

April 11, 2013

President's Fiscal Year 2014 Budget: Technology Summary

On Wednesday, April 10, President Obama released his Fiscal Year 2014 budget proposal. While the budget is unlikely to be adopted in full, it represents the position of the Administration entering negotiations with Congress over spending. The budget request calls for an increase in funding related to technology. In particular, the President's budget proposes federal investment in innovation and research and development (R&D), as well as in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.

Innovation and R&D

- The proposed budget “maintains our world-leading commitment to science and research” by increasing nondefense research and development (R&D) investment by 9% above 2012 levels. The Department of Energy would see significant increases, as well as the National Science Foundation, U.S. Geological Survey and National Institute of Standards and Technology.
- Under President Obama's fiscal 2014 budget request, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) would receive a total discretionary budget authority of \$934 million. This amount is 20 percent more than the current year amount under the continuing resolution.
- For the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the President proposed \$31 billion in funding for medical research, generally maintaining current spending levels.
- The budget “invests in American innovation, reviving our manufacturing base and keeping our Nation at the forefront of technological advancement.” The proposal includes transforming “regions across the country into global epicenters of advanced manufacturing” with a one-time, \$1 billion investment to launch a network of up to 15 manufacturing innovation institutes.
- The budget proposal calls for a 2 percent increase in IT spending throughout the government.

STEM Education

- The budget proposal emphasizes a focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education “to prepare our students for the jobs of tomorrow.”
- Aiming to prepare students for careers in STEM-related fields, the budget calls for reorganizing and restructuring Federal STEM education programs to make better use of resources and improve outcomes. The budget includes a proposed consolidation of 90 STEM

programs that are currently spread between 11 agencies. The programs would be compressed into four categories: K-12 instruction; undergraduate education; graduate fellowships; and education activities that typically take place outside the classroom.

- The budget calls for recruiting and preparing 100,000 STEM teachers and creating a new STEM Master Teachers Corps to improve STEM instruction.
- The budget request “strengthens and reforms career and technical education to better align programs with the needs of employers and higher education to ensure that graduates are poised to succeed.” The request includes a new \$300 million High School Redesign competitive grant program for districts that partner with colleges, businesses, and nonprofits to develop the work skills needed for emerging jobs.

[Click here to view a White House summary of the budget proposal.](#)

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