The ACADEMY for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research

Advancing Innovation in Imaging Science

November 21, 2025

Academy Policy & Legislative Update

Dear Academy Friends,

As we enter Thanksgiving week, I'd like to express my sincere appreciation for your continued support of the Academy and to extend a warm welcome to our newest members—the University of Missouri and the Association for Academic Pathology. Your engagement and commitment to advocacy make our work possible, and I'm truly grateful.

Read the Academy's Fall 2025 Newsletter! Click here to view.

Now it's time for some good old-fashioned DC turkey talk.

Academy Members are invited to join the "Joint Associations Group (JAG) Presentation on the FAIR Model" on Thursday, December 11th at 2 pm ET

The Academy invites all members to join host Dr. Kelvin Droegemeier and his team of subject-matter experts for a discussion of the Financial Accountability in Research (FAIR) model for negotiating indirect costs. This session offers an opportunity to engage directly with Dr. Droegemeier as he outlines the FAIR model and its potential advantages, including reduced administrative burden and increased clarity for both institutions and federal sponsors. Registrants will be sent relevant materials in advance of this call.

Click here for more information and a registration link.

Appropriations Update

- No budget for NIH. The CR until Jan. 30th is in effect.
- House Appropriations Chairman Tom Cole upped the pressure on lawmakers to complete long-delayed spending bills (*9 out of 12 have not yet passed, and yes, that includes the one that funds NIH*), saying a full-year continuing resolution should cover any bills not finished by the new Jan. 30 deadline
- The Senate is working toward moving a massive package of its own spending bills forward, including the two largest, the Defense and Labor-HHS-Education measures. Other bills under consideration for attachment are the Commerce-Justice-Science, Interior-Environment, and Transportation-HUD bills.

- Cole and his Senate counterpart, Appropriations Chair Susan Collins, met to discuss how best to get the remaining nine appropriations bills passed. They weighed whether to try to tackle a large omnibus bill or move smaller, mini-bus bills.
- Cole floated with Collins the idea of pushing through an easier package in December and leaving the Defense and Labor-HHS-Education bills (*funds NIH*) for January.
- However, with the House and Senate back in their districts for the Thanksgiving recess, no action on any appropriations bill is expected before December.
- Complicating the process, the Trump administration unilaterally moved to dismantle the Department of Education by shifting some major functions to other federal agencies, including the Department of Labor and HHS (*funds NIH*). *NOTE dismantling of a federal agency must be done through an act of Congress. Expect this move to be challenged in Congress and the Courts.

Guidance on Extramural Research
This week, the NIH issued guidance to the extramural community on the status of operations since the funding lapse.

Here are some highlights:

- They are working to reestablish dates for grant and contract submissions.
- Working to reschedule training and other activities that were scheduled to occur during and immediately following the period of the shutdown.
- All study sections and peer review meetings will be rescheduled, and grant application submission deadlines will be rescheduled.

Items not included but noted from reports:

- Study section reviewers were told to triage 70% of the applications, not 50%. This is to get through all the grants in one day.
- Clinical trials paused during the shutdown must recruit new patients.
- Labs that rely on animal subjects must acquire replacements, and researchers might not complete experiments in time for scheduled conference presentations.

Rumors are reporting:

- It is expected that a huge shift will occur towards lower transparency in the form of no public paylines (any IC).
- NIH is expected to release a memo on public paylines (TBD).

Notice of Early Expiration on NIH Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

- This week, the NIH issued a notice on the expiration of the NIH SBIR and STTR funding opportunities.

- This is due to the expiration of legislative authority for the SBIR and STTR programs on October 1, 2025.
- Active NIH SBIR and STTR may continue, but no noncompeting continuation awards will be issued until the programs are reauthorized.
- To view the SBIR resource guide, click here.

Congressional Action on SBIR-STTR Reauthorization:

- The House passed a clean 1-year reauthorization of the programs.
- The reauthorization bill is stalled in the Senate. The INNOVATE Act, introduced by Senate Small Business Committee Chair Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), proposes a sweeping overhaul of the programs, raising set-aside percentages, shifting SBIR/STTR structures, and altering eligibility rules for small-business participants.

Federal Notices

"Notice of Change in Application Due Date for NIH Extramural Loan Repayment Program"

MEDIA

"MAHA meets again in Washington"
"NIH funding cuts have affected over 74,000 people enrolled in experiments, a new report says"
"Is NIH cutting corners as it rushes to fill leadership positions?"
"Halted NIH Clinical Trials List Reveals Slashes Treatments for Cancer, COVID and Minority Health"

Position Openings at NIH

NIH is soliciting applications for several institute and center director positions. Last week, more listings were posted with a deadline of **Wednesday, November 26**. Please share these openings with your networks so we can ensure that many qualified candidates apply. Please reach out to me confidentially with any questions you may have. Click here for the listings.

Coffee Chat with Lynn Marquis and Vivek Yedavalli, MD, MS

The Academy hosted a virtual session for early-career investigators this week to answer questions about the current state of policy that may impact their research. This session was led by Lynn Marquis, Senior Director of Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives, and Vivek Yedavalli, MD, MS, Associate Professor of Neuroradiology, Neurology, and Neurosurgery; Director, Stroke, Neurovascular, and Perfusion Imaging, Johns Hopkins University / Johns Hopkins Hospital, CECI2 Co-Chair. Please be alert for additional opportunities to connect and stay informed.

Videocast Available for NIH's First Biosafety Modernization Initiative Listening Session

NIH held its first listening session in support of its new Biosafety Modernization Initiative on September 30, 2025. This was the first in a planned series focused on helping NIH modernize and strengthen biosafety oversight.

The NIH Videocast for that event is now available and can be accessed here. Additionally, stakeholders can embed an NIH Biosafety Widget on their own websites to further encourage comments. More information here.

Stay tuned for details about next engagements by subscribing to our listserv or checking this link. Questions may be sent to: sciencepolicy@od.nih.gov

Academy Membership Programming Survey
We've put together a survey to gauge the interests of our membership so that we can provide programming opportunities that you want to participate in. Please complete this survey and leave all feedback you may have. Thank you!

Together, we can amplify our voices to ensure continued investment in imaging science.
Advocacy is important. The Academy has compiled a document that includes best practices for advocacy, scheduling meetings, and preparing for conversations with your member. For a sample document to send to your elected official, click here. Do not hesitate to reach out with questions or requests for help - that is what we are here for!

Academy "Funding, Facts, and Follow Up" Emails. Weekly updates and funding opportunities: Click here to access an archive of the weekly emails we send out, including our the most recent.

The Academy will not be issuing this update next week. Enjoy your Thanksgiving and I hope to see many of you at RSNA!

Thank you for following these Academy updates! If your department, society, or company isn't yet a supporting Member, now is a great time to join. Your support powers our advocacy efforts and helps advance the interests of our entire community. Discover The Value of the Academy in this short clip and explore our membership [here]. For personalized guidance or questions, connect with Josie Wilkinson Miller at jwilkinson@acadrad.org —we'd love to hear from you!