AAPT supports efforts to create effective and inclusive STEM classrooms: *Essential for the US STEM Workforce*

**Action:** Fund the National Science Foundation (NSF) at $9 billion for FY 2020. A proportional increase, compared to FY 2019 funding, should go toward the Education and Human Resources (EHR) Directorate, which supports fellowship programs and research on STEM education pedagogy.

The American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) values efforts to create effective, inclusive STEM classrooms and encourages additional funding to the NSF’s Education and Human Resources Division (EHR) which funds essential programs to support high quality teaching and learning. These efforts directly and indirectly support the development of a diverse and effective STEM workforce.

While NSF’s budget has increased since 2000, EHR has seen little change in its budget.

NSF’s Research and Related Activities (R&RA) budget has increased by 12.4% since 2008, while EHR has only increased by 1.4%.

AAPT supports Congress’s stance in rejecting proposed cuts to STEM education programs for fiscal year 2019.

Source: NSF budget requests. © 2019 AAAS

While AAPT supports efforts by Congress to increase funding for EHR’s Broadening Participation Programs, increasing the EHR budget by 3%, rather than 1%, will allow additional increases to these programs and support increases to EHR’s Career and Technical Education Programs and Fellowship and Scholarship Programs, beyond 2018 levels.

Resources and references:

AAPT (aapt.org) is a professional membership association of scientists dedicated to enhancing the understanding and appreciation of physics through teaching. AAPT members include K-12 and Higher Education educators around the world.