

## Social Media Toolkit

### Guidance

This toolkit contains draft copy for various social media platforms to raise the alarm about the President's proposed budget cuts to federal funding for research. We encourage you to use these posts and graphics to amplify the stakes of this decision and call upon Congress to oppose cuts to federally-funded research and development.

You can follow STAC on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), and [Bluesky](#) as we continue to share content related to the impact of cuts on the enterprise that fuels American global competitiveness, economic growth, and national security.

Graphics are available [HERE](#).

### LinkedIn/Facebook/Instagram

1. China and other competitors are aggressively doubling down on their R&D investments and seeking to benefit from the instability in the U.S. This threat isn't theoretical – it is happening now. We cannot afford to undermine our own S&T enterprise with massive cuts to funding for federal research.

Congress must protect the science & technology enterprise to ensure we can continue to compete on the global stage.

[Graphic #1]

2. In an era of unprecedented global competitiveness, we are in a race that we cannot afford to lose.

Federal funding is essential to the science & technology enterprise that underpins America's strength. Without it, we will abandon the most urgent race

of the 21st century. Congress must ensure that federally-funded research done in America can continue to change the world, and our day-to-day lives, for the better.

[Graphic #2]

3. America's science & technology enterprise is the best engine of discovery the world has ever seen. It brings hope and prosperity to millions of Americans and benefited our society for decades. This enterprise is resilient, but there is a breaking point — and we are close to reaching it. If we allow it to break, we cannot simply put it back together again next year. It took generations to build it, and it will take generations to rebuild it.

We cannot allow catastrophic funding cuts to our research enterprise. Congress must protect funding for the @National Science Foundation, @the National Institutes of Health, and other federally-funded research and development.

[Graphic #3]

4. Federally-funded research touches every single one of us. Federal funding has led to GPS, cancer detection tools, smartphones, and cybersecurity infrastructure.

[OPTION TO ADD PERSONAL ANECDOTE OF HOW FEDERALLY-FUNDED RESEARCH HAS IMPACTED YOUR LIFE]

The proposed cuts to research funding will impact every American. Without federally-funded research, our health care, our economy, and our national security will suffer. We cannot forfeit the engine of discovery – Congress must protect our research infrastructure from catastrophic funding cuts.

5. The cuts to the @National Science Foundation are massive. Already, the NSF is awarding new grants at the slowest pace in at least 35 years. These decreases touch virtually every area of science, from computer science to physics to

biomedical research. Cutting off funding for early-stage research will have long-term effects, halting future breakthroughs and disrupting the nation's future scientific work force.

Learn more about the cuts, and then call your Member of Congress to raise the alarm about what this will mean for the future of American innovation:

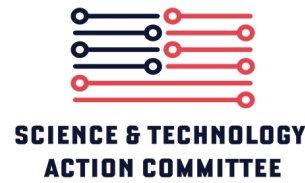
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/05/22/upshot/nsf-grants-trump-cuts.html>.

### X/Bluesky

1. Our competitors are aggressively doubling down on R&D investments and seeking to benefit from the instability in the U.S. We cannot afford to undermine our ability to compete on the global stage. Congress must protect the science & technology enterprise from funding cuts. [Graphic #1]
2. In an era of unprecedented global competitiveness, we are in a race that we cannot afford to lose. Without federal funding for research, we will abandon the most urgent race of the 21st century. Congress must protect the enterprise that underpins American innovation + discovery. [Graphic #2]
3. America's science & technology enterprise is the best engine of discovery the world has ever seen. Proposed funding cuts will be catastrophic for this enterprise. Congress must protect funding for the @NSF, @NIH, and other federally-funded research and development. [Graphic #3]
4. Federally-funded research touches every single one of us. Federal funding has led to GPS, cancer detection tools, smartphones, and cybersecurity infrastructure. [OPTION TO ADD PERSONAL ANECDOTE OF HOW FEDERALLY-FUNDED RESEARCH HAS IMPACTED YOUR LIFE] Without federally-funded research, our health care, our economy, and our national security will suffer.
5. Cuts to @NSF impact virtually every area of science, from emerging technologies to biomedical research. Cutting funding for early-stage research

will halt future breakthroughs and disrupt the nation's future scientific workforce.

Learn more: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/05/22/upshot/nsf-grants-trump-cuts.html>.



## Member of Congress Contact Email Template

### Before Emailing Your Representative

Review [VAST's website](#) to learn more about our recommendations to protect the U.S. science & technology enterprise and consider what personal or local anecdote you may be able to share to connect the dangers of federal funding cuts to your legislator's constituency. You can find your representatives' contact information by plugging the member's name into a search engine and visiting their website, which will list their email address and phone number.

### Email Template

Dear [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE],

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a constituent from [CITY/DISTRICT]. I am writing to express my concern regarding federal investment in our science and technology enterprise.

I urge you to protect authorization and appropriations to the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal research and development agencies. Every American will feel the effects of proposed cuts to our research enterprise. Those proposed budget cuts threaten American global leadership, national security, and economic stability and will delay or prevent scientific learning and innovation that would enhance the health, wellbeing, and quality of life for all.

The President's Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget request proposes cutting the NIH budget from about \$48 billion in 2025 to roughly \$27 billion in 2026 (a cut of some 40%), cutting NSF funding by \$4.7 billion (a 56% funding reduction from 2025 to 2026), and consolidating or eliminating institutes and centers without congressional hearings or public input. These dramatic reductions in funding do not embrace the bold path of innovation that Congress has championed for decades and would instead reverse that progress.

[ADD PERSONAL/LOCAL ANECDOTE (OPTIONAL)]

These cuts are a direct threat to the livelihood and wellbeing of our district, America's ability to compete on the global stage, and the future of the enterprise that has led to the most important discoveries in history. I urge you to protect the future of science research and development. Thank you for your leadership and for the hard work you and your staff put in on behalf of our district.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME/TITLE]

### **After Emailing Your Representative**

Contacting your member of Congress is a meaningful way to participate in our democracy and advocate for the scientific community. You can also follow up your email with a call to their office and/or posting on social media. Graphics are available [HERE](#).



## Member of Congress Contact Phone Script

### Before the Call

Review [VAST's website](#) to learn more about our recommendations to protect the U.S. science & technology enterprise and consider what personal or local anecdote you may be able to share to connect the dangers of federal funding cuts to your legislator's constituency. You can find your representatives' contact information by plugging the member's name into a search engine and visiting their website, which will list their email address and phone number.

### Call Script

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a constituent from [CITY/DISTRICT]. I am calling to share my concern with [NAME OF LEGISLATOR] regarding federal investment in our science and technology enterprise.

I urge [NAME OF LEGISLATOR] to protect authorization and appropriations to the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal research and development agencies. Every American will feel the effects of proposed cuts to our research enterprise. Those proposed budget cuts threaten American global leadership, national security, and economic stability, and will delay or prevent scientific learning and innovation that would enhance the health, wellbeing, and quality of life for all.

[ADD PERSONAL/LOCAL ANECDOTE (OPTIONAL)]

These cuts are a direct threat to the livelihood and wellbeing of our district, America's ability to compete on the global stage, and the future of the enterprise that has led to the most important discoveries in history. I urge the [REPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR] to protect the future of science research and development. Thank you.

### After the Call

Calling your member of Congress is a meaningful way to participate in our democracy and advocate for the scientific community. You can also follow up your call with an email to their office and/or posting on social media. Graphics are available [HERE](#).