

2025 State of Research Address

Thomas Flaig, MD
Vice Chancellor for Research

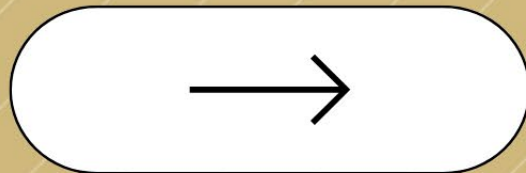


AGENDA

- RESEARCH LANDSCAPE
- CAMPUS RESPONSE
- YOUR PARTNERS IN RESEARCH
- CAMPUS RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
- LOOKING AHEAD
- Q&A



RESEARCH LANDSCAPE



CAMPUS RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY

3.6K

Research Proposals
and Contracts
Submitted

\$762M

Research Funding

1.8K+

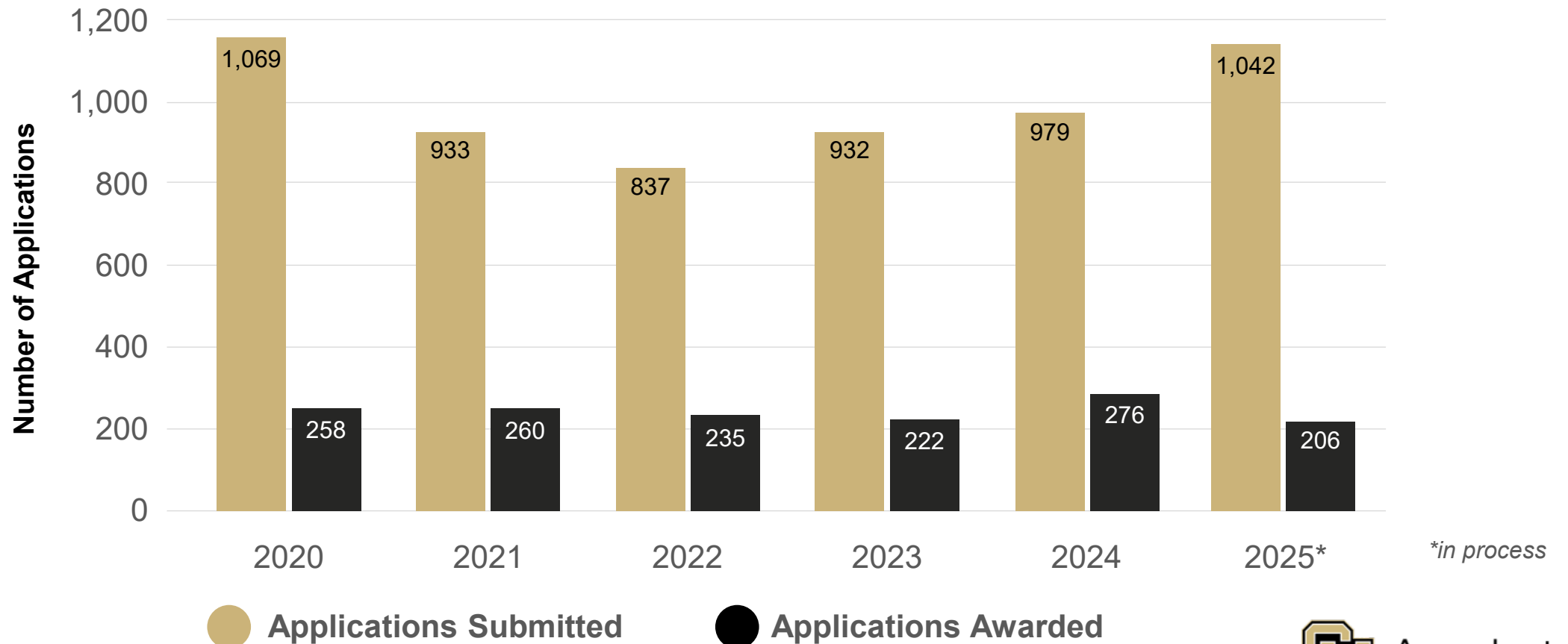
Principal
Investigators
with Active Awards

