



American Society of Human Genetics

ADVOCATE UPDATE

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## August 2024

### ASHG Calendar: Events and Important Dates

- We want to hear from you! Complete the [ASHG Advocacy Priorities Survey here](#) by August 28th to make your voice heard!
- The [Early Bird Registration Deadline](#) for ASHG 2024 in Denver, CO from November 5-9 is August 21. Register now and save!
- The 12th annual "Rally for Medical Research Hill Day" will take place on September 19. Advocates will meet with their congressional offices, urging policymakers to make funding for NIH a national priority. [Register here](#) by September 4 and visit [the website](#) to learn more!
- Research!America is hosting a two-day [National Health Research Forum](#) on September 17-18 to highlight health and medical research issues.
- Want even more tools to be an effective advocate? Stay tuned for an upcoming workshop, "Growing Your Genetic Advocacy Skills with ASHG Advocacy Materials" on October 16 from 12pm - 2pm EST to practice and hone your advocacy skills!

### Register for ASHG Webinar on Scientists Shaping Policy



#### Demystifying Advocacy: The Role of Scientists in Shaping Policy for Genetics and Genomics

Date/Time: September 25, 1:00 - 2:00 pm EST

What you can expect: an introduction to ASHG's role in the biomedical research advocacy community and why it is essential for scientists to take action.

[Register Now!](#)

### ASHG Responds to RFI on Next Generation 21st Century Cures Initiative



ASHG responded to a [request for information](#) (RFI) issued by U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Larry Bucshon, M.D. (R-IN), with the aim of improving upon the 21st Century Cures Act and Cures 2.0. This RFI sought input to accelerate medical research, increase patient access to novel treatments, and enhance healthcare delivery and access. Read ASHG President Bruce D. Gelb, M.D.'s response [here](#).

## ASHG Comments on Proposed Framework for NIH Reform and Restructuring



Earlier in the summer, U.S. Reps. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) and Robert Aderholt (R-AL) [released](#) an RFI on a framework of potential NIH reforms, including streamlining the 27 current institutes and centers into 15 revised ones. ASHG appreciates the shared goal of improving NIH but emphasizes the need for collaboration with the research community. The Society is particularly concerned about the implications of the framework on NHGRI, which could jeopardize key initiatives that prioritize community engagement in genomics research, the ethical and social implications of biomedical research, diverse research cohorts, and a strong research workforce. Read ASHG's response [here](#).

## In Other Policy News

- Congress is on recess until after Labor Day. [Discover ways](#) to connect with your elected officials!
- ASHG President Bruce D. Gelb, M.D., [released a statement](#) on the Senate Appropriations Committee's recently approved FY25 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (L-HHS-ED) bill.
- NIH is seeking public feedback on implementing recommendations to re-envision the postdoctoral experience until October 23. Learn more [here](#).
- Learn about long-term funding trends for different federal agencies with the [AAAS interactive tool](#).
- Visit [this United for Medical Research \(UMR\) tool](#) to learn about the impact of NIH funding in your state and across the country!

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