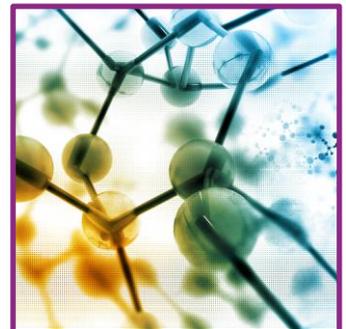
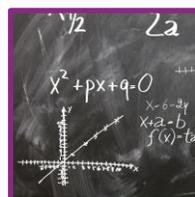


# Budget Blueprint FY 2018: Implications for Research, Higher Education, and Health Programs

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March 16, 2017



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## Executive Summary

On March 16, 2017, President Trump released his first budget proposal to Congress. The budget blueprint for fiscal year (FY) 2018, also known as the “skinny budget,” provides the first glimpse of spending priorities of the new Administration. While a more detailed budget justification will be released in May, the budget blueprint makes increasing defense spending the highest funding priority. The proposed budget would increase defense and national security spending by \$54 billion over the FY 2017 annualized continuing resolution (CR) funding level, while cutting all other non-defense agencies by \$54 billion to pay for those defense increases. These cuts include reductions to or eliminations of research and higher education priorities such as the National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, National Endowment for the Humanities, environmental agencies, and federal student aid.

Congress is likely to reject this funding proposal because of the severity of cuts to federal agencies and proposed elimination of programs that have broad bipartisan support. At the same time, congressional defense hawks are concerned that the proposed increases in defense spending are not sufficient. Like any presidential budget proposal, Congress will take it under consideration but pass final appropriations bills that reflect congressional interests and priorities that are often markedly different from the president’s budget request.

Two overarching themes influence this Administration’s funding priorities. The first is the goal to reduce the size of the federal workforce and overall bureaucracy. This is consistent with recent presidential executive orders to impose a federal hiring freeze, establish a long-term plan to reduce the size of the federal workforce, and require reorganization of departments and agencies to streamline operations. The second goal is to cut burdensome regulations. The budget blueprint highlights the goal of finding efficiencies in program and project management by reducing unnecessary compliance activities and cutting duplicative and burdensome federal regulations. This could have an impact on research universities if, for example, certain reporting and compliance requirements for grants and other federal research funding are lifted.

The budget blueprint abides by the overall discretionary spending cap for FY 2018 set in the *Budget Control Act of 2011*, which is \$1.065 trillion, a reduction of \$5 billion below the FY 2017 spending cap. However, the budget blueprint violates the statutory limits for defense and non-defense spending set in the 2011 budget law by increasing defense spending by \$54 billion for a total of \$603 billion and cutting non-defense spending by a corresponding amount to \$462 billion. Congressional Democrats have insisted on maintaining parity between defense and non-defense spending, and this budget proposal would significantly diverge from that requirement. Passing appropriations bills in the Senate requires Senate Democratic support to reach 60 votes and it is extremely unlikely Senate Democrats would support this budget blueprint.

The Trump Administration also released to Congress a supplemental appropriations request for FY 2017 to increase defense spending. The Trump Administration had previously asked Congress to wait to pass final FY 2017 appropriations until it could complete its analysis of additional defense spending needs. The supplemental request proposes adding \$33 billion to the Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for defense needs, military operations, and border protection. To offset some of these additional costs, the supplemental request proposes cutting \$18 billion from non-defense discretionary programs. Like the budget blueprint, the supplemental request

violates the statutory limits for defense and non-defense spending and will face the same political hurdles in gaining congressional support.

The biggest beneficiary in the budget blueprint is DOD, with a proposed \$52 billion or 10 percent increase in funding to address warfighting readiness needs, including restocking critical munitions, addressing cyber vulnerabilities, fighting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and investing in future weapons systems. The budget blueprint also proposes a \$2 billion increase to other national security programs, for nuclear modernization under the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and border patrol and immigration enforcement agents at DHS. Among the few other winners, the blueprint also proposes an increase of \$4 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to improve the quality of medical care for military veterans.

