

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Artificial Intelligence Funding¹			
(Dollars in Millions)			
	FY 2024		
	Current	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Plan	(TBD)	Request
BIO	\$20.00		\$50.00
CISE	342.18		284.54
EDU	35.00		35.00
ENG	77.80		83.19
GEO Programs	1.95		24.00
GEO: OPP	-		0.20
MPS	73.07		90.07
SBE	12.42		15.00
TIP	72.23		72.23
IA	1.00		1.00
Total	\$635.65		\$655.23

¹ Funding displayed may have overlap with other topics and programs.

AI is advancing rapidly and is increasingly demonstrating its potential to significantly transform our lives. NSF has a long and rich history of supporting AI research, setting the stage for today's widespread use of AI technologies in a range of sectors, from manufacturing to healthcare to transportation, as well as the nation's security and defense. NSF's ability to bring together numerous fields of scientific inquiry uniquely positions the agency to play a pivotal role in expanding the frontiers of AI and further cementing the Nation's leadership in this area as envisioned in the recent White House Executive Order on *Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence*.¹ NSF supports fundamental and translational research, education, and research infrastructure including cyberinfrastructure and AI test beds that collectively strengthens our ability to harness AI to power discovery, innovation, and economic growth.

In FY26, NSF's AI investments will focus on three intertwined components:

Fundamental and Translational AI Research: Sustain long-term investments in fundamental and translational AI research that will give rise to transformational technologies and, in turn, breakthroughs across all areas of science and engineering and across all sectors of society.

Recent Requests for Information (RFI) on the *Development of an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Plan*² and the *Development of a 2025 National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Research and Development (R&D)*

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/removing-barriers-to-american-leadership-in-artificial-intelligence/>

² <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/02/06/2025-02305/request-for-information-on-the-development-of-an-artificial-intelligence-ai-action-plan>

*Strategic Plan*³ emphasize the role of fundamental research in maintaining America's technological leadership and ensuring that AI development serves broad public interests rather than being driven solely by near-term market forces. In alignment with these priorities, NSF will support foundational research in AI, including machine learning (ML) and deep learning, natural language technologies, computer vision, human-AI interaction, AI algorithms, explainability and robustness of AI-based decision-making, the interplay of AI and cybersecurity, next-generation hardware (including semiconductors and microelectronics) and software accelerators for efficient AI, software engineering for developing reliable AI-based programs, AI-native networking, robotics, and smart and autonomous systems. NSF will also support use-inspired and translational research that links AI innovation with science and the economy, including in the fields of agriculture, manufacturing, biotechnology, transportation, and health.

Central to NSF's investments in fundamental research will be continued support for the National AI Research Institutes program that was initiated in FY 2019 to create national hubs for universities, federal and local agencies, industry, and nonprofits to advance use-inspired AI research in key areas addressing grand challenges. Additionally, NSF will continue advances in use-inspired and translational research through initiatives like the NSF Regional Innovation Engines (NSF Engines), NSF Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR), and NSF Innovation Corps (NSF I-Corps™).

Education and Workforce Development: Develop AI systems that enhance learning for all and grow the next generation of talent to advance the U.S. AI R&D workforce, including those applying AI solutions and those working on or alongside AI systems. Equally important, as highlighted in the White House Executive Order on *Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth*,⁴ is NSF's investment in education research, which grows the human capital and institutional capacity needed to nurture the next generation of AI researchers and practitioners as well as the AI technology that can be used to support learning more broadly.

Access to Data and Advanced Computing Research Infrastructure and Testing Platforms: The RFI on the *Development of a 2025 National AI R&D Strategic Plan* calls out "infrastructure support for the AI research and development community" as a priority area. NSF will therefore continue to support the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) pilot, which provides access to advanced computing, cloud computing, data and networking resources, and serves as a proof of concept for a potential fully operational NAIRR. The full NAIRR is envisioned as a national infrastructure that will drive US AI innovation and discovery by supporting fundamental and translational research and training the next generation of AI-ready workforce to use these critical resources. NSF-supported resources will allow testing the readiness of AI methods and systems for real-world settings.

³ www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/04/29/2025-07332/request-for-information-on-the-development-of-a-2025-national-artificial-intelligence-ai-research

⁴ www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/advancing-artificial-intelligence-education-for-american-youth/