3.8K

Human Subjects
Research
Studies

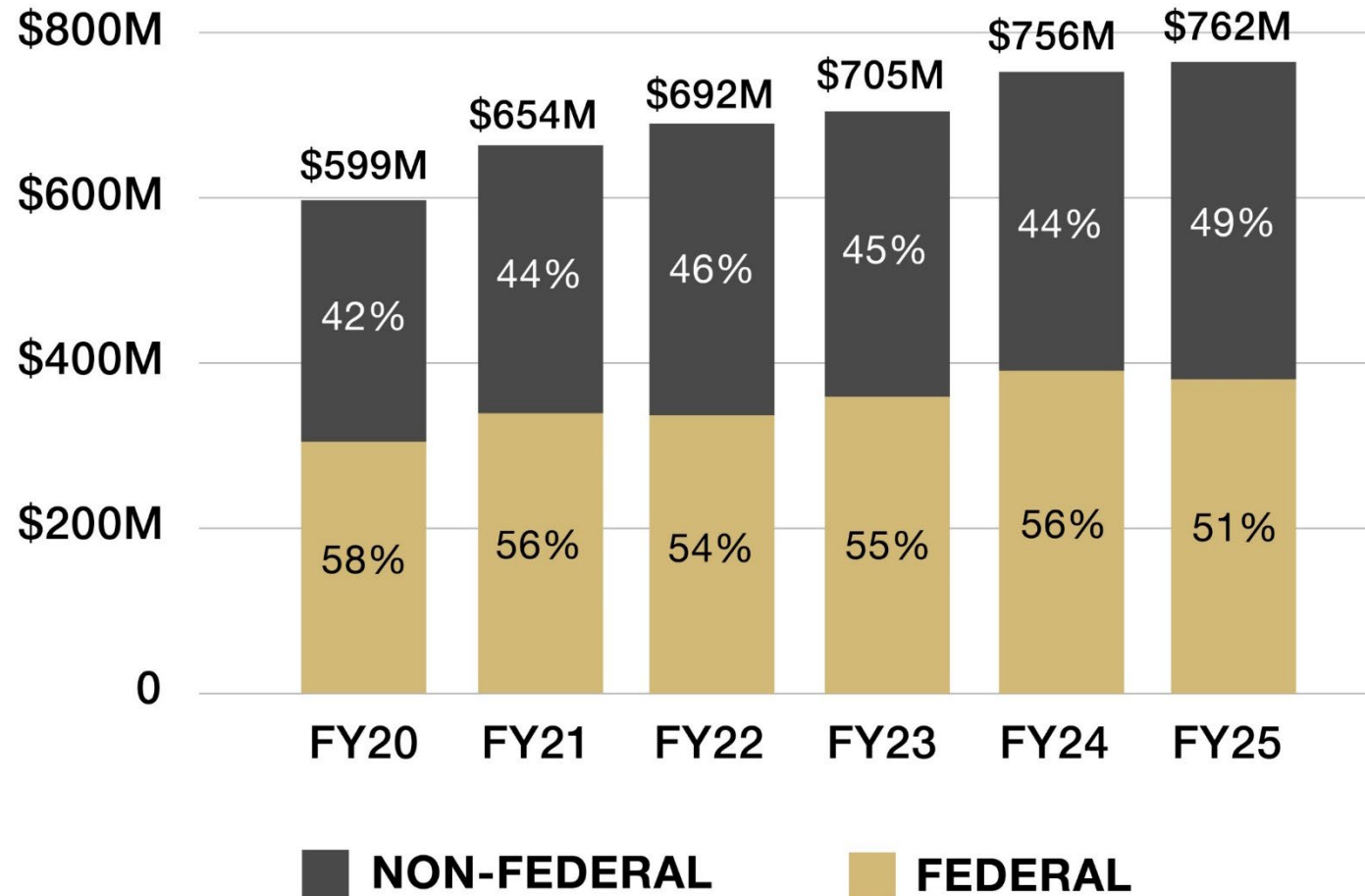
CU ANSCHUTZ: NIH APPLICATIONS & AWARDS – FEDERAL FY2020-2025

(New and Competitive Renewals)