To pay for these proposed increases in national security, the budget blueprint makes steep cuts or completely eliminates non-defense federal agencies and programs. The cuts are targeted primarily at research, environmental, international assistance, and housing programs as well as loan and grant programs generally for states. The budget blueprint proposes eliminating 19 independent agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH), the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Most other federal agencies would be cut, but by varying degrees. The steepest cuts would be targeted at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a proposed cut of \$2.6 billion or 31 percent, because of its role in developing and enforcing environmental regulations, and the Department of State, a proposed cut of \$11 billion or 29 percent, because of its role in international assistance.

In addition, federal research agencies would face significant cuts. For example, the budget proposal would cut Department of Energy (DOE) basic and applied research programs by \$3.1 billion or 18 percent; National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding by \$5.8 billion or 18 percent; and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) extramural grants that support coastal and marine management, research, and education by \$250 million. The most notable research program that is protected from cuts is the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which would remain flat at \$350 million. The budget blueprint provides no details on the National Science Foundation (NSF), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), DOD science and technology programs, and many other research priorities, but we will learn more in May.

The budget blueprint will also have an impact on education programs. While there are proposed increases within programs at the Department of Education to support the president's campaign promises to increase opportunities for public and private school choice, there would be disproportionate decreases to funding to support college access and affordability. Most notably, the budget blueprint would eliminate the *Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant* (SEOG) program, reduce funding for *Federal Work Study*, and draw nearly \$4 billion from the Pell surplus for other uses.

All funding figures in this document refer to FY 2018 budget request numbers in the budget blueprint and funding changes, whether in dollar amounts or percent changes, are compared to the FY 2017 annualized Continuing Resolution (CR) level unless otherwise noted.

## Department of Agriculture

The budget blueprint would provide U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) with \$17.9 billion in discretionary funding, \$4.7 billion or 21 percent below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. USDA's competitive research program, the *Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)*, would receive "about" \$350 million, the same as the FY 2016 level, but \$25 million below House and Senate appropriations levels for FY 2017. Within the intramural *Agricultural Research Service (ARS)* the budget blueprint would focus activities on increasing farming productivity, sustaining natural resources, food safety, and nutrition. It is unclear what this means for the ARS budget overall and more details are expected in May. The budget blueprint would also provide \$6.2 billion for participants in the *Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children*; fully fund USDA's *Food Safety and Inspection Service*; eliminate the water and wastewater loan and grant program; reduce funding for the *National Forest System*, USDA's statistical capabilities, and *Rural Business and Cooperative Service*; reduce staffing at USDA Service Center Agencies; and eliminate the *McGovern-Dole International Food for Education* program.

## Department of Commerce

The budget blueprint would provide \$7.8 billion for the Department of Commerce, a decrease of 16 percent or \$1.5 billion, compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level of \$9.2 billion.

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)* would receive a \$250 million cut to targeted programs and extramural grants that support coastal and marine management, research, and education, compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level. This cut includes the Sea Grant program. The budget blueprint characterizes these programs as outside the realm of core NOAA functions, such as "surveys, charting, and fisheries management." This proposed cut is consistent with the Trump Administration's intent to shift activities, such as coastal resilience and management activities, to the regional level, citing the direct impact on state and local industry and stakeholders. While coastal research and education would be cut, the Trump Administration would prioritize weather and satellite activities as well as encourage commercial weather utilization.

The *National Weather Service (NWS)* would receive \$1 billion to support forecasting capabilities while improving efficiencies. With respect to NOAA's two major weather satellite programs, the budget blueprint would "maintain" both the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) and Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) in order to remain on schedule, but does not specify funding levels. With respect to future JPSS satellites through the *Polar Follow On*, the budget blueprint would "achieve annual savings" from the current schedule and implement commercial weather capabilities, likely expanding NOAA's new commercial weather data pilot program. The proposed increase is consistent with congressional prioritization of the NWS and advanced weather prediction capabilities, including commercial weather development.

The budget blueprint would eliminate the *Economic Development Administration (EDA)* for a projected savings of \$221 million from the FY 2017 annualized CR level. EDA primarily supports grants for regional development in underserved communities, including programs that enhance the capacity of universities to contribute to local economic ecosystems. Conservative think tanks have long called for the program's elimination, and through the blueprint, the Trump Administration affirms its belief that EDA programs have limited measurable impacts and are duplicative of some existing federal initiatives. The Trump

Administration would also eliminate the *Minority Business Development Agency*, citing duplicative regional and state efforts, such as the *Small Business Administration (SBA)* district offices and development centers. Additionally, the blueprint calls for the elimination of the *Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)* program within the *National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)*; MEP was most recently reauthorized by the *American Competitiveness and Innovation Act*, which became law in January 2017.

