

Preserve NIH's future

Protect sustainable grant funding models and protect training programs

The [President's budget](#) proposes a 42.3% cut to the National Research Service Awards (NRSA) and a multi-year funding approach for up to half of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) research project grants. These changes will reverse decades of biomedical progress, destabilize the research ecosystem, and drive young scientists out of the country to pursue science careers.

Multi-year funding obligates the entire cost of a three-to-five-year award in the first year, which would necessitate the [NIH receiving increased funding](#) for fiscal year 2026 to achieve steady funding rates. However, the proposed budget decreases NIH funding by almost 40%. The proposed budget also calls for NRSA training related expenses and institutional allowance benefits to be frozen for FY26, jeopardizing the STEM talent pipeline. The possible consequences are dire.

Multi-year funding without increased funding means fewer grants and lower success rates.

- Significantly reducing NIH's capacity to support new proposals, reducing NIH's annual capacity to fund new, highly meritorious science.
- An abrupt change in funding approaches will disadvantage emerging labs and labs in states with historically low NIH funding.

Any change to NIH's RPGs must be made through an iterative process, giving the scientific community time to plan and adjust accordingly.

Cutting training grants will weaken the STEM Workforce.

- NRSA training spots and career development awards will be drastically decreased
- Freezing NRSA training related expenses and institutional allowance benefits will limit scholars' access to travel to science conferences and the ability to receive healthcare.
- These cuts will lead many scholars to abandon research careers in the United States and [seek them abroad](#), and discourage many from pursuing scientific careers altogether.

The ASBMB urges Congress to consider the most effective funding approach for the agency, and to protect training programs to maintain our global leadership in science and innovation.

