

September 22, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128 The Capitol  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Vice Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128 The Capitol  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Cole, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Collins, and Vice Chair Murray:

The 250 undersigned national organizations write to express our support for the work of the Joint Associations Group on Indirect Costs (JAG)'s effort to develop a new, more transparent model for ensuring that institutions' essential research costs are adequately supported. We also express appreciation for language supporting the JAG effort included in some of the FY 2026 annual appropriations bills and accompanying reports and ask that your committees continue to include and strengthen language in the final spending bills supporting the JAG work and prohibiting the Office of Management and Budget from instituting arbitrary caps on costs essential to conducting high quality scientific research.

The federal government's investment in research leads to cures, transformative technologies, and new industries that save lives, improve Americans' health, create new jobs, and help ensure national security. Expenses like physical lab operation and maintenance, utility costs, security, data processing, regulatory compliance, and other needs (currently collectively known as "indirect costs" or "facilities and administrative" or "F&A" support) are essential to conduct research and inseparable from support for research itself. Efforts to cut support for these essential research costs undoubtedly would lead to less research in the U.S., undermining our global leadership in science and ultimately reducing the number of American-made scientific and technological driven innovations resulting from federally funded research.

We believe that the recommendations put forward by the JAG would enhance transparency and accountability associated with federally funded research without undermining overall support critical to American science. Informed by experts from within, across, and beyond the research community and designed to accommodate institutions of all types and sizes, the JAG's proposed Financial Accountability In Research (FAIR) model is a new approach to supporting essential

research costs. While granular details of the model will need to continue to be refined through its implementation process, we believe the core of the model addresses the themes that lawmakers and policymakers have prioritized while also ensuring American leadership in science and innovation continues.

We ask lawmakers to support the work that has been done by the JAG by:

- Including appropriations bill language supporting the work of the JAG and the development and implementation of the FAIR model by the executive branch;
- Blocking any federal agency or OMB action to cap or otherwise change existing negotiated F&A rates until they have worked with the stakeholder community to develop a clear plan for implementation of a new system based on the FAIR model framework;
- Ensuring at least a two-year transition period for agencies and institutions to make the necessary changes to an alternative model; and
- Preserving continued support for F&A expenses at existing levels until the new model is fully implemented.

These key elements, in addition to other relevant adjustments to research agency budget caps and related policies, will be essential to ensure the success of any new model for supporting research across the nation. We urge Congress to ensure that the legislative process affords these protections to ensure that the nation's research enterprise continues to thrive. Thank you, and please contact Tannaz Rasouli ([trasouli@aamc.org](mailto:trasouli@aamc.org)) at the Association of American Medical Colleges with any questions.

Sincerely,

**250 organizations as of October 13, 2025**

AACTE: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
Academic Data Science Alliance  
Academy for Radiology and Biomedical Imaging Research  
Academy of Physicians in Clinical Research  
ACPA-College Student Educators International  
ACT for NIH  
Akari Foundation  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alliance of Dedicated Cancer Centers  
ALS Association  
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
American Academy of Emergency Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research  
American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Chairs of Departments of Psychiatry (AACDP)  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers  
American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Association of State Colleges and Universities  
American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges  
American Brain Coalition  
American Brain Tumor Association  
American Chemical Society  
American College of Academic Addiction Medicine  
American College of Clinical Pharmacology  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Radiology  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Geosciences Institute  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Indian Higher Education Consortium  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Mathematical Society  
American Neurological Association  
American Pediatric Society (APS)  
American Physical Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Psychological Association Services  
American Roentgen Ray Society  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Society for Investigative Pathology  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Echocardiography  
American Society of Human Genetics  
American Society of Naturalists  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Society of Transplant Surgeons  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
American Statistical Association  
American Surgical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Americans for Medical Progress  
Angelman Syndrome Foundation  
Arachnoiditis & Chronic Meningitis Collaborative Research Network (ACMCRN)  
ARPKD/CHF Alliance  
Association for Academic Pathology (AAPath)  
Association for Creatine Deficiencies  
Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration

Association for Institutional Research  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)  
Association for Women in Science  
Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of Academic Leaders of Neurology, formerly Association of University Professors of Neurology  
Association of Academic Physiatrists  
Association of Bioethics Program Directors  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Governing Boards  
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Professors of Dermatology  
Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics  
Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers  
Association of Research Libraries  
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry  
Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC)  
Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology  
Barth Syndrome Foundation  
BDSRA Foundation  
Biophysical Society  
Boston Children's Hospital  
Boston Medical Center Health System  
Canavan Foundation  
Cancer and Careers  
Center for Endometriosis Care  
Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Chris "CJ" Johnson Foundation Inc  
Cincinnati Children's Hospital  
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources  
Computing Research Association  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
COPD Foundation  
Council for Advancement and Support of Education  
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council of Pediatric Subspecialties  
Council on Social Work Education  
CURE Epilepsy  
Cures Within Reach  
CureSHANK  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Dravet Syndrome Foundation

Dysautonomia International  
ECAN Esophageal Cancer Action Network  
EDUCAUSE  
Entomological Society of America  
Epilepsy Foundation of America  
EPSCoR/IDeA Coalition  
EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation  
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered  
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered  
Foundation for Prader-Willi Research  
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research  
Genetic Alliance  
Gerontological Society of America  
Good Days  
HCU Network America  
HealthyWomen  
Helminthological Society of Washington  
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network  
Herpetologists' League  
Hope for HIE  
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society  
IITC Inc./Life Science  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Bipolar Foundation  
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD)  
International Pemphigus and Pemphigoid Foundation  
International Society for Stem Cell Research  
Kidney Cancer Association  
LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease)  
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
M-CM Network  
Marymount University  
Mass General Brigham  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Men's Health Network  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
METAvivor  
Mid-Atlantic Pharmacology Society  
Mission MSA  
Mississippi Metabolics Foundation  
MitoAction  
MKGenetix  
Moebius Syndrome Foundation  
Myasthenia Gravis Association

NAPCRG  
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR)  
National Association for College Admission Counseling  
National Association For Continence  
National Association For Continence  
National Council of University Research Administrators  
National Health Council  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research  
No Stomach For Cancer  
Noah's Hope - Hope4Bridet Foundation  
North American Vascular Biology Organization  
NW Association for Biomedical Research  
NW Rare Disease Coalition  
Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance  
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy  
Patient-Led Research Collaborative  
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society  
Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research  
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation  
Phi Beta Kappa Society  
PKD Foundation  
Population Association of America  
PSC Partners Seeking a Cure  
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation  
PXE International  
Radiological Society of North America  
RUNX1 Research Program  
Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute  
Sharsheret: The Jewish Breast & Ovarian Cancer Community  
Sjogren's Foundation  
Social Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS)  
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM)  
Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Radiology  
Society for Pediatric Research (SPR)  
Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections  
Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments  
Society of Clinical Psychology, Division 12 of APA  
Society of Directors of Research in Medical Education  
Society of General Internal Medicine

Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine  
Society of University Surgeons  
SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics  
Teaching Kitchen Collaborative  
The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)  
The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
The George Washington University  
The Judy Nicholson Foundation  
The Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation  
The Marfan Foundation  
The National Pancreas Foundation  
The Obesity Society  
The STARR Coalition  
TMCF  
TSC Alliance  
Tulane University  
United for Medical Research  
University of California, San Francisco  
University of Mississippi Medical Center  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Rochester  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
UPCEA - The Online and Professional Education Association  
Usher 1F Collaborative  
Usher Syndrome Coalition  
UT MD Anderson Cancer Center  
v-ATPase Alliance  
VHL Alliance  
Vision Sciences Society  
wAIHA Warriors  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wilson Disease Association  
Yale University