## Department of Defense

The president's FY 2018 budget blueprint would provide \$639 billion for the Department of Defense (DOD), a \$52 billion increase above the FY 2017 annualized CR level. An additional \$2 billion in defense spending is included in the blueprint for defense-related activities outside DOD, to support national security activities within the Department of Energy's (DOE) nuclear modernization program as well as Department of Homeland Security (DHS) activities. The budget blueprint for DOD would provide \$574 billion in base funding, a 10 percent increase above the FY 2017 annualized CR level, and \$65 billion in *Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)* funding.

The budget blueprint is consistent with President Trump's stated national security priorities, providing significant increases to address force readiness, modernization, and size. As mentioned throughout President Trump's campaign and his first days in office, the budget blueprint specifically addresses the importance of defeating the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and providing the necessary tools and resources to U.S. warfighters. While the budget blueprint does not expressly address research funding, it does state the need for American superiority in the cyber domain and improvements in the military's technological capabilities. We expect the president's detailed budget request, due in May, to have additional details regarding the *Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E)* appropriations account that funds research budget activities of interest: 6.1 basic research, 6.2 applied research, and 6.3 advanced technology development.

## FY 2017 Appropriations Supplemental Request

In addition to the FY 2018 request, the president also sent Congress a supplemental spending request for increased appropriations of \$33 billion for FY 2017 for the *Department of Defense (DOD)* and the *Department of Homeland Security (DHS)*. For DOD, the \$33 billion includes a \$24.9 billion increase to DOD base budget appropriations for *Military Personnel* (a \$977 million increase); *Operations and Maintenance* (\$7.2 billion); *Procurement and Modernization* (\$13.5 billion); *Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation* (\$2.1 billion); and *Military Construction* (\$1.2 billion). DOD would also receive \$5.1 billion above the \$24.9 billion for OCO funding to address current efforts to defeat ISIS, and operations in Afghanistan. The DOD part of the supplemental is intended to address urgent warfighting needs and begin to fulfill the president's campaign promise to rebuild the military. Thus, funding is intended to increase procurement of weapons systems, such as the F-35 joint strike fighter airplanes, while accelerating existing research and development efforts related to ballistic missile defense, unmanned aircraft, cyber operations, and electronic warfare. There are no specified increases for basic and applied research activities.

The supplemental request of \$33 billion includes \$3 billion for DHS, intended primarily for the implementation of President Trump's Executive Order 13767, signed January 25, for border security and immigration enforcement. Funds would be used to initiate efforts to construct a physical wall along the

southern border of the United States, including high priority tactical infrastructure and border security technology investments and deployment of technology, such as intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) systems. Funds would also be used to hire additional immigration enforcement officers and increase immigration detention capacity. To fund the supplemental spending request, the president has recommended that Congress reduce FY 2017 non-defense discretionary accounts by \$18 billion to cover the full DHS request and half of the DOD request. With this reduction, total funding would increase by \$15 billion.

## Department of Education

The Department of Education (ED) would receive approximately \$9 billion or 13 percent below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. While there are proposed increases in funding to ED to support the president's campaign promises to increase opportunities for public and private school choice, there are disproportionate proposed decreases to programs that support college access and affordability. Most notably, the budget blueprint would eliminate the *Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant* (SEOG) program, which provides financial aid to low income students for higher education. The budget blueprint also proposes decreasing *Federal Work Study* by an unspecified amount. Under the blueprint, the future of the *Pell Grant* is uncertain, as it proposes drawing nearly \$4 billion from the Pell surplus for unspecified use. This would move up the end date by which the Pell Grant program runs a deficit, by an indeterminate number of years. The budget blueprint also reduces funding for the *TRIO Programs* and *GEAR UP* by nearly \$100 million for each program. *International education programs* under Title VI of the *Higher Education Act* are slated for elimination or reduction along with "20 other categorical programs." There were no details included for the *Institute of Education Sciences* in this budget blueprint. It is likely there will be more information on this and other programs when the more comprehensive budget request is released in May.

