The Committee’s recommendation provides $9,500,000,000 for the National Science Foundation [NSF]. The recommendation is $39,011,000 below the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $1,854,680,000 below the budget request.

NSF was established as an independent agency by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Public Law 81–507) and is authorized to support research and education programs that promote the progress of science and engineering in the United States. The Foundation supports research and education in all major scientific and engineering disciplines through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and other forms of assistance in all parts of the United States. NSF also supports unique, large-scale domestic and international research facilities.

The Committee’s fiscal year 2024 recommendation supports Federal long-term basic and translational research that has the poten-
tial to transform our economy and way of life. Private industry, foundations, and non-profits bring additional expertise, resources, and capacity to NSF-funded research. This can further accelerate discovery and translation of research into products and services, enhance the preparation of the future workforce to benefit society, and grow the American economy. The Committee strongly encourages NSF to leverage the Nation’s research communities through partnerships and collaboration to make available infrastructure, expertise, and financial resources to the U.S. scientific and engineering research and education enterprise.

Technology, Innovation and Partnerships [TIP].—The Committee recognizes NSF’s critical role in driving U.S. scientific and technological innovation and supports the TIP Directorate authorized under the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (division B of Public Law 117–167). The directorate is a cross-cutting platform to advance science and engineering research leading to breakthrough technologies, to find solutions to national and societal challenges, to strengthen U.S. global competitiveness, and to provide training opportunities for the development of a diverse STEM workforce. As NSF works to incorporate the goals of TIP into its research portfolio, NSF is reminded that the success of TIP will be enhanced through investing in the necessary foundational basic research provided by scientific disciplines across the research spectrum.

Regional Innovation Engines [NSF Engines].—As part of the TIP Directorate, the Committee provides up to $200,000,000 for the Regional Innovation Engines, authorized under section 10388 of Public Law 117–167, to create regional-scale innovation ecosystems throughout the United States and help spur economic growth by bringing together the science and technology research enterprise and regional-level resources to promote long-term national competitiveness. The Committee directs NSF to award at least 20 percent of NSF Engines to institutions in EPSCoR States.

Scientific Facilities and Instrumentation.—A critical component of the Nation’s scientific enterprise is the infrastructure that supports researchers in discovery science. The Committee supports NSF’s role in building and operating groundbreaking research facilities, especially in areas that maintain or enhance U.S. leadership in key disciplines. Investments to advance the frontiers of research and education in science and engineering are critical to the Nation’s innovation enterprise. The Committee encourages NSF to fully fund its U.S. scientific research facilities and instruments to adequately support scientists and students engaged in sustained, cutting-edge research.

As major research facilities transition from construction, funded in the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account, to science operations and maintenance, funded in R&RA, it is necessary for NSF to accommodate this shift without impacting the existing scientific activities. The Committee notes that as a result of the National Science Board’s “Study of Operations and Maintenance Costs for NSF Facilities” the agency created the Facility Operation Transition pilot to enable this shift. The Committee expects that as major research facilities, such as the Vera C. Rubin Observatory, move from construction into science oper-
ations NSF will continue to use the Facility Operation Transition to allow the ongoing operations and maintenance costs to gradually be absorbed into the managing division or directorate. Further, as part of the fiscal year 2025 budget request, NSF shall provide a 5-year operations and maintenance budget outlook for facilities that have recently graduated from the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account.

The recommendation includes up to the requested level for the operations of the Center for High Energy X–Ray Science [CHEXS], the National Optical-Infrared Astronomy Research Laboratory, the National Radio Astronomy Observatories, and the National Solar Observatory [NSO].

**Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope [DKIST].**—The Committee provides no less than the requested level for DKIST operations. DKIST is the largest and most advanced solar telescope on the planet and is a valuable resource for research and educational programs in solar physics. The Committee recognizes the value of DKIST’s operations and does not support a reduction in its observing time. As such, NSF is expected to review the bottom-up operations and maintenance plan and cost estimate as presented in the pending operations proposal and include the appropriate amount for full-time DKIST operations in the fiscal year 2025 request.

