

ASHG

American Society of Human Genetics

ADVOCATE UPDATE

April 2026

ASHG Updates

- Applications for our 2026-2027 ACGT program are open now through April 30. Learn more about the certificate program from alumni [here](#) and apply [here](#)!
- We recently responded to NIH's proposed revisions to the Controlled-Access Data Policy and the Genomic Data Sharing Policy. You can read ASHG's full comments [here](#).
- Later this week, members of our Board of Directors will be on Capitol Hill to share the importance of human genetics and genomics research with policymakers. You can follow along on our [socials](#)!
- We will be hosting our two-day virtual symposium on Omics, Regulation & AI for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine later this month, starting on Tuesday, April 28. Explore the full agenda and register [here](#).
- Our upcoming webinar, "Incorporating Polygenic Risk Scores and Social Determinants of Health Across Populations," will be held on Wednesday, May 13. Learn more and register [here](#)!

Biomedical Research Funding Insufficient in President's Budget Proposal

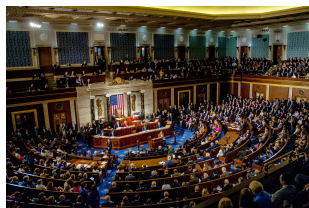


Earlier this month, we released a statement in response to the President's Budget Request (PBR) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, expressing deep concerns about the extensive proposed cuts to NIH, the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), and the National Science Foundation (NSF). We also urged policymakers to reject proposals to significantly restructure NIH's Institutes and Centers and to require all NIH grants to be issued as multi-year awards. You can find our full statement [here](#). Follow White House, House, and Senate funding proposals throughout the year using the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) FY27 [budget tracker](#).

These proposed cuts are not final. We encourage you to take a few minutes to contact your members of Congress directly to share the importance of strong FY27 research funding using the button below!

Take Action Now!

ASHG Submits Testimony to House LHHS Subcommittee



Last week, ASHG President Susan A. Slaughaupt, Ph.D., submitted ASHG's annual Outside Witness Testimony (OWT) to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS). This written testimony emphasized the importance of protecting merit-based peer review, maintaining the research training pipeline and U.S. scientific competitiveness, and the valuable returns on investment that human genetics and genomics research brings to the U.S. economy. In the testimony, we endorsed the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research's recommendation of at least \$51.303 billion for NIH in FY27, along with \$1.7 billion for ARPA-H. To read the full testimony, click [here](#).

In Other Policy News

- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) will host a three-part webinar series, "Reenvisioning the Future of STEM Research at Emerging Research Institutions," starting on April 21. To learn more and register, click [here](#).
- In case you missed it, you can watch ELSIHub's recent Friday Forum, "Uncovering the Past Responsibly: Exploring Ethical Challenges and Recommendations of Ancient DNA Research," [here](#). You can also register for their upcoming forum on May 8, "Making Genomics Matter: Science, Storytelling, and Public Engagement," [here](#)!
- Read the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)'s recent report, "[Tracking NIH Awards in FY 2026](#)," on potential emerging trends in NIH grant obligations.

- Explore [United for Cures](#), a network of patient advocacy organizations dedicated to protecting biomedical research.

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