## Department of Energy

The budget blueprint proposes a cut of \$1.7 billion or 5.6 percent to the Department of Energy (DOE). However, the proposed funding cuts fall disproportionately on basic and applied energy research programs, as funding for national security activities under the *National Nuclear Security Administration* (NNSA) and environmental clean up activities associated with nuclear weapons production and nuclear energy research would be increased. Specifically, the budget blueprint would cut \$900 million, or 17 percent, from the *Office of Science*; eliminate all funding for the *Advanced Research Project Agency-Energy* (ARPA-E); and cut close to \$2 billion from fossil energy, renewable energy, energy efficiency, nuclear energy, and grid research and development activities. Total cuts for basic research and applied energy programs comes to \$3.1 billion or 18 percent below the FY 2017 annualized CR funding level. These proposed cuts would significantly reduce grant funding to research universities. Instead, the budget blueprint proposes an increase of \$1.4 billion for NNSA, a \$300 million increase to the *Environmental Management* program and \$120 million to restart licensing activities for Yucca Mountain. The proposed increases and cuts are consistent with the Trump Administration's priorities to boost national security spending and funding only basic and applied research programs in which the federal government is perceived to play a unique role and not competing with private industry.

## Department of Health and Human Services

The blueprint would provide \$69 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for a \$15.1 billion or 17.9 percent decrease below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. The blueprint states that the budget “supports the core mission of HHS through the most efficient and effective health and human services programs.”

The budget blueprint would cut the *National Institutes of Health (NIH)* by \$5.8 billion to \$25.9 billion in FY 2018, which would be an 18.3 percent cut below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. Congress, led by the House and Senate appropriations subcommittees that determine the NIH budget, will not agree to this proposed cut. Given the strong bipartisan support for NIH and lawmakers’ commitments to provide increases for the agency, Congress will ensure that NIH is not cut at all in the final FY 2018 appropriations bill.

The blueprint notes that the budget would include a major reorganization of the NIH institutes and centers, including the elimination of the Fogarty International Center, which supports global health research. It also would consolidate the *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)* within NIH. AHRQ was funded at \$334 million in FY 2016, and it is unclear if the proposed NIH level in the budget blueprint includes this amount or if AHRQ is proposed for a cut. The blueprint also proposes “other consolidations and structural changes” across NIH, as well as reducing administrative costs and rebalancing federal contributions to research funding. No further details are provided, but given that Congress opted not to restructure NIH as part of the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act*, it is not likely to enact changes to the agency’s structure via the appropriations process.

Also, the blueprint states that it would provide an additional \$1.1 billion in FY 2018 for implementing the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act*. It appears that this funding would support the NIH *Innovation Account*, the *Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Innovation Account*, and grants to states to combat the opioid abuse crisis. In total these three programs received \$872 million from Congress in the FY 2017 CR. As noted in the blueprint, the funding for these activities would be appropriated outside the discretionary caps and is not part of the FY 2018 HHS base budget.

The budget blueprint would eliminate funding for *Title VII health professions training* and *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development* programs at the *Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*. The budget blueprint claims that there is little evidence backing the effectiveness of the programs on the nation’s health workforce. It appears that *National Health Service Corps* programs would continue to be funded. It is unclear based on the budget blueprint if the *Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET)* grant program is included in the elimination of Title VII and VIII; Lewis-Burke’s assessment at this time is that the program is not proposed for elimination. Title VII and VIII programs have bipartisan support in Congress from key leaders such as Rep. Michael Burgess, Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, who co-leads the request for Title VII funding each year. Hence, it is unlikely Congress will agree to the proposed elimination of these programs.

The budget blueprint would create a *Federal Emergency Response Fund* to rapidly respond to public health outbreaks, such as Zika. This is an idea that was previously proposed by the House of Representatives in previous versions of the HHS appropriations bills. Additionally, as part of a proposed *Centers for Disease Control (CDC)* reorganization, the budget blueprint would create a new \$500 million block grant to states for public health challenges specific to each state. The budget blueprint appears to

continue to invest in mental and behavioral health, but provides no details other than \$500 million to address opioid abuse, as noted above.