**Astronomy.**—The Committee expects NSF to provide appropriate levels of support for operating its current facilities, developing instrumentation, and preparing for investments in future world-class scientific research facilities. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine [NAS] Decadal Survey on Astronomy and Astrophysics 2020 [Astro2020] outlines a comprehensive research strategy and vision to maintain U.S. science and technology leadership at the frontiers of astronomy and astrophysics for ground-based instruments and observatories. The Committee therefore provides not less than $30,000,000 for NSF to support the development of next generation astronomy facilities recommended in Astro2020. NSF is expected to include a robust user support system and data archive in the development of any Astro2020-recommended facility to ensure community access to world class telescopes. NSF is also expected to support a balanced portfolio of astronomy research grants by scientists and students engaged in ground-breaking research. Not later than 90 days after enactment of this act, NSF shall provide the Committee with a briefing regarding the Foundation’s progress for realizing Astro2020. Further, the Committee expects that NSF will request sufficient funding in the fiscal year 2025 budget request to continue to advance the projects recommended in the Astro2020 as quickly as practicable and without delay.

**Solar Astronomy.**—The Committee commends NSF’s ongoing efforts to partner with academic institutions and the NSO to operate the Richard B. Dunn Solar Telescope [DST]. The Committee directs NSF to continue working with the NSO and the academic community to ensure DST and its associated instrumentation remain available for continued research and educational programs.

**Green Bank Observatory [GBO].**—The Committee recognizes the significant investment NSF has made to develop the world-class scientific facility at the GBO and the benefit other agencies have
gained through their use of the GBO facility. The Committee has therefore encouraged the development and support of multi-agency management plans for GBO, and supports NSF’s efforts to complete these plans at GBO. In order to provide stability for the facility as these plans are finalized, the Committee recommends no less than the fiscal year 2023 enacted level to support operations and maintenance at GBO through multi-agency plans or through the Foundation.

Climate and Clean Energy.—The Committee supports the U.S. Global Change Research Program and Clean Energy Technology. As part of this effort, the Committee encourages NSF to support meritorious research into carbon dioxide removal technologies, such as direct air capture, including early-stage application of sorbents, solvents, membranes, and related components; terrestrial and biological carbon removal; carbon mineralization; and ocean-based carbon removal.

Arctic Research.—The Committee supports NSF’s intention to build upon the Navigating the New Arctic Big Idea and to expand its support of research and infrastructure in the North Atlantic sector of the Arctic, which is critical for understanding how Arctic warming will affect the environmental and socio-economic conditions of communities along the eastern coast of North America. This includes observations of emerging toxins and pathogens in the Arctic and supports the continued funding of long-term observations during this critical time of Arctic warming, including atmosphere and snow observations at Summit Station and projects observing permafrost thaw and microbiomes. In addition, to maximize investments, the Committee encourages NSF to develop new multinational partnerships to support research teams that address pan-Arctic and global concerns linked to Arctic change. Further, NSF should enhance support for Arctic-related student programs aimed at broadening participation, including graduate dissertation fellowships and the Research Experience for Undergraduate programs.

EPSCoR.—In recognition that the success of our Nation’s research enterprise relies on success in every State, the Committee reinforces the requirements codified under section 10325 of Public Law 117–167 that, to the maximum extent practicable, 16 percent of NSF research funding and 18 percent of scholarship funding go to EPSCoR States in fiscal year 2024. To help achieve these targets, the agreement provides no less than $275,000,000 for the EPSCoR program. Within the amount provided, no more than 5 percent shall be used for administration and other overhead costs. NSF is encouraged to support projects in EPSCoR States across all funding initiatives and centers, including Regional Innovation Engines, Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure awards, and Science and Technology Centers.

The Committee is pleased NSF has been responsive to the “Envisioning the Future of NSF EPSCoR” report and created new funding opportunities to support EPSCoR States. NSF shall keep the Committee apprised regarding how the Foundation plans to formally engage and gather feedback from the EPSCoR community in the future, as well as lessons learned from the first round of awardees.
Technical Assistance and Outreach to HBCUs and MSIs.—The Committee recognizes the important role that Historically Black Colleges and Universities [HBCUs] and Minority-Serving Institutions [MSIs] play in advancing scientific research and innovation. To ensure that these institutions have access to the resources and support needed to participate in federally-funded research, NSF is directed to conduct technical assistance and outreach to applicants from HBCUs and MSIs, including through the Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity [GRANTED] program, in fulfillment of section 10524 of Public Law 117–167. NSF shall provide the Committee with a report on agency efforts to increase outreach and support for HBCUs and MSIs not later than 120 days after enactment of this act.

Leverage the Power of Biology.—The Committee supports NSF’s funding for research in genomics and biodiversity, and directs NSF to continue to advance plant genomics research programs, to further its work in crop-based genomics research, and to maintain a focus on research related to crops of economic importance and other elements of the bioeconomy.