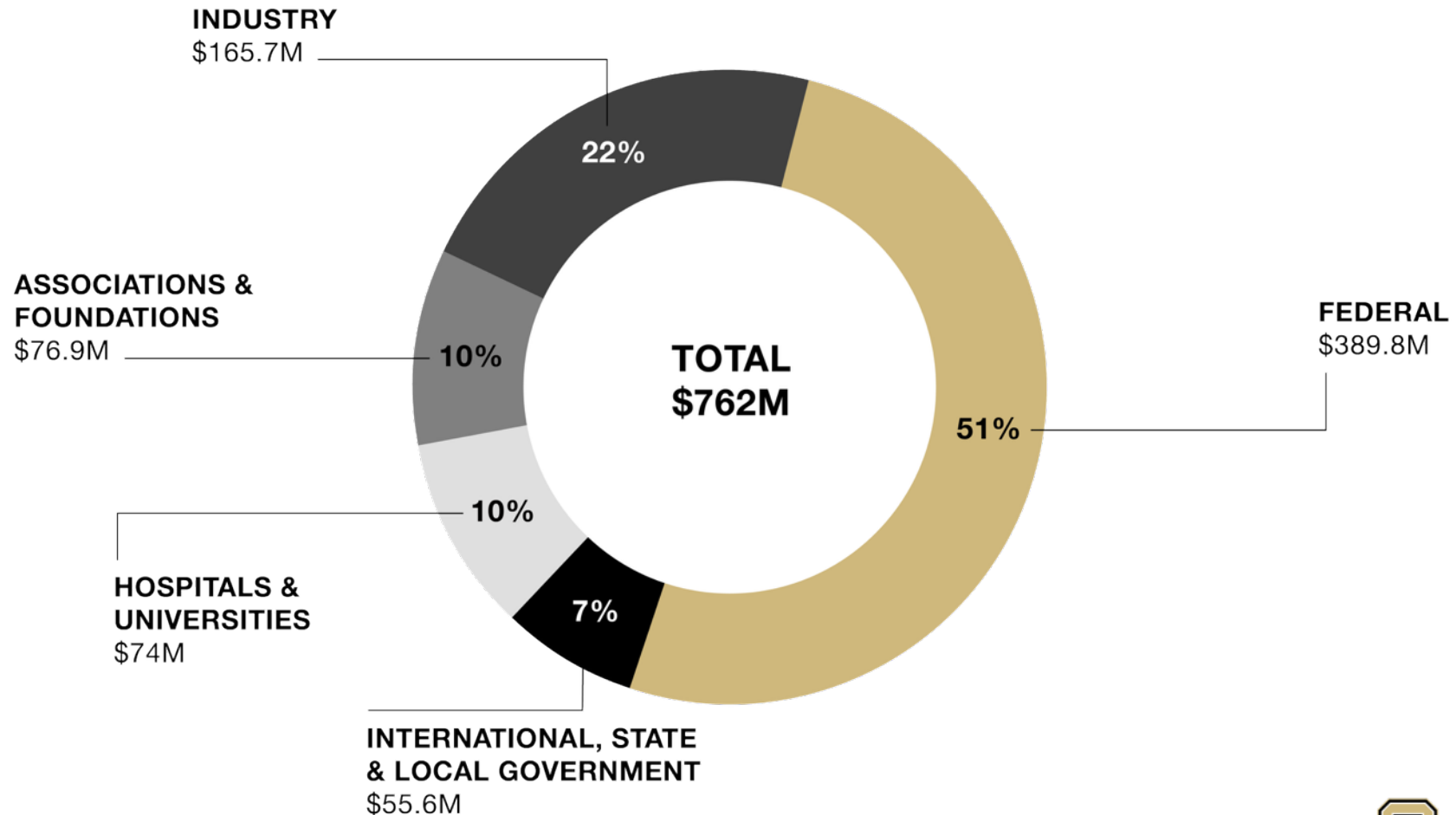


Source: Office of Research Development and Strategy

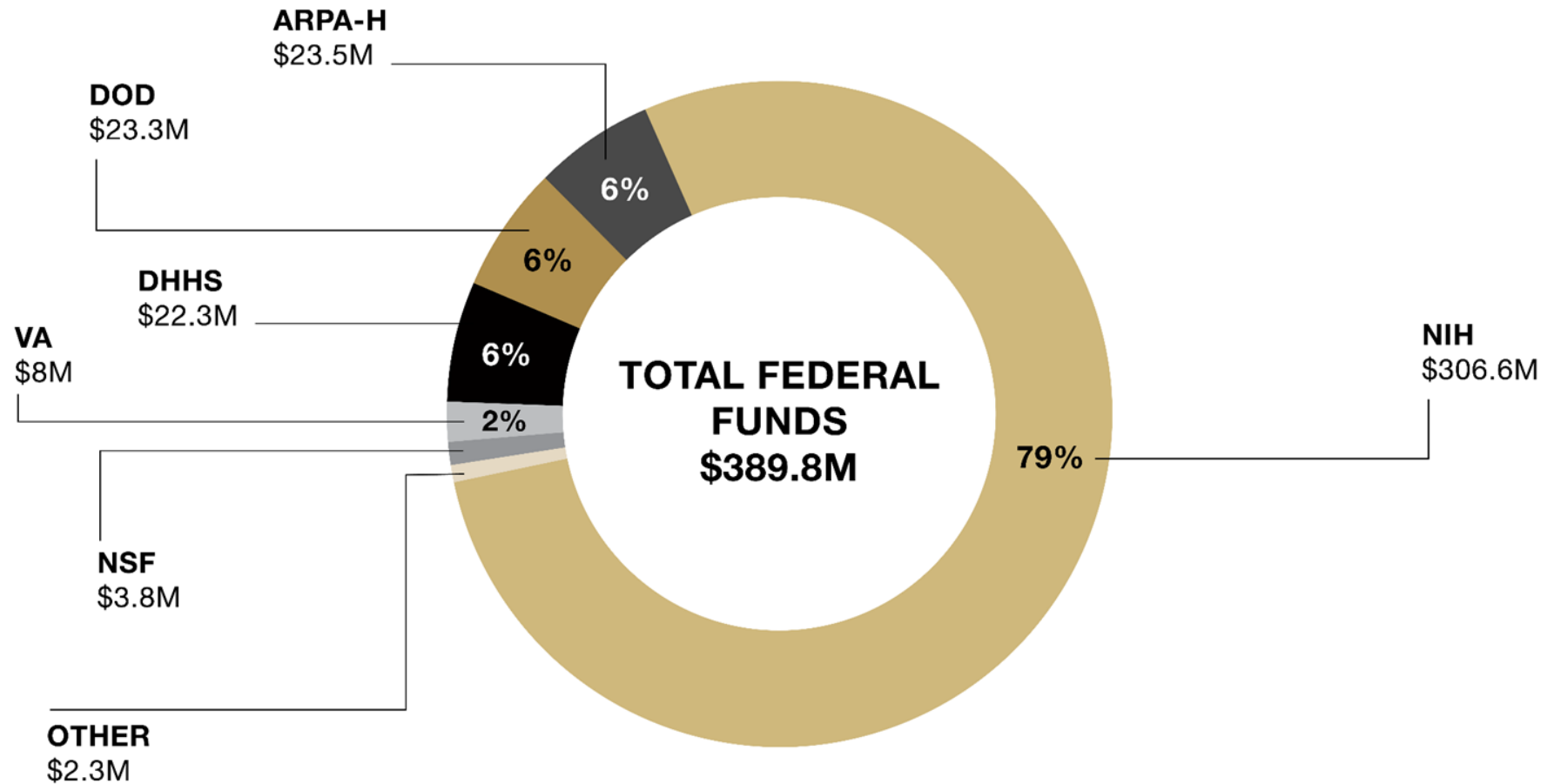
CAMPUS RESEARCH FUNDING



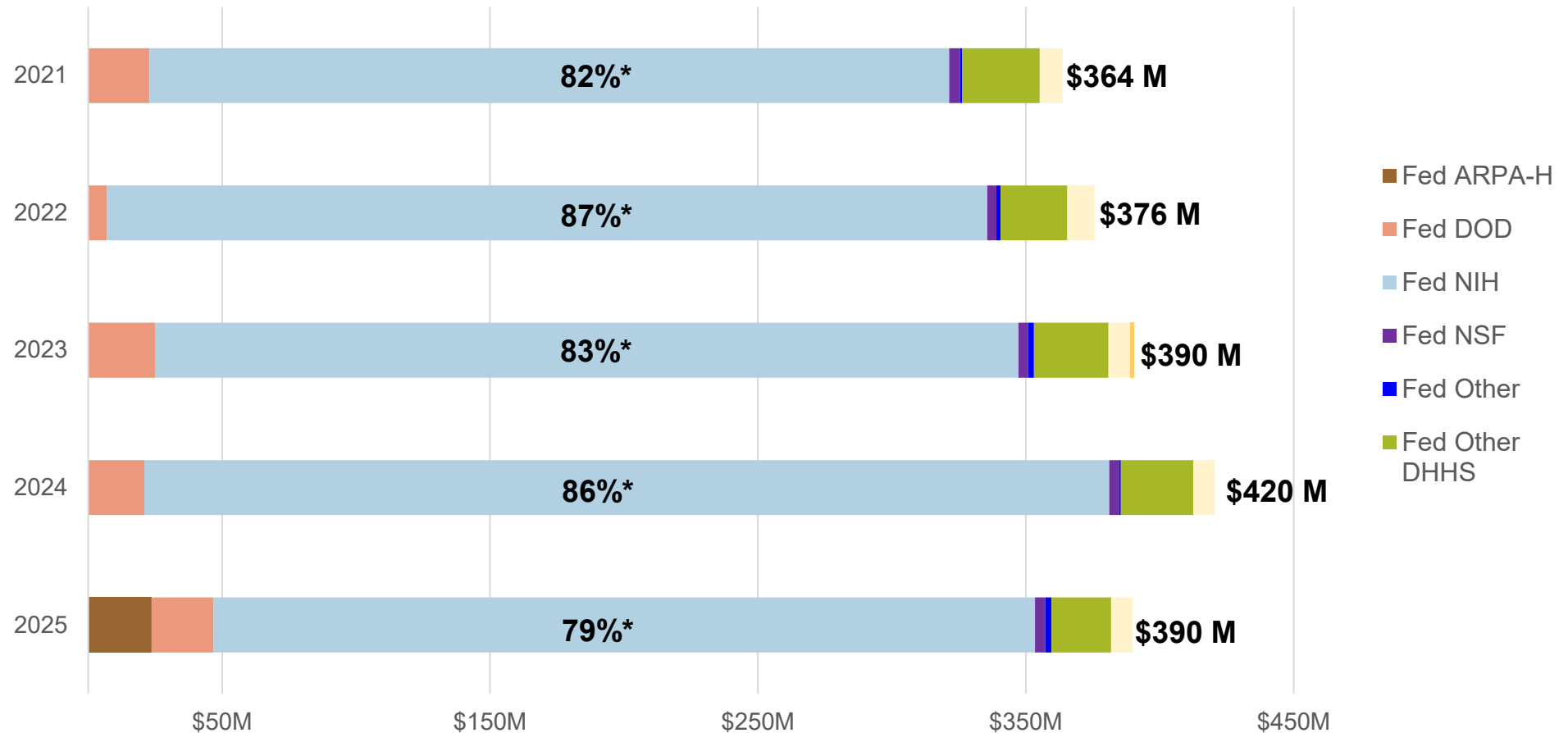
CAMPUS FUNDING BY SOURCE



FEDERAL FUNDING BY AGENCY

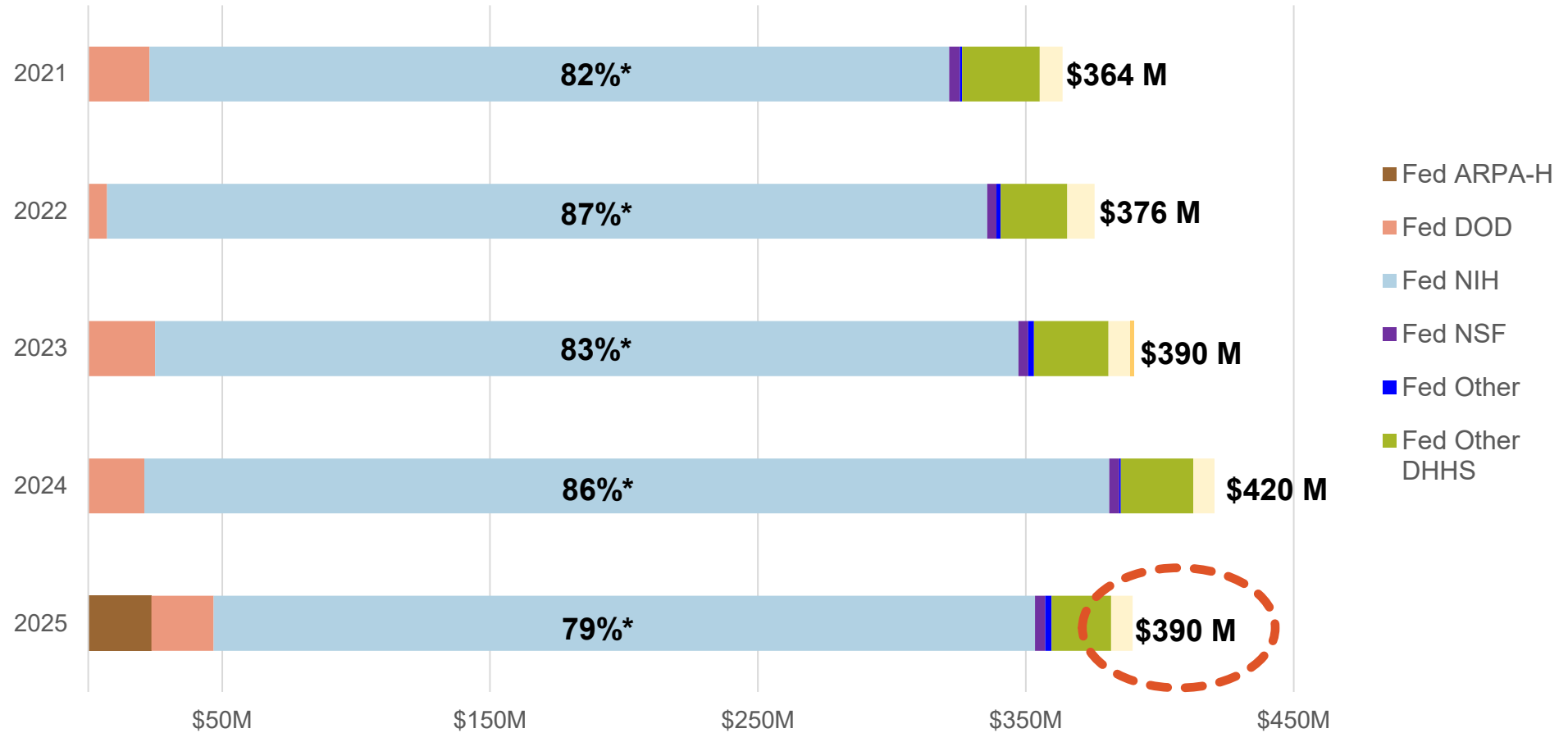


FUNDING BY FEDERAL SPONSOR TYPE