## **Department of Homeland Security**

The budget blueprint would provide \$44.1 billion for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in FY 2018, which is a \$2.8 billion increase above the FY 2017 annualized CR level. The additional funding for the agency would primarily focus on immigration and border security, including the design and construction of a physical border wall, as well as the procurement of tactical technologies; hiring and training additional border patrol personnel; and the expansion of various other capacities for the removal of undocumented immigrants. The order reaffirms the Trump Administration's stated prioritization of the detention of undocumented individuals considered "violent criminals." The Administration would also provide an additional \$3 billion for border security measures as part of a supplemental appropriations request for FY 2017.

The budget blueprint includes \$1.5 billion for cyberspace enhancements to protect federal networks and critical infrastructure and to promote the sharing of cyberattack information with the private sector and among federal agencies. Consistent with recent comments by Administration officials on federal cybersecurity priorities, the blueprint does not specify what, if any, investments DHS would make in the research and development of cybersecurity technologies and capabilities. In addition, the proposal calls for a \$667 million reduction of state and local grant funding for the *Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)*, including the *Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program* and the *Homeland Security Grant Program*, which among other things, provide support for universities to develop regional hazard mitigation plans and address various statewide homeland security priorities. Finally, the budget blueprint would sustain funding for the *U.S. Coast Guard*, contrasting early reports that the agency would face significant cuts.

## **Department of Housing and Urban Development**

The budget blueprint would provide the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with \$40.7 billion in discretionary funding, \$6.2 billion or 13.2 percent below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. Numerous programs are proposed for elimination including the *Community Development Block Grant* program as well as the *Choice Neighborhoods* program, both of which have occasionally supported universities through partnerships with local housing authorities and community organizations. The blueprint would provide a \$130 million, a \$20 million increase, for healthy and lead-safe homes. In addition to mitigation of lead-based paint and other hazards, this funding would support education- and research-related activities. The budget blueprint does not provide details for HUD's *Office of Policy Development and Research*.

## **Department of Interior**

The budget blueprint would provide \$11.6 billion for the Department of Interior (DOI), a decrease of 12 percent or \$1.5 billion, compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level of \$13.2 billion.

The *U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)* would receive "more than \$900 million" for "essential science programs" such as *Landsat 9*, sustainable energy development, responsible resource management, and

natural hazard risk reduction. However, no specific figures or programs were included in the budget blueprint.

The Trump Administration prioritizes energy development and would provide an unspecified increase for DOI energy development programs to support “environmentally responsible development of energy on public lands and offshore waters.” In addition, the Trump Administration would invest \$1 billion in “safe, reliable, and efficient management of water resources throughout the West.” Consistent with recent statements from Secretary Ryan Zinke, the budget blueprint would refocus DOI’s discretionary funding on maintenance of national parks and public lands, rather than acquisition, and would provide an unspecified increase in funding for deferred maintenance at the *National Park Service*. In addition, the budget blueprint would leverage public private partnerships and match federal funds to support DOI’s wildlife and historic preservation, as well as recreation grants.

## **Department of Justice**

The budget blueprint requests \$27.7 billion for the Department of Justice (DOJ) in FY 2018, a \$1.1 billion decrease from the FY 2017 annualized CR level. While funding for the agency would decrease as a whole, the budget proposes significant increases for the prosecution, transfer, and detention of undocumented immigrants, including language that condemns sanctuary jurisdictions and vows to take unspecified action to mitigate their perceived risks. The budget blueprint proposes to offset some of these costs through the elimination of \$700 million in “outdated programs” with limited specifics as to which programs would be cut. In addition to targeting illegal immigration, the blueprint prioritizes federal support for state and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to combat terrorism, opioid abuse, and violent crime. Finally, the budget blueprint would provide a significant funding increase for the *Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)*, including \$35 million to work with the Department of Defense (DOD) to support “biometric identity resolution, research, and development” at the federal level.

## **Department of State and United States Agency for International Development**

The president’s FY 2018 budget blueprint proposes \$37.6 billion for the Department of State and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), including \$12.0 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding. This would be a \$10.1 billion or 28 percent reduction in base funding over the FY 2017 annualized CR level. The budget blueprint would focus on advancing U.S. national security interests, refocus diplomatic and development activities to countries of greatest strategic priority, reduce or end funding for certain international organizations (including the United Nations (UN)), and would direct the agencies to pursue greater efficiencies through reorganization and consolidation. The budget blueprint would eliminate funding for the *Global Climate Change Initiative (GCCI)* as well as payments to UN climate change programs. The request would also reduce funding for the Department of State’s *Educational and Cultural Exchange (ECE)* programs, focusing on sustaining the agency’s flagship *Fulbright Program*. Other programs and initiatives of interest to the university community, such as the *U.S. Global Development Lab (USGDL)* and the *Feed the Future* program are not mentioned in the budget blueprint.

