

**Clinton Administration Requests \$78.2 Billion for R&D for FY 1999**

President Clinton has announced his FY 1999 budget proposal on February 2, 1998, in which he proposed a balanced budget while increasing funding for scientific research and development (R&D). Clinton requested \$78.2 billion for R&D, \$2.0 billion or 2.6% more than the current fiscal year (FY 1998). This requests consists of \$40.3 billion for defense R&D—a decrease of \$106 million or 0.3% from the previous year—and \$37.8 billion for non-defense R&D—an increase of \$2.1 billion or 5.8% from the previous year. The Administration has included three new “funds” in the budget, one of which is the “Research Fund for America”—a set of domestic discretionary programs which includes most of nondefense R&D.

By agency (see Table), the proposal calls for \$9.5 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), down 2.6% from FY 1998. This includes \$2.1 billion for basic research, which is up 2.4% from FY 1998, and \$810 million for federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities, which is down 2.4% from FY 1998. The proposal requests \$2.8 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF), up 11.0% from FY 1998, and \$631 million for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), down 0.9% from FY 1998. Of these items, \$2.5 billion is to go to basic research in NSF, which is a 12.3% increase from FY 1998; \$57 million is to go to basic research in EPA; and \$2.2 billion of the NSF program is to go toward federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities, up 12.0% from FY 1998, while \$192 million of the EPA program is to go toward federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities, down 0.5% from FY 1998.

The proposal requests \$7.2 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) R&D, which is an increase of 10.8% from FY 1998. Of this amount, \$2.3 billion is to go

toward basic research, which is up 6.6% from FY 1998, and \$617 million is to go toward federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities, which is an increase of 3.2% from FY 1998. For the Department of Commerce, \$1.1 billion has been requested, which shows an increase of 0.1% from FY 1998. Of that amount, \$37 million is to go toward basic research, which is an increase of 8.8% from FY 1998, and \$82 million is to go toward federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities, which shows a decrease of 4.7% from FY 1998. The FY 1999 proposal requests \$1.1 billion for basic research for the Department of Defense (up 6.6% from FY 1998), including \$1.2 billion to go toward federal support for conduct of R&D at colleges and universities (down 6.6% from FY 1998).

Of the \$78.2 billion total for R&D, \$40.3 billion has been requested for defense R&D (down 0.3% from FY 1998), \$37.8 billion for nondefense R&D (up 5.8%), \$16.9 billion for basic research (up 7.6%), \$16.4 billion for applied research (up 5.5%), and \$2.6 billion for R&D facilities and equipment (up 9.7%).

**AAAS Provides FY 1998 Appropriations Information**

According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Congress had passed the following materials-related appropriations for FY 1998 research and development (R&D) budget. The Department of Commerce’s R&D programs totaled \$1.1 billion in FY 1998, 14.8% above the FY 1997 level. The National Institute of Standards and Technology’s (NIST) R&D totaled \$504 million in FY 1998, an increase of 22.5% over FY 1997. The Advanced Technology Program (ATP) grants received \$182 million for R&D, a cut of 10.3% from FY 1997.

The Department of Defense (DOD) received \$38.1 billion for R&D, up 2.8% from FY 1997. According to AAAS, this

**Table. R&D in the FY 1999 Budget\***  
(budget authority in millions of dollars)

	FY 1998 Estimate	FY 1999 Budget	%Change 1998-99
NASA	9,752	9,501	-2.6%
NSF	2,607	2,893	11.0%
EPA	637	631	-0.9%
Defense	40,442	40,336	-0.3%
Nondefense	35,756	37,823	5.8%
Basic Research	15,773	16,966	7.6%
Applied Research	15,553	16,401	5.5%
R&D Facilities and Equipment	2,398	2,631	9.7%

\*Taken from Preliminary Table 1: R&D in the FY 1999 Budget by Agency created by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), dated February 4, 1998.

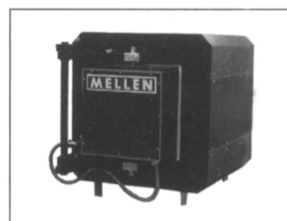
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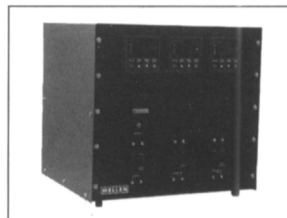
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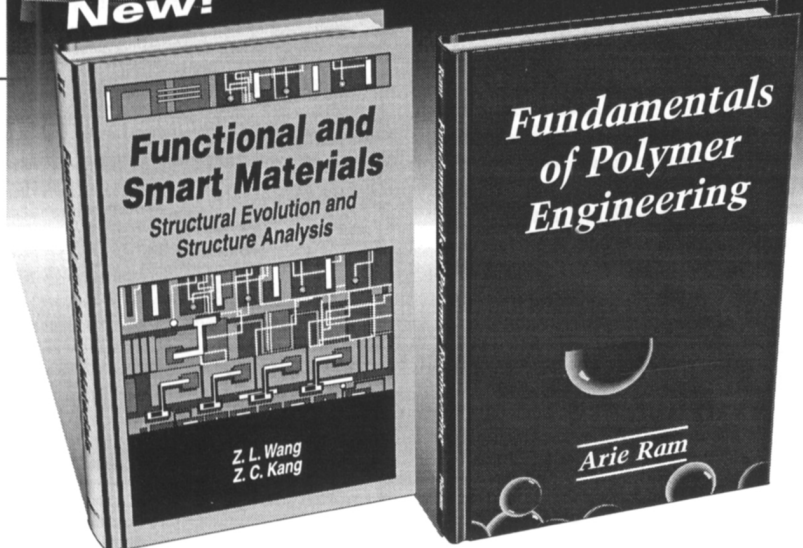
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amount was above the President's budget request, marking the second consecutive year that the increase in DOD's R&D funds outpaces the current inflation rate of 2.5%. DOD's basic research funding of \$1.1 billion is down by 1.2% from FY 1997, while the applied research funding of \$3.1 billion is a 7.0% increase in FY 1998. The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) FY 1998 budget was set at \$3.3 billion, the same as for FY 1997. The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) FY 1998 budget was set at \$2.1 billion, approximately the same as for FY 1997.

The Department of Energy (DOE's) R&D budget for FY 1998 was set at \$6.3 billion, up 3.1% from the previous year. DOE's defense-related R&D was \$3.0 billion, a 6.4 % increase from FY 1997. The Stockpile Stewardship program, which is at the core of DOE's effort to use science instead of underground testing to maintain the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, had received \$1.9 billion for FY 1998, a jump of 12.7% from the previous year. Energy Supply R&D funding had increased by 3.3% to \$1.8 billion in FY 1998. Solar and Renewable Energy R&D was up 15.6% to \$276 million and Basic Energy Sciences had received a 4.4% increase to \$668 million in FY 1998.

In FY 1998, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) R&D received \$9.8 billion, an increase of 5.3% over FY 1997. Life and Microgravity Sciences funding fell 10.1% to \$219 million in FY 1998. Within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) the National Human Genome Research Institute, the lead federal agency in the Human Genome Project, received \$218 million, a 15.2% jump from FY 1997. The National Science Foundation's (NSF) FY 1998 R&D budget totaled \$2.6 billion, a 6.1% increase from FY 1997. (See MRS Bulletin April 1997 issue, page 6, for the FY 1998 R&D budget proposal.) □

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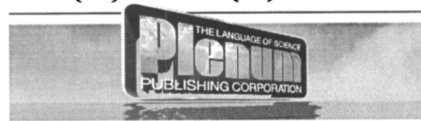
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