VORTEX–SE.—NSF has been working in conjunction with NOAA to build a full research campaign to study the unique characteristics of tornadoes in the southeastern United States. The Committee expects that future budget requests for VORTEX–SE will include adequate budgetary resources for associated research and instrumentation that will maximize the scientific return of this ongoing research. As part of VORTEX–SE, the Committee encourages NSF to look beyond its traditional research disciplines and programs and to utilize collaborative opportunities for co-funding grants that enhance understanding of the fundamental natural processes and hazards of tornadoes in the southeast and to improve models of these seasonal extreme events.

Quantum Science.—The Committee supports continued investment in quantum science as fundamental, transformative research that can position the United States as a leader in emerging fields of economic and scientific importance. The recommendation provides up to the budget request level for quantum information science research to support basic interdisciplinary quantum information science and engineering research and human resources development in all aspects of quantum information science and engineering. Within the amount provided, the Committee recommendation includes $185,000,000 for activities authorized under section 301 of the National Quantum Initiative Act (Public Law 115–368), and $50,000,000 for National Quantum Information Science Research Centers, as authorized in section 302 of that act.

The Committee also encourages NSF to partner with institutions of higher education, industry, and other Federal agencies in order to develop the next generation of quantum computing workforce. Such efforts could include quantum computing-related grants and interdisciplinary research initiatives related to workforce development activities.

Artificial Intelligence [AI].—The Committee believes it is important to maintain leadership in AI and commends NSF for its significant investments in this area. The Committee not less than the fiscal year 2023 enacted level for AI research. The Committee en-
courages NSF to continue its efforts in workforce development for AI and other emerging technologies, including education programs for non-computer science students, with focused outreach to community colleges, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Serving Institutions. In addition, the Committee encourages NSF to increase the pipeline of students graduating with AI and data literacy through partnerships and cooperative agreements.

*Transparency, Interpretability, and Explainability of AI.*—The Committee encourages NSF to fund meritorious research and develop technical methods and techniques to improve the transparency, interpretability, and explainability of AI to better understand why and how models arrive at their decisions, recommendations, and other outputs. NSF is encouraged to consider this as part of the pilot program for Research in Rapidly Evolving, High Priority Topics as authorized under section 5401 of the National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–283).

*Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure.*—The recommendation provides $50,000,000 for the Mid-scale Research Infrastructure program and encourages the Foundation to make no fewer than two mid-scale awards to EPSCoR States.

*HBCUs Excellence in Research.*—The Committee supports the HBCUs Excellence in Research program, and the recommendation includes $25,000,000 for the program. The program helps to address NSF’s previously troubling track record of only providing substantial research funding to a small number of HBCUs.

*Sustainable Chemistry Research.*—The Committee directs NSF to continue research and related activities associated with the Sustainable Chemistry Basic Research program authorized under section 509 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–358). NSF shall report to the Committee regarding agency activities for this program not later than 180 days after the enactment of this act. In addition, NSF is encouraged to coordinate with OSTP to implement the provisions in subtitle E of title II of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283).

*Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE).*—The Committee supports the SBE Directorate and recognizes the fundamental importance of the research it supports in advancing scientific understanding of public health, defense and security, education and learning, and the interface between humans and technology. The SBE Directorate funds more than half of our Nation’s university-based behavioral science research but remains the smallest of NSF directorates. The Committee believes that behavioral science provides evidence-based understanding of human behavior and recognizes the SBE Directorate’s unique role in funding this research and encourages NSF to continue its support of these programs.

*Research Security.*—The Committee notes the importance placed on research security in subtitle D of Public Law 117–167 and supports the continued implementation of the various provisions. The Committee further supports NSF’s initiative to create clear guidelines that inform researchers and universities on disclosure re-
quirements pertaining to research security. NSF is encouraged to continue to engage university and affinity groups to listen to any community concerns and share information about NSF’s policies and processes. NSF is further encouraged to explore ways to assist less-resourced institutions on disclosure requirements and international talent retention.

High-Performance Computing.—The Committee commends NSF on its continued commitment to high-performance computing and data analysis capabilities. NSF should remain committed to developing and supporting systems that facilitate major advances in computational capabilities, including artificial intelligence, storage, quantum computing, simulations, and data analyses that enable a broad range of scientific research to ensure continued U.S. world leadership and international scientific competitiveness, particularly given computational investments and technical achievements in high-performance computing by other nations. NSF is encouraged to support access to at-scale data resources for advancing science in these fields, and likewise encouraged to expand scientist access to these resources. The Committee looks forward to NSF’s implementation of section 10374 of Public Law 117–167 and the required report outlining NSF’s advanced computing needs. The Committee encourages NSF to fully support its programs focused on providing world-class research computing for the National open science community. NSF is encouraged to include plans to fully address these needs in the fiscal year 2025 budget request.