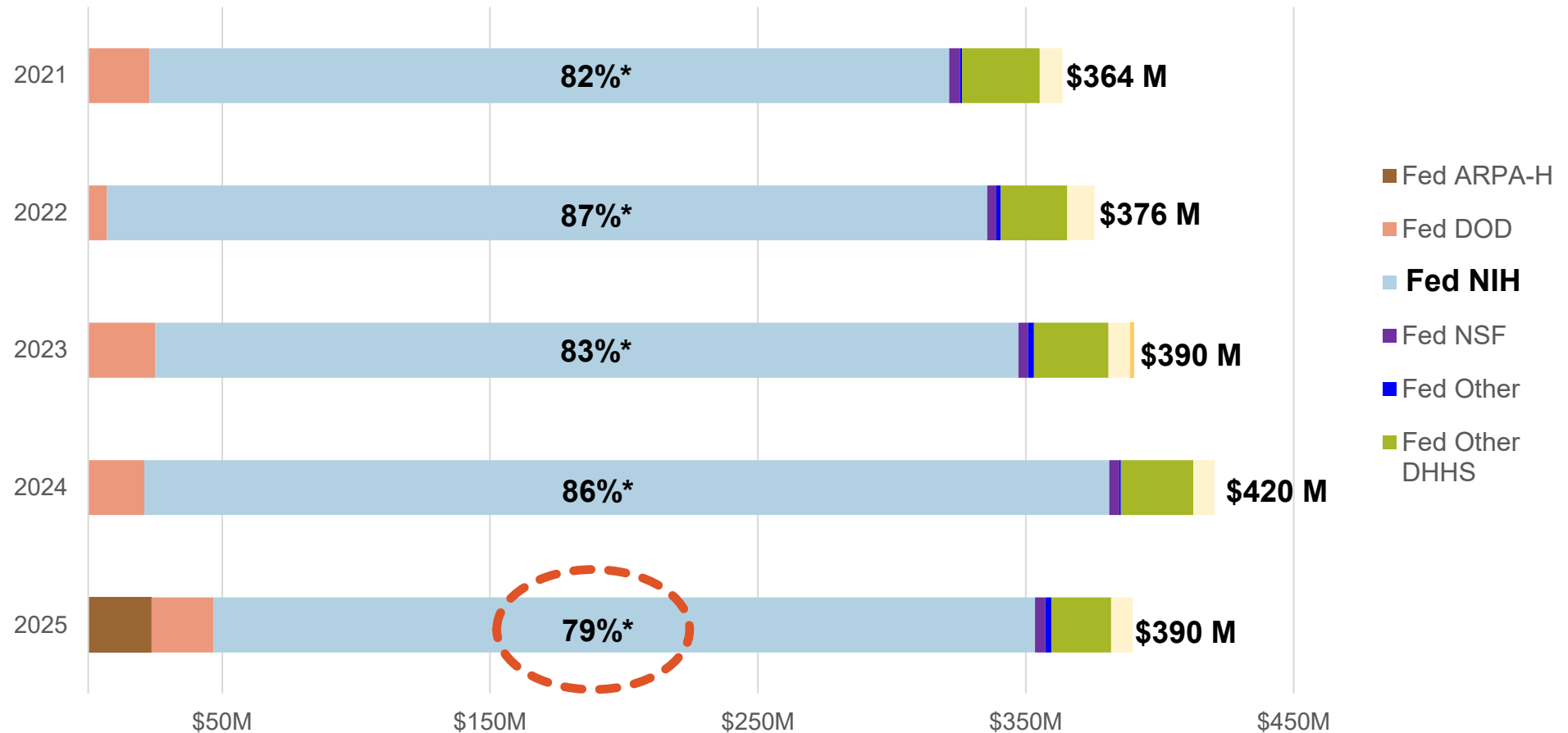
*Proportion of federal research funding

FUNDING BY FEDERAL SPONSOR TYPE



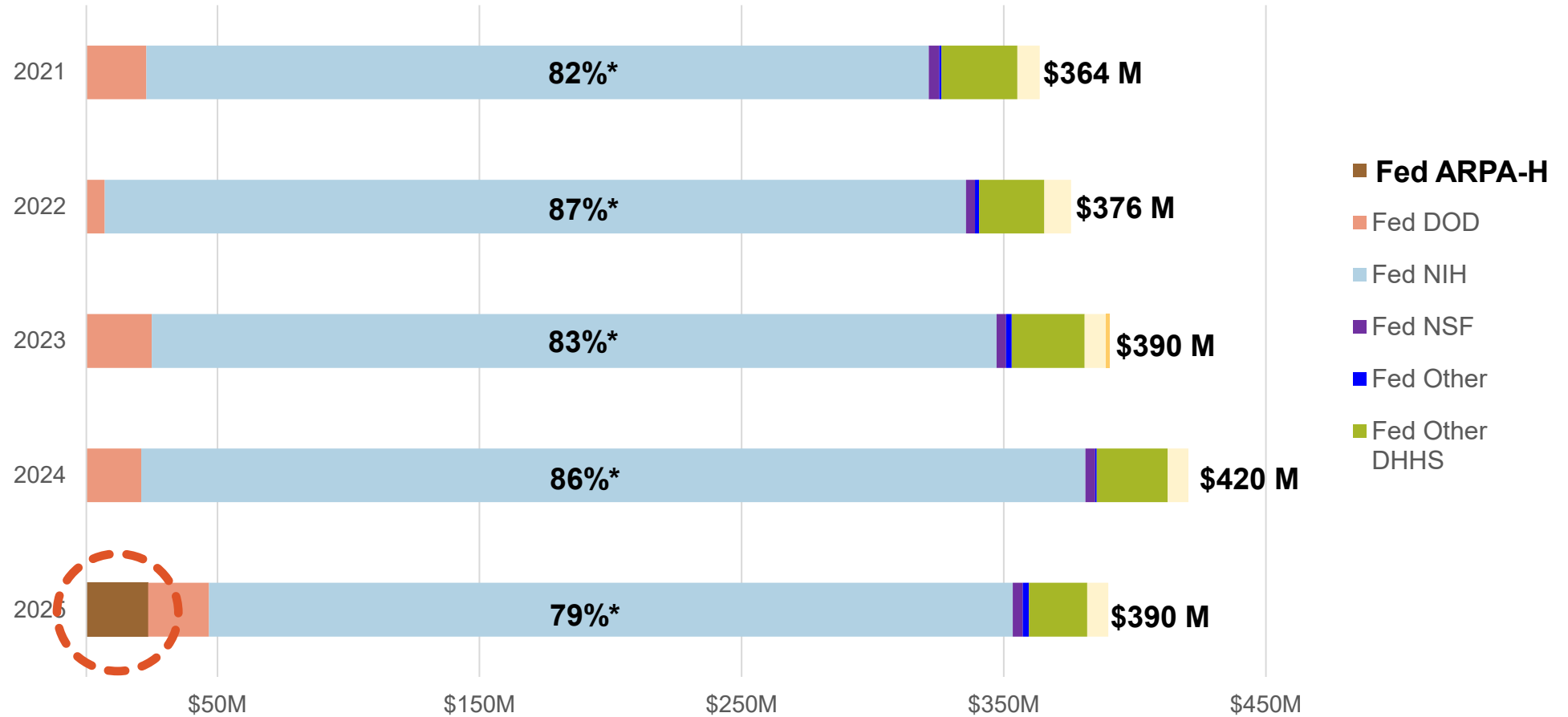
*Proportion of federal research funding

FUNDING BY FEDERAL SPONSOR TYPE



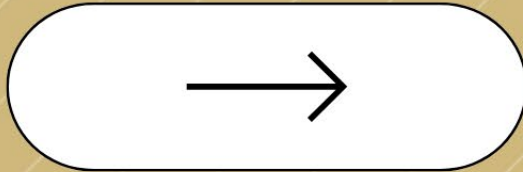
*Proportion of federal research funding

FUNDING BY FEDERAL SPONSOR TYPE



