

AAMC approach to analyzing NIH grant terminations data

Updated June 10, 2025

This document outlines the approach taken for the data brief dated June 10, 2025.

- For details on the May 27, 2025 data brief, please see [here](#).
- For details on the May 6, 2025 data brief, please see [here](#).

Data Sources:

Terminated grants:

For the most up-to-date data on NIH grant terminations AAMC downloaded the complete [NIH Grant Terminations in 2025](#) data as a CSV file on June 4th, 2025. This dataset is managed by Noam Ross, Scott Delaney, Anthony Barente, and Emma Mairson and draws from self-reported grant terminations submitted by impacted researchers, as well as from sources including Doge.gov, USASpending.gov, NIH's X feed, NIH RePORTER, and the HHS TAGGS system. For more information on their methodology, visit [this page](#).

To ensure that the dataset and analysis only included NIH grants awarded to U.S. institutions, grants awarded to institutions outside of the U.S. were removed. To ensure that the dataset only included grants that remain terminated, grants marked as reinstated were removed.

The number of terminated grants fluctuates over time due to incomplete reporting as well as the reinstatement of some grants as the result of lawsuits or other activities.

Categorizing grant mechanisms into funding categories

For the initial data brief published on May 6th, we maintained the funding category classifications as reported in the data and created a simplified variable with three categories: "research & development," "research training and career development," and "other," where "construction and modernization" grants, "small business" grants, and "other transactions" were combined with "other." No other changes were made.

For the current data brief and the data brief updated on May 27th, we adjusted our approach by categorizing U24, U54, and UL1 grants as "research and development" grants. These grant mechanisms had been categorized as "other" grants previously and do not have an official funding category assigned by the NIH. However, [all three activity codes](#) refer to grants that support research and development activities.

For this data brief, we focused our analysis on terminated research training and career development grants. This includes any grants from the following activity codes identified by NIH in this category: D43, D71, DP5, DP7, F05, F30, F31, F32, F33, F37, F38, F99, FI2, FM1, IK3, K00, K01, K02, K05, K06, K07, K08, K12, K14, K18, K22, K23, K24, K25, K26, K30, K32, K38, K43, K76, K99, KD1, KL1, KL2, KM1, R25, R36, R38, R90, RL5, RL9, S22, T01, T02, T09, T14, T15, T32, T34, T35, T37, T42, T90, TL1, TL4, TU2, U2R, UE5, and UP5.

Identifying U.S. medical schools, hospitals, and academic societies:

All grants where the organization type (“org_type” in the Grant Watch dataset) was “Schools of Medicine,” “Schools of Medicine & Dentistry,” “Overall Medical,” or “Independent Hospitals” were coded as 1 on an indicator variable indicating that the organization was a medical school, hospital, or academic society (“medical_institution”). To make sure that no terminated grants that ought to be attributed to a medical school, hospital, or academic society were missed, the “org_name,” “org_type,” and “dept_type” fields of all grants that were not yet coded as being awarded to a medical institution were reviewed. The review found several grants where the institution was not coded as a medical institution but should have been ([list of medical schools, hospitals, and academic societies](#)). In these cases, the grant was recoded to correctly identify the grantee institution as a medical school, hospital, or academic society. As a final validation, AAMC cross-referenced the list of terminated grants with the [AAMC-NIH crosswalk](#) to ensure all grants were appropriately attributed to U.S. medical schools, hospitals, and academic societies.

All data cleaning, matching, and variable recoding was completed in Stata 14.2. Once the final dataset was complete, it was exported as an excel file and pivot tables were utilized to produce key summary tables and figures.