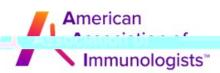


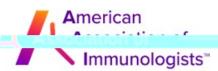
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Investment in NIH is also crucial to enabling the U.S. to maintain its international preeminence in biomedical research. A critical component of this is supporting the next generation of U.S. researchers. For too many years, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows have been underpaid and under-supported, problems that NIH recently identified in a report on "Re-Envisioning NIH-Supported Postdoctoral Training." NIH has since announced that it will increase pay for preand postdoctoral scholars; however, without increased funding for NIH, this will inevitably lead to supporting fewer trainees or less innovative and cutting-edge research. In addition, some international competitors have dramatically increased spending on research & development in recent years; according to the National Science Board, China has now surpassed the U.S. in key metrics, including total patents and total number of scientific publications each year. If America wants to be the leader in the innovations of tomorrow, robust investment in biomedical research is crucial.

AAI thanks you again for your commitment to supporting and strengthening NIH and looks forward to working with you orolly

