



National Institutes of Health and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Funding and Structure

REQUEST: The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) requests Congress provide robust funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in fiscal year 2027 (FY27). The AAAAI also urges Congress to maintain the current structure of NIAID, discourage multi-year funding of NIH grants, and reject arbitrary caps on indirect research costs.

NIH/NIAID FUNDING: Robust funding for NIH and its institutes, including the NIAID, is critical to ensure that the nation can respond to current and future disease threats. As such, the AAAAI supports the following FY27 funding levels and conveyed these requests in Outside Witness Testimony to the Appropriations Committees:

- **\$51.3 billion for NIH;**
- **\$7.15 billion for NIAID;** and
- **\$18.2 million for the Consortium of Food Allergy Research (CoFAR)** within the NIAID and accompanying report language to continue its efforts to achieve major strides in the study of food allergy prevention and treatment:

Food Allergies.— *The Committee recognizes the serious issue of food allergies which affect approximately eight percent of children and ten percent of adults in the U.S. The Committee commends the ongoing work of NIAID in supporting a total of 27 clinical sites for this critical research, including 14 sites as part of the Consortium of Food Allergy Research (CoFAR). The Committee includes \$18,200,000, an increase of \$6,100,000, for CoFAR to support additional clinical trials and translational research studies with qualified collaborating institutions with demonstrated expertise in food allergy research and patient engagement, prioritizing projects that can rapidly advance prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of food allergy.*

Further, we urge Congress to again voice strong concern about the impact of multi-year funding of grants, such as the impact on application success rates and the reduction in the number of NIH-funded grants, and to again reject the proposed arbitrary 15 percent cap on indirect research costs which could greatly harm innovative research.

NIAID STRUCTURE: The work of Allergists/Immunologists would not be possible without the NIAID. The integration of allergy, Infectious disease and immunology is central to innovation for our patients. The AAAAI has serious concerns regarding proposals to split NIAID into multiple institutes, like the **NIH Reform Act (H.R. 1497/S. 664)**, which would reduce the collaborative thinking that cures and prevents disease and would create new administrative hurdles to create and cultivate new concepts across three institutes at a time when the national focus is on efficiency. We appreciate that Congress maintained NIAID's structure in the FY26 appropriations process. The AAAAI strongly believes that the disciplines of allergic diseases and immunology should not be separated from infectious diseases. Infectious disease (ID) research, allergy research, and immunology research are fundamentally intertwined as all three fields are linked by how the human immune system keeps us healthy and how it responds to and protects against microbes. For example, ID research may focus on how bacteria or viruses invade, replicate, and mutate to make us sick; while allergy helps us understand how our immune system may become confused and inappropriately respond to a food or mold, and immunology research investigates how the immune system identifies and controls pathogens (bacteria, fungi, viruses), allergens (allergic disease) and our own body tissues (autoimmunity). These interactions are central to successful research and have generated treatments and strategies for disease prevention.

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