

Suggested Asks

1. Budget

Ask: Please keep science funding robust by making sure non-defense programs, like science, get as much funding as defense programs.

Why: President's Trump budget request calls for defense spending to increase by \$54 billion, and to pay for that by taking the money from non-defense discretionary spending.

Non-defense discretionary spending includes funding for science agencies. Funding for defense should not come at the expense of vital science that grows our economy, protects our nation, and ensures our public well-being.

2. Appropriations

Ask: Support strong, robust, and predictable investment in America's scientific enterprise, which remains one of the surest ways to encourage economic growth, increase the safety of our nation and its citizens, and advance our understanding of the world around us.

For fiscal year 2018 (FY18), we request that you support the following appropriated amounts:

- **\$8 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF), including robust support for NSF's Office of Polar Programs and Geosciences Directorate.**
- **\$20.5 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), including robust funding for NASA's Science Mission Directorate and Office of Education.**
- **\$6.1 billion for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).**
- **\$1.2 billion for the United States Geological Survey (USGS).**
- **\$5.56 billion for the Department of Energy's (DOE)'s Office of Science and \$325 million for DOE's Advanced Research Project Agency -Energy (ARPA-E) program.**

Why: Fiscal year (FY) 2010 marked a high point for federal investments in science. While FY2016 provided more money than previous years, we still have not reached pre-recession funding levels for science.

The logo for AGU District Days features the AGU logo (a stylized blue swirl) followed by the text "AGU" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "District Days" are written in a larger, blue, sans-serif font. The background of the logo area is a faded image of the United States Capitol building.

AGU District Days

3. Harmful Riders

Ask: We ask that you oppose any appropriations bill amendments that are damaging to important Earth and space science research.

Why: Very often, members of Congress will use must-pass spending bills to include policies that would not otherwise be passed on their own. These policies “ride” along with the spending bills and are known as “riders.”