Combating Sexual Harassment in Science.—The Committee strongly supports NSF actions to combat sexual harassment in science, including the implementation of the Combating Sexual Harassment in Science subtitle of Public Law 117–167. The Committee encourages NSF to work in partnership with stakeholders from across the ecosystem with experience in field safety and the prevention of sexual harassment in science as they support this important work.

Further, not later than 180 days of enactment of this act, NSF, in collaboration with the National Science Board and the Department of Justice, shall provide the Committee with a plan to address the findings of the U.S. Antarctic Program’s Sexual Assault and Harassment Needs Assessment. The plan should include estimated costs to implement changes and should also address any needed changes at NSF-supported field stations and research vessels.

Arecibo Observatory [AO].—The Committee recognizes the scientific and educational contributions made by AO and the significant loss to U.S. scientific research and capabilities resulting from the collapse of the iconic 305-meter radio telescope platform. The Committee understands that NSF will continue to support STEM education investments at the site. NSF is also encouraged to utilize the remaining scientific instrumentation going forward. NSF shall keep the Committee apprised of the status of these plans and ongoing operations at Arecibo.

Intense, Ultrafast Lasers.—The Committee encourages NSF to continue planning and making the early stage investments needed to advance ultrafast and high power laser technologies to maintain U.S. leadership and implement the recommendations from the
Brightest Light Initiative Workshop Report and associated NAS study. In particular, the Committee urges NSF to develop a plan to fulfill the recommendations of the Workshop Report, including a dedicated budget for the next generation of cutting-edge facilities needed to advance ultrafast and high-power laser technologies.

Critical Minerals Mining Research and Development.—The Committee encourages NSF to consider supporting critical minerals mining research and development activities as authorized under section 10359 of Public Law 117–167. In particular, NSF is encouraged to support, on a competitive basis, institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations to provide training and research opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students to prepare the next generation of mining engineers and researchers.

Entrepreneurial Fellowships.—The Committee supports NSF’s proposed expansion of the Entrepreneurial Fellowships program within the TIP Directorate, as authorized under section 10392 of Public Law 117–167. These immersive fellowships provide scientists with training, lab space, industry connections, and other resources to translate emerging technologies from lab to market in areas key to global competitiveness.

International Ocean Discovery Program [IODP].—The Committee is surprised by NSF’s proposal to cease operations of the JOIDES Resolution [JR] after fiscal year 2024. The Committee fully funds JR research drilling operations, to include support for no less than four such missions in fiscal year 2024. NSF shall provide the Committee a comprehensive plan not later than 180 days after enactment of this act that provides, at a minimum, timelines, milestones, and funding requirements for the future of U.S. scientific ocean drilling. The report may include options for acquiring a replacement research drilling platform, as appropriate. This report shall be developed collaboratively with the academic community to ensure that the scientific community may continue to advance scientific understanding of the Earth’s history and dynamics.

Key Technology Focus Areas Study.—The Committee encourages NSF to collaborate with the NAS to initiate the report authorized under section 10387(h) Public Law 117–167 and requests that NSF provide an estimate of the resources necessary to carry out and complete the report.

Uncrewed Aircraft System Technologies.—The Committee encourages NSF to consider supporting meritorious uncrewed aircraft system technologies research activities as authorized under section 10352 of Public Law 117–167, including a prize competition and support for undergraduate and graduate curriculum development.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriations, 2023</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget estimate, 2024</td>
<td>304,670,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee recommendation</td>
<td>187,230,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Committee’s recommendation provides $187,230,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction [MREFC]. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $117,440,000 below the budget request. The MREFC appropriation supports the acquisition, procurement, construction, and commissioning of unique national research
platforms and facilities as well as major research equipment. Projects supported by this appropriation push the boundaries of technology and offer expanded opportunities for the science and engineering community. Preliminary design and development activities, ongoing operations, and maintenance costs of the facilities are provided through the R&RA appropriation account.

