Request to Congress: The University of Oregon urges Congress to approve funding increases that at least cover inflation in research costs for scientific research at the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, NASA, USDA’s Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, and the Department of Defense.

Summary: A new kind of deficit—an innovation deficit—is jeopardizing our nation’s role as the world’s innovation leader and thereby undermining US economic strength.

This deficit can be closed with a strong recommitment to investing in research and higher education. Specifically, we ask Congress to strengthen federal research agencies, particularly the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Energy (Office of Science), and the Institute of Education Sciences.

In return, Oregon’s research universities will further innovation, discovery, and job creation borne out of federal research activity. Oregon State University, the University of Oregon, Portland State University, and Oregon Health & Science University together suffered a $68 million reduction in federal research grants in 2013 as a result of sequestration. That is money that could have led to life-changing discoveries, innovation, and much-needed economic activity in Oregon.

The University of Oregon is among the top universities in the nation for translating discoveries into practical applications per research dollar invested. 22 UO-affiliated startup companies created 275 jobs, which added $27.3 million to the state’s economy in 2013.
Discovery, Innovation, Job Creation

External Funds Awarded to the UO in 2012–13*

- **Federal** $85,673,458 (87.8%)
- **Industry** $1,803,868 (1.8%)
- **Foundations and associations** $3,726,513 (3.8%)
- **Other** $5,332,061 (5.5%)
- **States** $1,086,752 (1.1%)

**Total** $97,622,652

*Includes all external awards for research, instructional, and outreach activities

Sources of Federal Funding by Agency in 2012–13

- **Department of Health and Human Services** $32,908,846 (38.4%)
- **Department of Education** $25,388,464 (29.6%)
- **National Science Foundation** $15,659,811 (18.3%)
- **Department of Energy** $4,537,322 (5.3%)
- **Other federal agencies** $1,799,483 (2.0%)
- **Department of State** $1,538,906 (1.8%)
- **Department of Defense** $1,456,569 (1.7%)
- **Department of Agriculture** $681,301 (1.0%)
- **Department of the Interior** $710,559 (0.8%)
- **Department of Transportation** $534,785 (0.7%)
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** $325,624 (0.4%)
- **National Endowment for the Humanities** $131,788 (0.1%)

**Total** $85,673,458

Source: UO Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation