FUNDING GRADUATE EDUCATION

Investing in Our Future

We urge you to support and co-sponsor legislation that:

- Provides increased financial support for University-based research
- Improves the working conditions of graduate student researchers, including providing mental, physical, and financial support
- Expands access to diverse professional development opportunities

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Universities conduct basic research at lower risk than industry, making it more profitable. [1]

Federally funded research accelerates industry productivity and privatizing decreases it. [1]

Annually, NSF supports around 350,000 people in their research. [2]

93% of STEM occupations earned more than the national average in 2015. [3]

STEM-related jobs grew at nearly twice the rate of non-STEM jobs from 2009-2015. [3]

Social Sciences

Social science research seeks to understand human behavior and addresses a wide range of issues, including: [5]

- Improving natural disaster evacuations
- Effective methods of international negotiation
- Assessing national security and terroristic threats
- Tracking sex offenders and protecting children
- Maintaining food and water supplies
- Keeping teenagers from engaging in risky behavior
- Improving the lives of veterans
- Understanding disease control

The State Department, Homeland Security, Defense Department, and Department of Energy all rely on the work of social scientists. [5]

Arts and Humanities

The National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) operates on 0.006% of the federal budget and has generated billions through matching investments. [8]

NEH investments bolster local economies through tourism and job creation and serve tens of millions of people each year. [8,9]

NEH’s educational programs improve academic outcomes and includes the Warrior-Scholar Project that helps veterans prepare for college. [8]

Each year, the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) receives around $230 million federally each year but spends $21 billion and employs more than 400,000 Americans. [10]

Libraries and museum service the one in six adults in the US with low literacy skills. [10]
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References