The Committee appreciates that Congress has historically fully funded the MREFC request. However, the Committee understands that significant amounts of prior year funding still remain for the Antarctic Infrastructure Recapitalization. The Committee’s recommendation supports the continued construction of the Vera C. Rubin Observatory, the Antarctic Infrastructure Recapitalization, and the High Luminosity-Large Hadron Collider Upgrade. The Committee encourages NSF and the National Science Board to continue planning and budgeting for the next generation of major facilities needed to ensure the United States maintains its scientific leadership, and to resubmit the proposal for the Leadership-Class Computing Facility as part of the fiscal year 2025 budget request.

The recommendation provides $95,000,000 for Mid-scale Research Infrastructure, which fully funds existing projects in fiscal year 2024. The Committee continues to support investments in Mid-scale Research Infrastructure, including the procurement of larger mid-scale instrumentation under the MREFC account. Using MREFC for larger mid-scale projects will allow these projects to benefit from the oversight that all MREFC projects undergo. NSF is encouraged to award at least one mid-scale project led by an institution in an EPSCoR State.

The Committee encourages GAO to continue its annual review of programs funded within MREFC so that GAO can report to Congress shortly after each annual budget submission of the President and semiannually thereafter on the status of large-scale NSF projects and activities based on its review of this information.

STEM EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriations, 2023</th>
<th>$1,246,000,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget estimate, 2024</td>
<td>1,496,180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee recommendation</td>
<td>1,228,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Of the amount provided for STEM Education in fiscal year 2023, $92,000,000 is included under title II of division N of Public Law 117–328.

The Committee’s recommendation provides $1,228,000,000 for STEM Education. The recommendation is $18,000,000 below the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $268,180,000 below the budget request.

The STEM Education appropriation supports a comprehensive set of programs across all levels of education in STEM including activities that unite school districts with institutions of higher learning to improve pre-college education. Other pre-college activities include the development of the next generation of STEM education leaders, instructional materials, and the STEM instructional workforce. Undergraduate activities support curriculum, laboratory, and instructional improvement; expand the STEM talent pool; attract STEM participants to teaching; augment advanced technological education at 2-year colleges; and develop dissemination tools. Graduate support is directed to research and teaching fellowships, in-
ternships, and instructional workforce improvement by linking precollege education systems with higher education. Programs also seek to broaden the participation of groups underrepresented in the STEM enterprise and promote informal science education.

Advanced Technological Education.—The Committee provides $76,000,000 for Advanced Technological Education.

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP).—The GRFP has a long history of supporting outstanding graduate students studying sciences, engineering, and mathematics fields, including behavioral science, and selects recipients who go on to achieve high levels of success in their future academic and professional careers. The Committee provides up to $325,000,000 for GRFP. The Committee supports increasing the fellowship stipend and encourages NSF to consider such a proposal as part of the fiscal year 2025 budget request.

Robert Noyce Scholarship Program.—The Committee provides $68,000,000 for the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program.

Informal Science Education.—The Committee maintains its strong support for NSF’s informal science education program and provides no less than $70,000,000 for Advancing Informal STEM Learning. The Committee encourages NSF to coordinate and provide necessary support for investments in both in- and out-of-school time STEM education programs across Federal agencies, including support for extracurricular STEM programs. The Directorate for STEM Education is further encouraged to continue its NSF-wide efforts to support informal STEM education programs, including leveraging the research directorates to support activities that match their respective content areas.

Hands-on and Experiential Learning Opportunities.—Developing a robust, talented, and diverse homegrown workforce, particularly in the fields of STEM, is critical to the success of the U.S. innovation economy. The Committee directs NSF to provide grants to support the development of hands-on learning opportunities in STEM education as authorized under section 10311 of Public Law 117–167, including via afterschool activities and innovative learning opportunities such as robotics competitions.

Broadening Participation.—The Committee recognizes that the future of U.S. economic competitiveness and our Nation’s ability to address national, economic, and health security threats depends on sustaining a robust STEM workforce. As the demographics of our Nation evolve, ensuring individuals from underrepresented communities across the country can enter and sustain a career as part of the STEM workforce is essential to securing the workforce going forward. The Committee is deeply concerned that entrenched financial barriers are increasingly deterring students, particularly those from underrepresented communities, from pursuing STEM careers. The Committee encourages NSF to evaluate the adequacy of compensation for trainees and early career researchers supported through fellowships, training grants, and research awards. NSF is also encouraged to continue supporting the recruitment, retention, and advancement of underrepresented faculty at U.S. institutions of higher education through relevant existing programs. The Committee supports the requested increases related to Broadening Participation in STEM programs. The Committee pro-
vides $19,000,000 for the ADVANCE program, $43,000,000 for the HBCUs Undergraduate Program, $9,500,000 for the Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate, $55,500,000 for the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation, $20,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program, and $27,000,000 for Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology. In addition, $53,500,000 is provided for the Hispanic Serving Institutions program to build capacity at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF funding.