## Department of Transportation

The budget blueprint provides \$16.4 billion for the Department of Transportation (DOT). This amount does not account for the majority of the Agency's operating budget, as significant resources come through mandatory spending set by congressional authorizations, such as the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act*.

Consistent with other agencies, the Trump Administration's budget blueprint for DOT emphasizes reducing regulations, eliminating duplicative functions, and shifting the responsibility for major programs back to states. Accounts that fund research at DOT are not mentioned in the proposal. Instead, the blueprint would set out the elimination of nearly \$500 million in discretionary funding for the *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)* program and would shift responsibility to states and localities for future rail transit projects. These reductions resonate with statements made by the Administration on a \$1 trillion infrastructure stimulus that relies heavily on private investments. Both the reductions in the blueprint and an infrastructure stimulus package that depends primarily on spurring investments by the private sector are non-starters for many Republicans and Democrats in Congress.

## Department of Veterans Affairs

The president's budget blueprint would fund the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at \$78.9 billion, a \$4.4 billion or 6 percent increase from the FY 2017 annualized CR level. It is one of only three agencies to see an increase in funding. Notably, the blueprint requests \$3.5 billion to continue the *Veterans Choice Program*, which allows veterans to seek care at eligible private providers rather than through the VA. This program is scheduled to end in August 2017. In addition, the blueprint would increase funding for specialized veteran care, social support services, and information technology (IT) to update the VA's outdated systems. However, no funding levels are provided for these increases in the budget blueprint. The blueprint's proposed funding increases are consistent with the federal trend in recent years to increase funding to improve the VA's efficacy and ability to care for veterans, following the scandals that rocked the agency in 2015.

## Environmental Protection Agency

The president's FY 2018 budget blueprint includes \$5.7 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which represents a significant decrease of \$2.6 billion or 31 percent below the FY 2017 annualized CR level. The budget blueprint would defund EPA climate change research, clean energy initiatives, and significantly cut extramural research activities, while focusing on providing regional and state level financing for drinking and wastewater infrastructure repair and replacement. Overall, the budget blueprint for EPA reflects the president's intent to shift all environmental activities and enforcement to the states, reducing the EPA budget and workforce to focus on environmental statutory requirements.

The blueprint would provide \$250 million for EPA's *Office of Research and Development (ORD)*, a \$233 million cut compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level. This would dramatically reduce ORD's ability to support extramural grants, including the *Science To Achieve Results (STAR)* program. The Trump blueprint proposes discontinuing discretionary funding to support "the Clean Power Plan, international climate change programs, climate change research and partnerships programs, and related efforts." While the blueprint does not specify programs, it indicates these cuts would represent \$100

million compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level. In addition, the blueprint would reduce the *Hazardous Substance Superfund Account* by \$330 million compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level and would increase efficiency with existing sites. The budget blueprint would also eliminate 50 EPA programs, totaling \$347 million in cuts compared to the FY 2017 annualized CR level. The Administration indicates that “lower priority and poorly performing programs and grants are not funded, nor are duplicative functions that can be absorbed into other programs or that are State and local responsibilities.” While the blueprint does not provide a full enumerated list, examples included were *Energy Star* and *Targeted Airshed Grants*. Regional efforts would also be defunded, such as the *Great Lakes Restoration* and the *Chesapeake Bay Initiatives*.

Consistent with the president’s priorities related to infrastructure, the budget blueprint would increase funding for *State Revolving Funds*, water infrastructure grants program, and would maintain funding for the *Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act* programs.

## National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Administration’s budget blueprint would fund the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) at \$19.1 billion, a \$200 million 0.8 percent reduction below the FY 2017 annualized CR level of \$19.3 billion. The request also proposes the elimination of NASA’s *Office of Education*, which funds the Agency’s politically popular *EPSCoR* and *Space Grant* programs.

