



**Overview**

The FY2025 funding recommendations outlined in this document were developed in consultation with the [Association of American Universities](#) (AAU) and [Association of Public Land-Grant Universities](#) (APLU). Stony Brook University (SBU) is a member of both AAU and APLU.

**Department of Defense (DOD) Research and DARPA**

**For FY25, SBU recommends \$21.588 billion for DOD Science & Technology Programs.**

Account	FY23 Final	FY25 SBU Request
Basic Research (6.1)	2,863	3,418
Applied Research (6.2)	7,796	7,568
Advanced Technology Development (6.3)	11,705	10,602
<b>Total Science &amp; Technology</b>	<b>22,317</b>	<b>21,588</b>
<b>DARPA</b>	<b>4,061</b>	<b>4,338</b>

SBU urges Congress to provide at least \$3.4 billion for DOD basic research (6.1), \$4.3 billion for DARPA, and \$21.6 billion for DOD S&T in FY25. Robust investments in fundamental Defense research are essential to spurring new innovative discoveries that lead to next-generation applications. During this critical time of strategic power competition, it is imperative that the United States redoubles its investments in research, development, and training the Defense workforce. This is based on a 6% increase (Inflation + real growth) on the FY 24 Senate proposed numbers. SBU’s FY25 recommendation is consistent with the recommendation of Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR).

**Department of Education**

**Student Aid**

**For FY25, SBU urges Congress to double the Pell Grant maximum to \$13,000.** Doubling the maximum Pell Grant would serve as an important step in reclaiming much of the original purchasing power of the Pell Grant. The Pell Grant program is the single most important program to enable low-income students to access and afford college. According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the program provided more than 7 million students with grants last year. However, Pell Grants no longer cover most of the cost of attendance for students at a four-year institution. Increasing the maximum Pell Grant award will reduce the amount of student loan debt many low-income students incur and empower them to better contribute to the economy or earn advanced degrees important to the modern workforce. The Student Aid Alliance also recommends doubling the maximum Pell Grant. More than one third of SBU students receive Pell.

SBU urges Congress to increase support for other federal student aid programs that provide grants and work-study to low- and middle-income students. Specifically, SBU supports increasing the **Supplemental**

**Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) to \$1.15 billion and Federal Work-Study to \$1.6 billion.** The SEOG program provides targeted, need-based grant aid of up to \$4,000 per student for 1.6 million students. Participating colleges match federal dollars to make more than \$1 billion in grant aid available to eligible students. Over 99 percent of all SEOG recipients are also Pell Grant recipients, and most SEOG recipients have a higher need on average than students that are receiving only Pell Grants. Increasing SEOG funding to \$1.15 billion in FY25 would restore the program to pre-sequester levels, adjusted for inflation, and continue to help students pay for and succeed in college. Additionally, Federal Work-Study has proven to have a positive impact on a student's ability to afford college and to improve their chances of graduating. Federal and institutional funding for Work-Study helps more than 600,000 students work part-time to help pay their college expenses. Studies show that students who work on campus have higher graduation rates. Increasing funding to \$1.6 billion would restore the FWS program to pre-sequester levels, adjusted for inflation.

### **Graduate Education**

**For FY25, SBU urges Congress to provide \$35 million for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program.** At this level of funding the GAANN program would provide support for additional students in disciplines critical to our nation's continuing security and prosperity. The GAANN program helps ensure a strong pipeline of talented experts and educators who will help to meet the demands of our 21st century workforce. The current funding level does not allow the program to run a competition for grant awards each year, stifling the country's ability to support graduate education in important areas of national need. The Student Aid Alliance recommends the same funding level for FY25.

### **Education Research**

**For FY25, SBU urges Congress to support at least \$900 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) to advance rigorous education research.** IES supports high-quality education research that results in teaching and learning innovations that offer tremendous returns for our society. This level of funding would help build upon the essential research and data infrastructure on which state and local education leaders depend. It would also restore the cuts to critical programs and increase funding for programs for which funding has stagnated. Additionally, this funding would enable IES to continue their critical work and to evaluate the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on learning. It would also facilitate the adoption of evidence-based strategies to mitigate learning loss that has occurred due to the pandemic. Our education system will be stronger in the future if we provide meaningful, sustained support for rigorous education research and evaluation today. SBU's recommendation is consistent with the proposed recommendation by the Friends of the Institute of Education Sciences (FIES).

### **International Education**

**For FY25, SBU recommends \$91 million for the Department of Education's Title VI International Education and Foreign Language programs.** Title VI international education programs play an integral role in developing the talent our nation needs to compete on the global stage and strengthen national security by creating deep expertise in world regions and languages of strategic interest to the U.S. Graduates who have benefited from Title VI programs go on to successful careers in government, business, academia, and the military. The programs educate thousands of students, teachers, policymakers, military and diplomatic officials, faculty, and the general public. This is based on a 6% increase (Inflation + real growth) on the FY 23 final numbers.

