



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stuart Heiser

202-828-0059

press@aamc.org

Ad Hoc Group Statement on NIH Funding in Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill for FY 2026

July 31, 2025 – *The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement regarding funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Labor-HHS-Education spending bill approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on July 31:*

“The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is grateful, particularly in the context of the current constrained fiscal environment, for the Committee’s bipartisan efforts to strengthen vital medical research with new funding for the NIH. Investments in NIH aid researchers in achieving breakthrough discoveries that combat debilitating health challenges including cancer, Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, diabetes, Parkinson’s, chronic health conditions, autoimmune diseases, and the full range of other conditions that affect patients, families, and communities.

We appreciate that the bill rejects damaging cuts and harmful policy provisions that would stifle medical innovation. As a recent Congressional Budget Office [report](#) noted, a permanent 10 percent reduction in NIH funding for external preclinical research ultimately would decrease the number of new drugs coming to market by 4.5 percent. We applaud the Committee for taking steps to prevent this avoidable consequence, including ensuring that any efforts to increase the proportion of forward-funded awards do not reduce the number of funded scientists. We urge a return to predictable, sustained, and robust growth in NIH investments to continue to make meaningful progress against the myriad diseases and disorders affecting patients and communities, support the research workforce and local economies, and secure America’s global leadership in science and technology.

Additionally, in light of recent actions by the administration to halt NIH funding arbitrarily, we strongly urge Congress to exercise its oversight authority in ensuring that NIH can expend its appropriation on the full scope of promising, meritorious research proposals approved through the peer review process without disruption, delay, or other interference. No patient awaiting a cure should wonder why research that could save their life is on hold when Congress has provided the funding for it, a panel of experts has rigorously vetted it, and the agency has approved it. There is simply no excuse for such artificial barriers to improving people’s health. We implore lawmakers to support NIH in addressing any hindrances that are leading to stalled funding in FY 2025 and to ensure that NIH’s full appropriation for FY 2025 is obligated as Congress intended.

The Ad Hoc Group thanks the chairs and vice chairs of the full Committee and the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee for their leadership. Our community looks forward to continuing to work with the Committee and all lawmakers toward a bipartisan spending bill that provides robust funding for NIH as expeditiously as possible.”

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of over 500 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.