

# ASHG

American Society of Human Genetics

## ADVOCATE UPDATE

### President's Funding Request: \$8 Billion Increase for NIH



Last week, the Administration released [President Biden's funding request](#) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. The request includes \$51 billion for the NIH, an \$8.1 billion increase over the FY 2021 enacted level. \$6.5 billion of that increase would go towards the launch of a new agency within the NIH called the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). The budget request describes ARPA-H as having "an initial focus on

cancer and other diseases such as diabetes and Alzheimer's, this major investment in federal research and development will drive transformational innovation in health research and speed application and implementation of health breakthroughs." Congress will now review the President's budget proposal as it develops appropriations bills to set the budget for the NIH and the rest of government for FY 2022.

### Congress and President Biden's Interest in Boosting NSF's Budget



The President's budget request would provide the NSF with \$10.2 billion, a 20 percent increase over FY 2021. President Biden also unveiled the [American Jobs Plan](#), a sweeping proposal for investing in America's infrastructure and economy. The plan includes a targeted investment of \$180 billion for research and development, and technologies, with \$50 billion for the NSF to create a new technology directorate. Meanwhile, the House introduced [H.R.2225](#), the National Science

Foundation for the Future Act, to provide NSF with sustained increases over the next five years. The

[Senate also held a hearing](#) over legislation that would significantly boost NSF's funding called the "Endless Frontier Act." The bill has yet to be introduced but is expected to be similar to the Endless Frontier Act of 2019.

## ASHG's First Capitol Hill Day



On April 22, 2021, the Society will hold the first ever ASHG Capitol Hill Day. The [Government and Public Advocacy Committee](#) (GPAC pictured left), ASHG President, Gail Jarvik, MD, PhD, and other volunteer committee leaders will meet virtually with key congressional offices. This is an opportunity for ASHG to convey the value of genetics and genomics research, the need for a robust budget for the NIH, and the importance of diversity and

equity in research to policymakers. Follow ASHG on social media for updates.

## In Other News

- The deadline for NHGRI-ASHG 2021-2022 Genetics and Public Policy Fellowship [applications](#) is April 20, 2021.
- ASHG has signed a multi-society letter, led by Research!America, to President Biden to support the Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act. [H.R.869/S.289](#) would provide research relief funding related to COVID-19 disruptions.
- The NIH has also [released results](#) from the 'Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Extramural Scientific Workforce' survey.
- Rep. Brian Higgins (D-NY) recently introduced [H.R.2144](#), the Access to Genetic Counselor Services Act, in the House. The bill would improve access to genetic counseling by expanding coverage for Medicare beneficiaries and convey Medicare provider status for genetic counselors. ASHG [supports the legislation](#), under the leading efforts of the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC).
- Registration for Research!America's '[Reaching the Peak: A Science & Technology Career Summit](#)' is now open. The early career summit will take place on June 30, 2021 and will explore science policy and advocacy, resume and CV development, science communication, and other topics.

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