*Proportion of federal research funding

FEDERAL LANDSCAPE



WHAT WE KNOW

Emerging NIH Scientific Priorities*

- Training awards
- Replication and reproducibility
- Real-world data platforms
- Artificial intelligence
- Nutrition and chronic conditions
- Causes of autism
- Alternative animal testing models
- Scientifically valid, measurable health outcomes
- Solution-oriented approaches in health disparities research

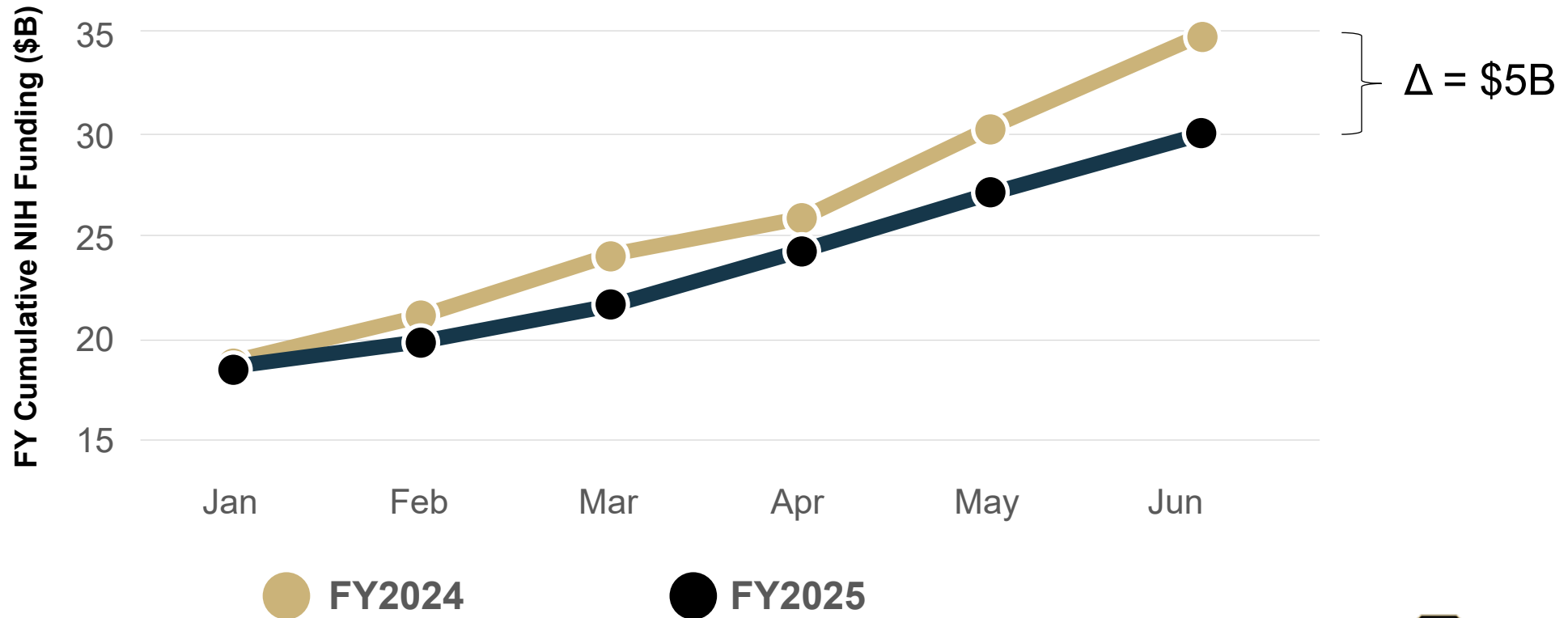
*Advancing NIH's Mission Through a Unified Strategy - Aug 15, 2025

<https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/nih-director/statements/advancing-nihs-mission-through-unified-strategy>



