



APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIRMAN TOM COLE *Tom Cole*

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

The Defense Appropriations Act provides a total discretionary allocation of \$833.053 billion, which is \$8.57 billion (1%) above the Fiscal Year 2024 level and consistent with the limit set in law by the Fiscal Responsibility Act.

The bill strategically refocuses the Pentagon on its core mission: delivering combat-ready military forces to deter war and ensure national security. It eliminates funding for divisive social agendas and initiatives that do not align with the Department's primary purpose.

Due to persistent oversight of program execution across the Department of Defense (DOD), the bill rejects \$18 billion in unjustified and unnecessary items included in the President's Budget Request and redirects those resources to programs and activities that counter the People's Republic of China and other near-peer adversaries, foster innovation, enhance the DOD's role in combating the flow of fentanyl and other illegal drugs, and support servicemembers and their families.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Prioritizes the fight against China by:
 - Allocating \$200 million for Taiwan's international security cooperation programs and prioritizing defense articles and services to Taiwan.
 - Preventing the early retirement of three ships and retaining the U-2 and certain F-15s, rejecting the Biden Administration's naval and air force divestment plans.
 - Increasing investments in 5th and 6th generation aircraft like the F-35 and Next Generation Air Dominance.
 - Supporting the Pacific Deterrence Initiative, which enhances U.S. military capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region, including funding for several INDOPACOM unfunded priorities.
- Promotes innovation and modernizes our military by:
 - Funding the Office of Strategic Capital's loans and loan guarantees to maximize the use of private capital to advance emerging technologies and manufacturing, including through private investment funds.
 - Allocating over \$1.3 billion for the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) and select Defense-Wide innovation efforts to deliver capabilities from nontraditional sources, including small and medium-sized businesses.
 - Continuing \$220 million in direct support to combatant commanders through the DIU to quickly obtain the cutting-edge technology and weapons they need and to rapidly get them to the warfighter.
 - Increasing funding for DIU Fielding efforts and the military services to accelerate acquisition processes to ensure we have the most innovative technology in time for the fight.



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- Fostering competition to attract America’s best companies and talent, increasing flexibility for DIU Fielding in exchange for greater transparency with Congress.
- Providing \$400 million for the Accelerate the Procurement and Fielding of Innovative Technologies (APFIT) program to help bridge a “Valley of Death” and transition cutting-edge capabilities to the warfighter in an accelerated timeline.
- Investing in next-generation fighter aircraft, helicopters, tactical combat vehicles, and submarines.
- Supporting the modernization of the nuclear triad: the B-21 Raider, the Columbia Class Submarine, and Sentinel.
- Provides for our servicemembers and their families by:
 - Funding a 4.5% pay raise for all military personnel.
 - Providing \$2.5 billion for an additional 15% pay increase for junior enlisted servicemembers.
 - Prohibiting the moving of National Guard missions, functions, or personnel to the Space Force in contravention of current law.
- Continues to optimize the Pentagon’s civilian workforce by:
 - Cutting over \$916 million from the President’s Budget Request for the civilian workforce.
 - Maintaining pressure on the Pentagon and the military services to, in coordination with the Department’s technology experts, take a serious look at what functions can be done better by technology than by civilians.
 - Ensuring the Department has an appropriate workforce for areas that directly serve the warfighter, like depots and shipyards.
 - Cutting \$500 million from the President’s Budget Request for excess advisory and assistance contractors.
 - Identifying \$100 million in savings to account for efficiencies and management improvements.
- Enhances DOD’s role in countering the flow of illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids by:
 - Allocating \$1.14 billion for drug interdiction and counterdrug activities, which is \$242 million above the President’s Budget Request.
 - Increasing funding for the National Guard Counterdrug Program.
 - Transferring Mexico from U.S. Northern Command’s jurisdiction to U.S. Southern Command for better coordination and prioritization.
- Supports our close ally Israel by:
 - Providing \$500 million for the Israeli Cooperative Missile Defense Programs, to include Iron Dome, David’s Sling, and Arrow missile defense systems.
 - Providing \$80 million above the President’s Budget Request for U.S.-Israeli anti-tunneling cooperation.
 - Providing \$55 million above the President’s Budget Request for counter-UAS development and directed energy and laser technology cooperation.



