



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
IMMUNOLOGISTS

**Statement of AAI Committee on Public Affairs Chair Ross M. Kedl, Ph.D.,
on President Trump's FY 2021 Budget Request for the National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

February 10, 2020

AAI is deeply disappointed that President Trump has once again proposed to cut the NIH budget, this time by \$3 billion, for fiscal year (FY) 2021. Such a cut would impede important immunological research, hamper efforts to invest in the next generation of biomedical researchers, and continue to damage America's global scientific competitiveness. Nearly \$2 billion of the proposed cut would come from the Research Project Grants (RPGs) portfolio, resulting in an estimated 1,874 fewer competing RPGs being funded in FY 2021.

Fortunately, Congress has invested robustly in NIH for each of the last five years, boosting efforts to develop a universal influenza vaccine, combat Alzheimer's disease, and fight cancer and other diseases by utilizing immunotherapies. AAI looks forward to working with Congress to ensure that NIH once again experiences meaningful budget growth. We urge Congress to provide NIH with an FY 2021 budget of \$44.7 billion to advance research leading to treatments and cures that the American people need and deserve.