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

**SBU recommends \$9.5 billion for the DOE Office of Science in FY25.** The Office of Science is the lead federal agency supporting scientific research for energy and the primary sponsor of fundamental research in the physical sciences. Consistent with the authorized funding level in the CHIPS and Science Act for DOE SC in

FY24, \$9.5 billion for the DOE Office of Science is necessary to maintain a trajectory of growth to support the United States' position as the global innovation leader, particularly in areas like quantum information science and microelectronics. This request aligns with the recommendation of the Energy Sciences Coalition.

**For ARPA-E, SBU recommends at least \$570 million to fund the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy in FY25.** Robust funding is necessary to ensure the agency can continue investing in university-based research for high-risk projects that are too far from product development to be supported by industry.

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

**SBU recommends \$9 billion for NASA's Science Mission Directorate (SMD) in FY25.** NASA Science plays a key role in not only advancing our understanding of space and earth, but also inspiring future innovators. The SMD budget is currently under stress due in part to the increasing costs of the Mars Sample Return mission, already resulting in personnel reductions at some centers and proposed reductions. SMD needs at least \$9 billion to maintain the expertise to support the MSR as well as providing robust funding for all the science divisions. This amount would allow for individual investigator grant programs, new competitive mission opportunities, and address needs that remain unmet in FY24.

### **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**

**SBU urges Congress to provide \$225 million for the NEH in FY25.** A robust humanities education is critical to cultivating a broadly educated workforce ready to compete in the knowledge-based, global 21st-century economy. The NEH is the only federal agency that funds the entire range of academic fields in the humanities. For the cost of less than 50 cents per American, NEH grants support the humanities nationwide—including history, English, and civics—which are fundamental to learning and essential for full participation in a modern democracy. SBU recommends this level of funding which would allow the agency to continue to rebuild its capacity to support peer-reviewed humanities research, education, and community programs.

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

**SBU urges Congress to support at least \$51.3 billion for NIH's foundational work in FY25.** This level of support will allow NIH's base budget to keep pace with the biomedical research and development price index (BRDPI) and allow meaningful growth of 5%. As the world's premier public funder of medical research, the NIH plays a critical role in our nation's international leadership, and robust annual growth in support for NIH is vital not only to improving people's health but also to maintaining our competitiveness in the global economy. Investments in NIH research provided the foundation for critical advances such as COVID vaccines, improvements in cancer detection and treatment, and revolutionary advances in genomic medicine. SBU's FY25 recommendation is consistent with the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research. SBU also recommends continued support for ARPA-H with funding that does not supplant essential foundational investment in the NIH.

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

**SBU recommends \$11.9 billion for the NSF in FY25.** NSF investments are key to bolstering U.S. innovation and competitiveness by funding highly meritorious curiosity-driven research; building and fostering U.S. STEM education and workforce programs; training scientists and engineers with cutting-edge facilities; and addressing the most pressing issues of our time. Investments at this level will continue to fully launch the Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (TIP); empower the Regional Innovation Engines program to transform regional economies; advance needed infrastructure projects; and accelerate investments in critical emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum computing. NSF is authorized at \$16.7B for FY25 in the CHIPS and Science Act, so current and previous levels of funding have fallen well below what the agency needs to execute a great number of Congressionally-authorized programs and activities. This request aligns with the request of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF).

As President McInnis penned in a letter to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on March 15, 2024, *“By underfunding NSF, we are gambling our nation’s future as a global leader in science and innovation. Unfortunately, Congress has missed the mark on science and technology funding, falling far short of the goals outlined in your CHIPS and Science Act. The U.S. needs your leadership now more than ever to fully fund the promises made in the CHIPS and Science Act and ensure that we make up for NSF’s FY24 deficit in FY25.”*

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**For FY25, SBU urges Congress to provide at least \$840 million for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.** In the decades and centuries to come, we will experience extraordinary changes on our planet, with consequences that may dramatically change the way we live our lives. Reducing uncertainty, through the prediction of weather, climate and ecosystem change, requires NOAA funded scientific research to continuously improve our understanding of the Earth as an interdependent system of ocean, air, land and living world.

**SBU recommends Congress appropriate \$145,700,000 for the National Sea Grant College Program and \$18,000,000 for Sea Grant Aquaculture Research in FY25.** Sea Grant has supported coastal and Great Lakes communities through research, extension, and education for over 50 years. This unique network of 34 university-based programs awards over 90 percent of its appropriated funds to coastal states through a competitive process to address issues identified as critical by coastal communities. A joint federal, state, and local investment, Sea Grant provides solutions for issues affecting our nation’s coastal communities—including the Great Lakes; Gulf of Mexico; and communities on the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Pacific coasts—yielding quantifiable economic, social, and environmental benefits. Sea Grant’s partnerships are cost effective, as the program leverages nearly \$3 for every \$1 appropriated by Congress. The amount requested for Aquaculture Research would expand Sea Grant’s support for local aquaculture farmers who produce sustainable seafood, reducing U.S. reliance on imports and providing a safe and nutritious source of protein.