WHAT WE KNOW

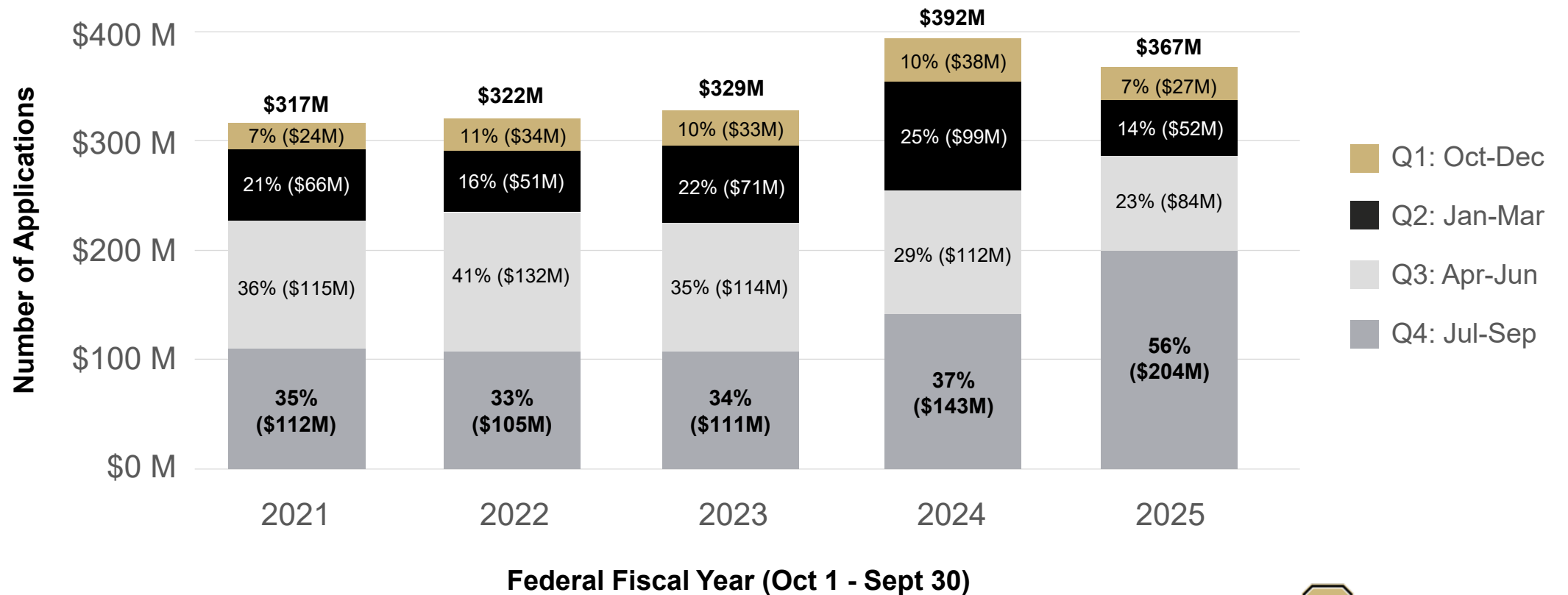
How NIH distributed funds from January – August 2025



Source: AAMC.org

WHAT WE KNOW

Proportion of NIH Funding to CU Anschutz by Quarter, Federal FY2021-2025



Source: Office of Research Development and Strategy

AREAS OF UNCERTAINTY

- Uncertainty around funding – timing, areas of focus
- Delays in study sections and council meetings
- Impacts of the recent federal government shutdown, the longest in U.S. history
- New model for indirect rates (e.g., cap, FAIR, etc.)



WHAT WE EXPECT

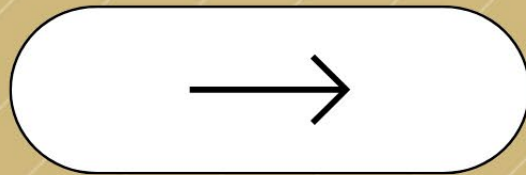
NIH Enacted budget for FY25 (\$ in billions)

- FY25 Enacted: \$46.8B

NIH budget proposals for FY26 (\$ in billions)

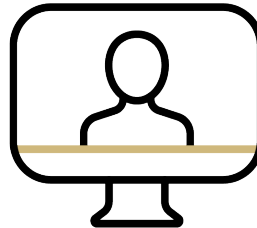
- President's Budget Request: \$27.9B
- House Proposal: \$47.9B
- Senate Proposal: \$48.7B

