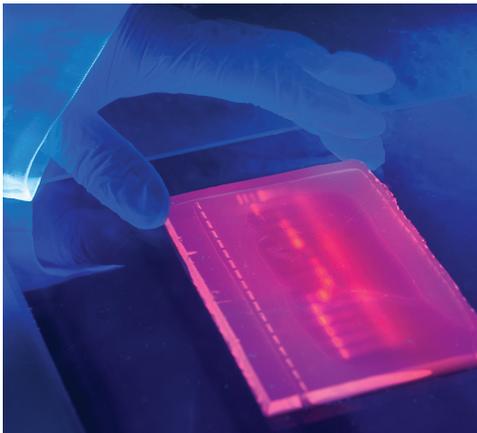


»» Maintain the Federal Research Enterprise

We must invest in innovation, research and development to maintain America's competitive edge. Laboratories in our nation's colleges of veterinary medicine provide critical support for the National Institutes of Health, United States Department of Agriculture, the National Science Foundation and other agencies.



The federal research enterprise plays a crucial role in our economy and fosters American strength and prosperity. Agricultural and biomedical research helps the United States create the most abundant, safest food supply in the world and protects the health and wellbeing of our citizens. The AAVMC supports the following appropriations levels:

- At the National Institutes of Health (NIH), we believe the implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act must continue. The biomedical research conducted at NIH can literally change lives, and we are now on the edge of tremendous new discoveries that could result in treatments or cures for diseases like Alzheimers, Parkinsons, cancer and other disorders. We support a final funding level of \$36.1 billion for FY 2018 and \$38.1 billion for FY 2019.

- At the Agriculture and Food Research Institute (AFRI), we continue to need new discoveries in animal diseases, food safety, and antimicrobial resistance, among many other areas of research. To meet these needs, we support a final funding level of \$425 million for FY 2018 and at least \$425 million in FY2019.

- The Agriculture Research Service (ARS) is the largest component of the USDA research portfolio. ARS performs critical research into vaccine development, diagnostics, transboundary diseases, foreign animal diseases, animal and plant genetics, and organics. All are crucial in the protection of U.S. agriculture and the U.S. economy. To sustain ARS, we support a final funding level of \$1.3 billion for FY 2018 and a level of at least \$1.3 billion for FY 2019.

- We support a return to regular order for appropriations bills each fiscal year.
- We appreciate the bipartisan agreement raising the budget caps, and hope that this puts the appropriations process for FY 2018 and FY 2019 back on track.
- We oppose the tremendous cuts in the research enterprise envisioned by the FY 2019 Administration budget request.



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