While an overall figure for NASA’s *Science Mission Directorate* is not provided, two divisions are mentioned. The blueprint would prioritize funding for the *Planetary Science Division*, increasing its budget to \$1.9 billion, and provide funding for the *Mars 2020* and *Europa Clipper* missions while eliminating the planned *Europa Lander* mission. In contrast, the *Earth Science Division (ESD)* would be cut by \$102 million through the cancellation of four missions, three of which are currently under development, as well as an unspecified reduction in Earth Science research grants. Cuts to these grants would likely be minor, however, since the mission cancellations comprise most of the division-wide cuts. Overall, the proposed reduction to ESD is less than what many in the research community were anticipating.

Outside of the Science Mission Directorate, the blueprint would prioritize funding for human exploration, cut funding for the *Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate* by 2.5 percent, and cancel the *Asteroid Redirect Mission*. The *Space Technology Mission Directorate* is not mentioned outright, however the blueprint would reduce funding for the Directorate’s satellite servicing mission by \$88 million.

### Source and Additional Information:

- The full *America First Budget Blueprint* is available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/2018\\_blueprint.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/2018_blueprint.pdf).
- The full supplemental appropriations request for DOD and DHS is available at [https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/amendment\\_03\\_16\\_18.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/amendment_03_16_18.pdf).

*Note: These are the sources for the chart below.*

## FY 2018 Federal Budget Blueprint Estimates

(In millions)

Agency	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 Estimate	FY 2018 Estimate vs. FY 2017 CR
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>23,175</b>	<b>22,600</b>	<b>17,900</b>	<b>-4,700 (20.7%)</b>
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	350	350	350	--
<b>Department of Commerce</b>	<b>9,246</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>-1,500 (15.7%)</b>
Economic Development Administration	261	261	0	<b>-261 (100.0%)</b>
<b>Department of Defense</b>	<b>521,700</b>	<b>521,700</b>	<b>574,000</b>	<b>52,300 (10.0%)</b>
<b>Department of Education</b>	<b>68,307</b>	<b>68,200</b>	<b>59,000</b>	<b>-9,200 (13.5%)</b>
SEOG	733	732	0	<b>-732 (100.0%)</b>
TRIO Programs	900	N/A	808	<b>-92 (10.2%)*</b>
GEAR UP	323	N/A	219	<b>-104 (32.1%)*</b>
<b>Department of Energy</b>	<b>29,717</b>	<b>29,700</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>-1,700 (5.6%)</b>
National Nuclear Security Administration	12,526	12,500	13,900	<b>1,400 (11.3%)</b>
Other Energy Programs	17,191	17,200	14,100	<b>-3,100 (17.9%)</b>
<i>Office of Science</i>	5,350	N/A	4,450	<b>-900 (16.8%)*</b>
<i>ARPA-E</i>	291	N/A	0	<b>-291 (100.0%)*</b>
<b>Department of Health and Human Services</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>77,700</b>	<b>65,100</b>	<b>-12,600 (16.2%)</b>
National Institutes of Health	32,084	31,700	25,900	<b>-5,800 (18.3%)</b>
<b>Department of Homeland Security</b>	<b>40,953</b>	<b>41,300</b>	<b>44,100</b>	<b>2,800 (6.8%)</b>
<b>Department of the Interior</b>	<b>12,016</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>11,600</b>	<b>-1,500 (11.7%)</b>
U.S. Geological Survey	1,062	N/A	900	<b>-162 (15.3%)*</b>
<b>Department of Justice</b>	<b>29,090</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>27,700</b>	<b>-1,100 (3.8%)</b>
<b>Department of State/USAID</b>	<b>35,770</b>	<b>38,000</b>	<b>27,100</b>	<b>-10,900 (28.7%)</b>
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>18,600</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>-2,400 (12.7%)</b>
<b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>	<b>71,400</b>	<b>74,500</b>	<b>78,900</b>	<b>4,400 (5.9%)</b>
<b>Environmental Protection Agency</b>	<b>8,140</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>-2,600 (31.4%)</b>
<b>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</b>	<b>19,285</b>	<b>19,200</b>	<b>19,100</b>	<b>-200 (0.8%)</b>

\*Figures were calculated using FY 2016 enacted levels in the absence of available FY 2017 annualized CR figures.