

National Institutes of Health

Fogarty International Center

Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

Program	Appropriations Bill	Agency	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 President's Budget	FY24 Recommendation
NIH Total	Labor-HHS	NIH	\$47.4 billion	\$148.3 billion	\$50.9 billion
Fogarty International Center	Labor-HHS	NIH	\$95.0 million	\$95.0 million	\$104.7 million
ARPA -H	Labor-HHS	NIH	\$1.5 billion	\$2.5 billion	\$1.0 billion

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the primary federal agency responsible for supporting public health research and training programs. Through a variety of initiatives, the NIH works to ensure that public health schools and programs have access to the resources they need to conduct meaningful research and train the next generation of public health professionals. The NIH awards research grants to universities and other institutions to advance public health research and training. NIH works to foster collaboration among public health schools and programs, and to ensure the availability of high-quality public health research and training programs.

ASPPH's vision of public health includes "an equitable health system in which all individuals have access to quality health care and preventive services, and can make healthy choices." To achieve this vision, ASPPH emphasizes the need for NIH funding to support research and programs that can address the significant health disparities that exist in communities across the U.S. Specifically, the ASPPH Strategic Plan calls for increased NIH funding for research and programs that focus on health disparities among vulnerable populations, such as rural and low-income communities, and those from racial and ethnic minority groups. These investments can help reduce health disparities, improve health outcomes, and ultimately, improve the health of all Americans.

The Fogarty International Center (FIC) plays an important role in accelerating science, partnerships, and technical assistance to advance new technologies for some of the world's most pressing health challenges. With less than one-quarter of one percent of the total NIH budget, the FIC delivers significant scientific returns for global and American health, forging international partnerships to facilitate truly global research. FIC has forged decades-long international partnerships and trained thousands of scientists around the world. Many FIC-trained scientists now hold high-ranking academic and government positions and have made critical contributions to long-standing global public health challenges, such as HIV/AIDS, and recent threats, like <u>discovering the COVID-19</u> <u>omicron subvariant</u> and <u>researching the global toll of antimicrobial resistance</u>, as well as non-communicable diseases.

FIC's investments in scientific capacity globally improve public health in the U.S. by improving our ability to detect emerging and novel disease threats sooner. It also creates a platform for partnerships between scientists in the U.S. and around the world. When FIC investments lead to new tools or

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interventions designed for low-resource settings, these innovations can also be deployed in the U.S., where they can drive down costs and improve access to health care in rural settings—an exchange known as reciprocal innovation.

Report Language Requested:

Fogarty International Center (FIC).—The Committee recognizes the need to continue increasing resources for FIC for its work in strengthening health research systems, training infectious disease researchers, and improving pandemic preparedness in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). These programs improve national and global health security and produce health interventions that can improve public health and reduce costs in low-resource settings everywhere, including in the U.S. Programs within the Center also support training for researchers in the development and use of powerful tools such as data science, mobile health, and bioinformatics, which are applied to anticipating and controlling a wide range of global health threats that could impact the U.S. The Committee encourages FIC to continue to expand training and research partnerships with schools and programs of public health and related academic institutions in support of this core mission. The Committee supports expanding FIC's role in pandemic preparedness and research capacity building, by strengthening international coordination, increasing capacity for computational modeling and outbreak analytics, and supporting research to reduce health disparities and improve implementation of health interventions in low-resource settings.

Advanced Research Projects Agency – Health (ARPA-H) was created to accelerate research for treatments, cures, and prevention of serious and life-threatening diseases. ARPA-H is designed to support high-risk, high-reward research and development projects with the potential to transform the healthcare field and improve public health outcomes. ARPA-H provides funding to support research and development activities, such as clinical trials, data collection and analysis, and technology development. The program also awards grants to universities, research centers, and other organizations to develop new products, treatments, and technologies that can be used to improve public health.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to invest in public health research and development to ensure that the U.S. is prepared for future emergencies. ARPA-H offers an opportunity to address the gaps in our current public health system. Through partnerships between public health academia, government, and industry, ARPA-H investments could develop innovative solutions to improve health at the community and individual levels. These solutions include data systems to better capture and share real-time data and utilizing artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms to analyze complex associations between genetics, environment, and disease. With the right investments, ARPA-H could catalyze transformative capabilities to detect and characterize disease risk and promote treatments and behaviors that improve health at the population level.