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- Prohibiting funds to withhold the delivery of defense articles and defense services from the United States to Israel, requiring that any defense article withheld from delivery to Israel be delivered within 15 days, and requiring the Secretary of Defense to obligate any remaining unobligated balances for assistance for Israel within 30 days.
- Prohibiting funds for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).
- Focuses the Department on its core responsibilities by:
 - Cutting \$18 billion from the President’s Budget Request and redirecting that funding to address warfighting needs, counter China, and support our servicemembers and their families.
 - Cutting \$621.2 million from the President’s Budget Request for climate change initiatives.
 - Cutting \$53 million from the President’s Budget Request for diversity and inclusion initiatives.
 - Prohibiting funds to House illegal immigrants on military installations.
 - Prohibiting censoring constitutionally protected speech of Americans.
 - Prohibiting funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion offices.
 - Prohibiting the implementation, administration, or enforcement of the Biden Administration’s executive orders on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).
 - Defunding the position of Deputy Inspector General for Diversity and Inclusion and Extremism in the Military and the position of Chief Diversity Officer.
 - Prohibiting the use of funds to perform medical procedures that attempt to change an individual’s biological gender.
 - Prohibiting events on military installations or as part of recruiting programs that bring discredit upon the military, such as a drag queen story hour for children or the use of drag queens as military recruiters.
 - Prohibiting the promotion or advancement of Critical Race Theory (CRT).
 - Prohibiting funding for the President’s controversial climate change executive orders and regulations.
- Supports American values and principles by:
 - Prohibiting paid leave and travel or related expenses of a federal employee or their dependents to obtain an abortion or abortion-related services.
 - Protecting Americans against religious discrimination.
 - Prohibiting the recruitment, hiring, or promotion of any person who has been convicted of charges related to child pornography or other sexual misconduct.
 - Prohibiting the granting, renewing, or maintaining of a security clearance for individuals listed as a signatory on the “Public Statement on the Hunter Biden Emails” dated October 19, 2020.
 - Prohibiting contracts with NewsGuard Technologies Inc. which is known to target conservative news outlets.
 - Preventing COVID-19 vaccine and mask mandates.
 - Prohibiting funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology and EcoHealth Alliance.



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DETAILED FUNDING SUMMARY

Military Personnel

Provides \$183.7 billion for active, reserve, and National Guard military personnel, which is \$1.8 billion above the President's Budget Request and \$7.5 billion above the FY24 enacted level.

- Includes an increase of 4.5% in basic pay for all military personnel effective January 1, 2025.
- Includes an additional 15% increase in pay for junior enlisted servicemembers.
- Funds total end strength of 2,042,400 personnel, which is equal to the President's Budget Request and 5,700 below the FY24 authorized level.

Operation and Maintenance

Provides \$294.3 billion for operation and maintenance support to the military services and other DOD entities, which is \$2 billion below the President's Budget Request and \$7.1 billion above the FY24 enacted level.

- \$18.3 billion to the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force for depot maintenance.
- \$9.6 billion to fund SOCOM's operation and maintenance requirements.
- Fully funds the Budget Request of \$1.5 billion for the recruitment of military personnel.
- \$53 million for STARBASE, \$50 million for the National Guard Youth Challenge, and \$4 million for Sea Cadets.
- \$50 million for Impact Aid and \$20 million for Impact Aid for those with disabilities.

Procurement

Provides \$165.3 billion for procurement, which is \$1.4 billion below the President's Budget Request and \$6.7 billion below the FY24 enacted level.

- Aircraft
 - \$9.2 billion for 76 F-35 aircraft, which includes 44 F-35As for the Air Force (two aircraft above the President's Budget Request), 13 F-35Bs for the Marine Corps, and 19 F-35Cs for the Navy (six aircraft above the President's Budget Request).
 - \$1.9 billion for the B-21 Raider.
 - \$2.7 billion for 15 KC-46A tanker aircraft.
 - \$1.8 billion for 18 F-15EX aircraft.
 - \$294 million for eight MH-139 aircraft.
 - \$263.4 million for two C-130Js for the Air National Guard.
 - \$294.4 million for two KC-130Js for the Navy Reserve.
 - \$120 million for two Combat Rescue Helicopters.
 - \$400 million to accelerate the delivery of E-7 aircraft.
 - \$501 million for three MQ-25 Stingray.



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- \$2.1 billion for 20 CH-53K helicopters, which is an increase of \$125 million for one additional aircraft.
- \$769 million for 26 UH/HH-60M Army Blackhawk helicopters.
- \$465 million for six CH-47F Chinook Block II Army helicopters.
- \$240 million for MQ-1C Gray Eagle 25M aircraft for the Army National Guard.
- Shipbuilding
 - \$31.6 billion to procure four Navy battle force ships, including two DDG-51 guided missile destroyers, one Virginia-class fast attack submarine, and one San Antonio Class Amphibious Transport Dock LPD.
 - \$4 billion for the Submarine Industrial Base to build on the \$4 billion invested in FY24 in critical areas, including supplier capacity and capability, strategic outsourcing, workforce training, and technology and infrastructure.
 - \$417 million for three ship-to-shore connectors.
 - \$30 million for one Yard, Repair, Berthing, and Messing barge.
- Vehicles/Force Protection
 - \$700 million to upgrade 30 Abrams tanks to the M1A2 (SEP)v3 tank variant.
 - \$460 million for 33 M10 Booker combat vehicles.
 - \$576 million for M109A6 Paladin Self-Propelled Howitzers and M992A2 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicles.
 - \$367 million for 20,000 next generation squad weapons and fire control systems.
- Other
 - \$400 million for the Accelerate the Procurement and Fielding of Innovative Technologies (APFIT) program to help bridge a “Valley of Death” and transition cutting-edge capabilities to the warfighter in an accelerated timeline.
 - \$2.1 billion for 11 National Security Space Launches.
 - \$800 million for the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account.

Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

Provides \$145.9 billion for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, which is \$2.7 billion above the President’s Budget Request and \$2.4 billion below the FY24 enacted level.

- Aircraft
 - \$2.1 billion for continued development and modernization of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.
 - \$3.3 billion for the continued development of the Air Force’s Next Generation Air Dominance program.
 - \$2.7 billion for the continued development of the B-21 Bomber.
 - \$1.25 billion to support Army Future Vertical Lift, including design, prototyping, and risk reduction for the Future Long Range Assault Aircraft.
 - \$775.3 million for the Navy TACAMO (Take Charge and Move Out) mission providing survivable communications links to strategic forces.



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- Hypersonics
 - \$903.9 million for the continued development of the Navy’s Conventional Prompt Strike program.
 - \$538 million for the Army’s Long Range Hypersonic Weapon program.
 - \$492.7 million for the Air Force’s Hypersonic Attack Cruise Missile.
 - \$182.3 million for the Missile Defense Agency to develop hypersonic defense systems.
 - \$99.97 million for advanced hypersonics research at DARPA and the Joint Hypersonic Transition Office.
 - \$123.1 million increase for hypersonics test facilities, ranges, and simulations.
- Innovation
 - Over \$900 million for the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) and select Defense-Wide innovation efforts to deliver capabilities from nontraditional sources, attract America’s best companies and talent, and increase flexibility for DIU Fielding in exchange for greater transparency with Congress.
 - \$220 million increase for DIU Fielding addressing the most pressing combatant commander priorities.
 - \$240 million increase for DIU Fielding of technologies with Service programming commitments.
 - \$45 million increase for DIU Fielding of classified facility expansion for early digital runs of new technologies, expanding the ability to obtain facility and personnel clearances to commercial companies and non-traditional defense sources.
 - \$125.9 million for the Office of Strategic Capital to maximize the use of private capital to advance emerging technologies and manufacturing, including through private investment funds.
 - \$732.1 million to accelerate the Department’s digital transformation of business practices through the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office.
- Other
 - \$3.4 billion for the continued development of the Air Force’s Ground Based Strategic Deterrent program.
 - \$1.7 billion for the Next Generation Interceptor Development.
 - \$272.2 million for the Global Positioning System III Operational Control Segment.
 - \$2.1 billion for the Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared program.
 - \$2.4 billion for the continued development of the Resilient Missile Warning-Missile Tracking program.

Other Department of Defense Programs

Provides \$42.1 billion for other DOD programs, which is \$1.2 billion above the President’s Budget Request and \$374.7 million above the FY24 enacted level.



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- Defense Health Programs
 - \$41.2 billion for DOD medical and health care programs, which includes:
 - \$592.5 million above the President's Budget Request for cancer research.
 - \$40 million above the President's Budget Request for the ALS research program.
 - \$10 million above the President's Budget Request for the arthritis research program.
 - \$25 million above the President's Budget Request for the neurofibromatosis research program.
 - \$175 million above the President's Budget Request for the traumatic brain injury and psychological health research program.
- Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction
 - \$775.5 million for the destruction of chemical agents and munitions, which is equal to the President's Budget Request.
- Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid
 - \$115 million for foreign disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, and the humanitarian mine action program, as requested.
- Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities
 - \$674 million for counternarcotics support, including \$20 million above the President's Budget Request for programs to counter illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids.
 - \$140 million for demand reduction.
 - \$305 million for the National Guard Counter-drug program.
 - \$25 million for the National Guard Counter-drug schools.
 - \$12 million above the President's Budget Request for train and equip programs with Mexico to counter illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids and transnational criminal organizations, particularly Sinaloa and Jalisco drug cartels.
- Office of the Inspector General
 - \$539.8 million for the Office of the Inspector General.
- Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund
 - \$529 million to support the Iraqi Security Forces, Kurdish Peshmerga, and the Syrian Democratic Forces to counter ISIS, as requested.