$778 million	\$390 million	TBD

**UC supports \$778 million for the HRSA CHGME program.** CHGME helps fund residency programs that train pediatricians and pediatric sub-specialists at free-standing children's hospitals across the country, including UCSF Benioff-Oakland Children's Hospital. CHGME helped train nearly half of the nation's pediatric general residents. Increased funding for CHGME will ensure free-standing children's hospitals can continue to take care of our nation's children, especially during the current mental health crisis.

## Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

• **Recommendation:** UC supports \$3.024 billion for the Ryan White HIV/AID Program, including \$85 million for Part D and \$110 million for Part F.

cted FY 2026 President's Budget
Request
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\$3.024 billion	\$2.571 billion	TBD

UC supports \$3.024 billion for the HRSA Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, including \$85 million for Part D and \$110 million for Part F. The Ryan White program provides a critical safety net for HIV/AIDS patients across the country by funding outpatient and ambulatory settings for those in need. Ryan White Part F AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs) and Special Projects of National Significance (SPNSs) are nationwide networks of centers dedicated to training, technical assistance, and innovation in HIV/AIDS care for patients. Part D provides family-centered care to low-income women, infant, children, and youth with HIV. UC academic health centers are leaders in utilizing Ryan White Act funds to innovate and provide care for patients with HIV/AIDS. Ryan White grants support programs at three UC campuses (Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco).

Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

### CDC

Recommendation: UC supports \$11.581 billion for the CDC.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$11.581 billion	\$9.166 billion	TBD

UC supports \$11.581 billion in program level support for the CDC. UC's campuses are at the forefront of public health, and robust investment is needed to ensure that UC can continue to train the next generation of clinicians (including experts in public health), innovate biomedical discoveries and deliver high-quality patient care. With six academic health centers that are serving on the frontlines of emerging global threats like COVID-19 (coronavirus), additional investment in the CDC to provide cutting-edge diagnostic tools and other resources to our institutions is critical for achieving national preparedness. In addition to funds received directly from CDC, the University also receives sub-awards from non-federal sponsors with CDC contracts.

UC also supports federal funding for multidisciplinary public health research to better understand the nature, causes and consequences of violence, unintended injury and death involving firearms.

#### National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$375.3 million for NIOSH.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$375.3 million	\$362.8 million	TBD

**UC supports \$375.3 million for NIOSH**, which is the primary federal agency dedicated to occupational injury prevention and control. Programs funded by NIOSH include scientific research, training and education activities that support efforts to address occupational health and safety needs and improve working conditions.

## **NIOSH Education and Research Centers (ERCs)**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$33 million for NIOSH ERCs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
		·

\$33 million	\$32 million	TBD

**UC supports \$33 million for the NIOSH ERCs**, which provide academic and research training programs in the occupational safety and health disciplines, as well as education and outreach programs to prevent workplace related injury and disease. UC operates two of the nation's 18 ERCs—the Northern California ERC based at UCSF and UC Berkeley, and the Southern California ERC based at UCLA and UC Irvine.

## NIOSH Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AFF) Program

Recommendation: UC supports \$30 million for NIOSH AFF.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$30 million	\$29 million	TBD

**UC supports \$30 million for the NIOSH AFF program.** The AFF program is the only substantive federal effort designed to prevent workplace injuries in the agricultural sector. UC operates one of nine regional NIOSH AFF Centers, the Center for Agricultural Disease and Injury Research, Education and Prevention located at UC Davis.

UC also supports robust funding for the NIOSH Total Worker Health (TWH) program, including at least a \$1 million increase in funding over the FY 2025 level of \$29 million. This program funds several TWH Centers of Excellence throughout the United States, including the California Labor Laboratory, recently established at UCSF and UC Berkeley. The TWH program conducts research into occupational diseases and the prevention of workplace injuries. Additional funding provided to the TWH program would allow for greater research to address workplace safety and injury prevention needs.

Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

#### **AHRQ**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$500 million for AHRQ.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$500 million	\$369 million	TBD

UC supports \$500 million in discretionary funding for AHRQ, the singular federally funded agency charged with improving the safety and quality of the U.S. health care delivery system. UC is a strong supporter of AHRQ funding as well as the mandatory funded Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute's (PCORI) Patient Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Trust Fund. UC faculty receive AHRQ and PCORI grants for critical work that advances health care safety and quality. For example, AHRQ awarded funding to the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research to conduct the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the nation's largest state health survey and a critical source of data on Californians. CHIS provides representative data on all 58 counties in California, including a detailed picture of the health and the health care needs of California's large and diverse population.

# **Institute of Museum and Library Sciences**

• Recommendation: UC supports \$294 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget
		Request

\$294 million	\$294 million	TBD

**UC supports \$294 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences**, which assists libraries, museums and related organizations in providing lifelong learning, community engagement and excellence in public service.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES

## **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**

## **VA Medical and Prosthetic Research Program**

 Recommendation: UC supports \$1.2 billion for the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research Program.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$1.2 billion	\$943 million	TBD

**UC** supports \$1.2 billion for the VA Medical and Prosthetic Research Program. The VA Office of Research and Development provides intramural grants to physicians at VA medical centers, many of whom are jointly appointed to schools of medicine. UC's academic health centers work closely with local VA medical centers to support physician training, research and patient care missions. Sustained funding growth for research efforts at the VA are critical to supporting efforts by our faculty who are working toward breakthrough science that targets the specific needs of veterans. Funding to this account supports VA successes such as research in precision oncology, the Cancer Moonshot Initiative, increasing clinical trials access and addressing health disparities, while renewing support for groundbreaking programs like the Million Veteran Program (MVP) and research on chronic and emerging needs of our nation's veterans.

# SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND RELATED PROGRAMS (HOUSE) / STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND RELATED PROGRAMS (SENATE)

#### **U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)**

Through USAID, UC undertakes critical global health and agricultural productivity programs. The dissolution of USAID and other sources of foreign assistance is very concerning to the University, and we respectfully urge the full restoration of USAID's workforce and budget in order to continue life-saving work.

## Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Labs

 Recommendation: UC supports \$88 million for the Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Labs.

UC FY 2026 Request	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget Request
\$88 million	TBD*  *With the Administration's transfer of USAID to the Department of State, specific programmatic funding levels are TBD.	TBD

UC supports \$1 billion for Global Health Security Programs, \$350 million for Higher Education Institutional Capacity Development Partnerships and \$88 million for the Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Labs. These USAID-university partnerships bring unparalleled research capabilities to the U.S. government's global development and food security initiatives. UC leads six of the 24 Innovation Labs, a network of U.S. colleges and universities that partner with institutions in developing countries to conduct research and training to develop agricultural practices and technologies to improve safe and sustainable food production.

**UC** supports \$15.365 billion for Global Health Programs provided by the Department of State and **USAID.** Partner organizations across the world leverage U.S. dollars to broaden impact, save lives and promote global health security. U.S. investment is critical to prevent further backsliding on global health programs. This progress is necessary in order to strengthen our collective health security and protect Americans, and to build more resilient and prosperous communities.

# SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

**Department of Transportation (DOT)** 

#### Advanced Research Projects Agency for Infrastructure (ARPA-I)

• Recommendation: UC supports \$20 million for ARPA-I.

**UC** supports \$20 million for the DOT to establish and operationalize ARPA-I, which was authorized but not funded in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021. Like DARPA and ARPA-E, ARPA-I has the potential to transform transportation research, including funding early-stage transportation and infrastructure research conducted by academic institutions.