



Association of American Cancer Institutes Statement on the FY 2024 Federal Budget

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) applauds Congress for reaching agreement on a Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget deal, following the passage of several continuing resolutions. With just a little over six months left in the fiscal year, we urge Congress to avoid a similar delay in FY25. Our nation's cancer centers rely on steady and predictable funds from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Uncertainty due to continuing resolutions and delayed budgets stifles cancer research progress.

Unfortunately, the final fiscal package essentially amounts to a budget cut compared to FY23, when factoring in the expiration of the supplemental NIH and NCI funding from the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016. This is very concerning for cancer research, especially because currently, the NCI can only fund one out every six research grant applications, a rate that substantially lags other NIH institutes and centers. We hear frequently from cancer center leadership that the new generation of researchers is becoming discouraged, and such funding uncertainty poses a threat to their remaining in the field.

Significant progress against cancer has been made in the last decade, thanks in part to the work of Congress to fund life-saving research. However, while deaths from cancer are declining, new cases of cancer are on the rise. Now is not the time to cut funds for cancer research. AACI will continue to advocate for better outcomes in the coming fiscal years.