**Eddie Bernice Johnson Inclusion Across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (INCLUDES) Initiative.**—The Committee supports broadening participation in science and engineering by developing networks and partnerships that involve organizations and consortia from different sectors committed to the common agenda of STEM inclusion as authorized under section 10323 of Public Law 117–167. The Committee provides $24,000,000 for INCLUDES and encourages NSF to ensure the agency partners with communities with significant populations of underrepresented groups in the STEM workforce.

**Transformative Education Research and Translation.**—The Committee encourages NSF to establish a program for Centers for Transformative Education Research and Translation as authorized under section 10395 of Public Law 117–167. These centers could instrument large-scale digital learning platforms, enable multi-stakeholder partnerships of institutions of higher education and State and local education agencies to support collaborative research and translation in K–12 STEM education innovation, and accelerate STEM learning outcomes of students from underserved regions and students of color. The Committee encourages NSF to collaborate with the Department of Education and consider how these centers could help address the learning recovery associated with the pandemic and foster the benefits of technology.

**National STEM Teacher Corps.**—In order to prepare the future STEM workforce and to create a scientifically literate public, the Committee appreciates the importance of supporting and recognizing outstanding STEM teachers in our Nation’s classrooms, rewarding them for their accomplishments, and creating rewarding career paths to which all STEM teachers can aspire. Therefore, the Committee provides $40,000,000 for a National STEM Teacher Corps pilot program authorized under section 10311 of Public Law 117–167.

**CyberCorps: Scholarships for Service.**—The Committee provides no less than $69,000,000 for the CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service program. NSF is encouraged to increase the number of scholarships awarded at participating institutions and to increase the number of institutions that receive grants to participate in the program.

**CREATING HELPFUL INCENTIVES TO PRODUCE SEMICONDUCTORS (CHIPS) FOR AMERICA WORKFORCE AND EDUCATION FUND**

Division A of Public Law 117–167 established the CHIPS for America Workforce and Education Fund. The Committee allocates the funds according to the amounts listed in the following table.
Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Workforce and Education Fund 25,000

Research & Related Activities ................................................................. 12,500

STEM Education Activities ................................................................. 12,500

Total ........................................................................................................ 25,000

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

Appropriations, 2023 ............................................................................. $448,000,000
Budget estimate, 2024 ........................................................................... 503,870,000
Committee recommendation ................................................................. 448,000,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides $448,000,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $55,870,000 below the budget request.

The appropriation provides salaries and expenses, including staff salaries, benefits, travel, training, rent, advisory and assistance services, communications and utilities expenses, supplies, equipment, and other operating expenses necessary for management of NSF’s research and education activities.

The Committee continues to believe that NSF should include criteria that evaluate how a grant proposal will advance our Nation’s national security and economic interests, as well as promote the progress of science and innovation in the United States.

The Committee reiterates its long-standing requirement that NSF submit reprogrammings when initiating new programs or activities of more than $500,000 or when reorganizing components. The Committee expects to be notified of reprogramming actions, which involve less than the above-mentioned amount if such actions would have the effect of changing the agency’s funding requirements in future years, or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committee’s explanatory statement are affected.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

Appropriations, 2023 ............................................................................. $5,090,000
Budget estimate, 2024 ........................................................................... 5,250,000
Committee recommendation ................................................................. 5,090,000

The Committee’s recommendation provides $5,090,000 for the Office of the National Science Board. The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $160,000 below the budget request.

The National Science Board is the governing body of NSF and is charged with serving as an independent adviser to the President and Congress on policy matters related to science and engineering research and education.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2023 ............................................................................. $23,393,000
Budget estimate, 2024 ........................................................................... 26,810,000
Committee recommendation ................................................................. 23,393,000
The Committee’s recommendation provides $23,393,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG). The recommendation is equal to the fiscal year 2023 enacted level and $3,417,000 below the budget request.

The OIG appropriation provides audit and investigation functions to identify and correct deficiencies that could lead to instances of fraud, waste, or mismanagement.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes two administrative provisions. One allows limited transfers of funds among accounts. The other requires notification for disposal of certain assets.
## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024—Continued

*In thousands of dollars*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<th>Budget estimate</th>
<th>Committee recommendation</th>
<th>Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)</th>
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