CAMPUS RESPONSE

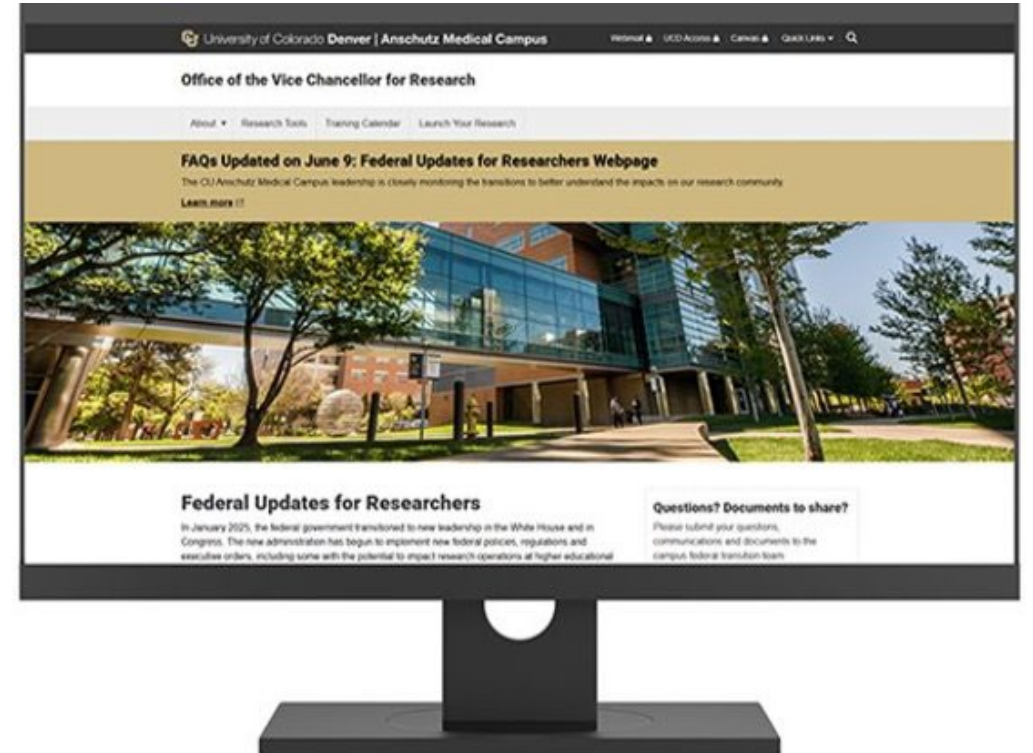


FEDERAL UPDATES FOR RESEARCHERS

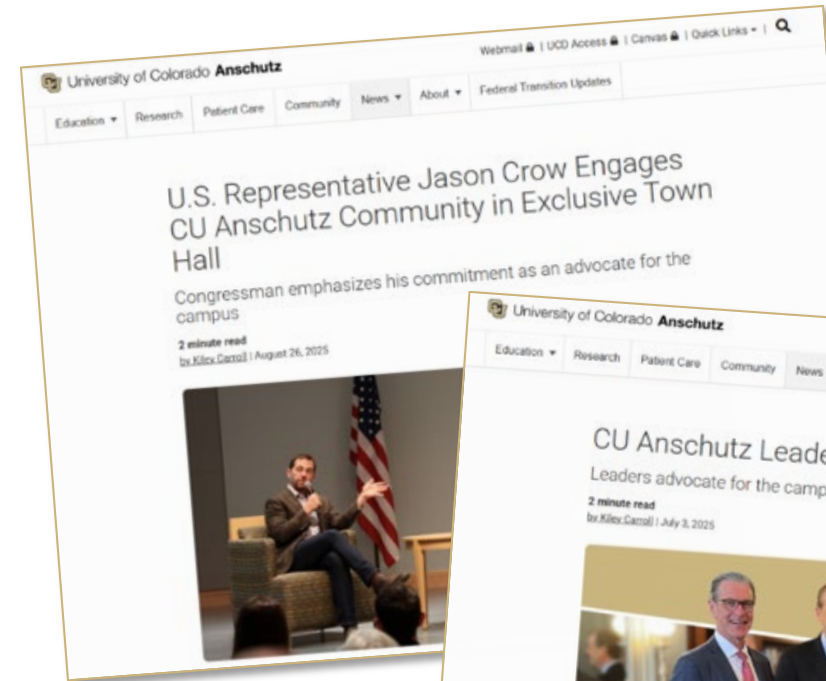
- Dedicated **webpage** with updates, guidance, FAQs and resources for our campus research community.
- **Virtual town halls.**



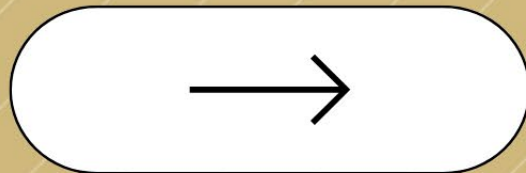
research.cuanschutz.edu/federal-transition-updates



ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT



**YOUR PARTNERS IN
RESEARCH:
OFFICE OF THE VICE
CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH**



OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH (OVCR)

MISSION

Committed to a **team-based culture**, we engage and collaborate with the research community to provide **expertise, support and guidance** for the advancement of science.

VISION

Together, we make tomorrow's research happen.



OVCR TEAMS & EXPERTISE

Research Development & Strategy

Grant & Contracts

Regulatory Compliance

Basic Science Research

Laboratory Animal Resources

Clinical Research Operations & Services

Clinical Trials

Colorado Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI)



OVCR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Thomas Flaig, MD
Vice Chancellor for Research
CU Anschutz



Alison Lakin, PhD
Assoc. VC
Regulatory
Compliance



Lori Sussel, PhD
Assoc. VC
Basic Science
Research



**Jori Leszczynski,
DVM, DACLAM**
Asst. VC
Laboratory Animal
Resources



**Laura Buccini,
DrPH, MPH, MA**
Asst. VC
Research Development
& Strategy



Amy Gannon
Assoc. VC
Grants & Contracts /
Fiscal Compliance



Cecilia Low Wang, MD
Asst. VC
Clinical Research
Operations



Adit Ginde, MD, MPH
Asst. VC
Clinical Trials

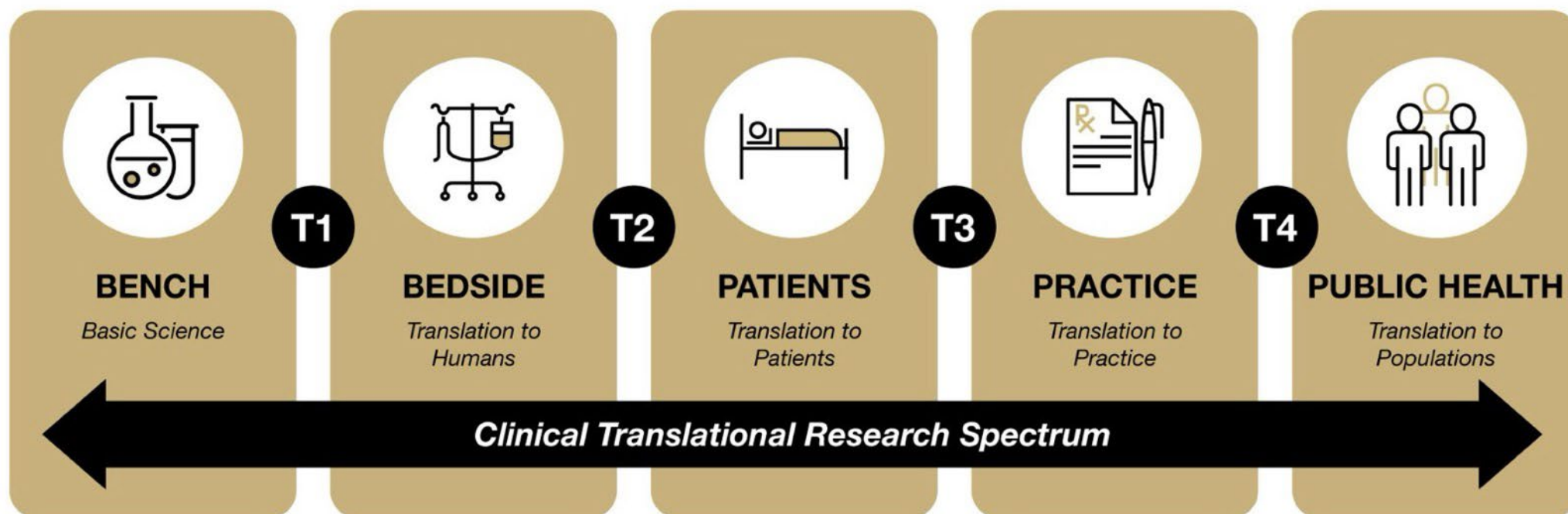


**Ron Sokol, MD,
FAASLD**
Asst. VC
CCTSI

Reports to

Terri Carrothers
*Executive VC,
Administration &
Finance; CFO*
CU Anschutz

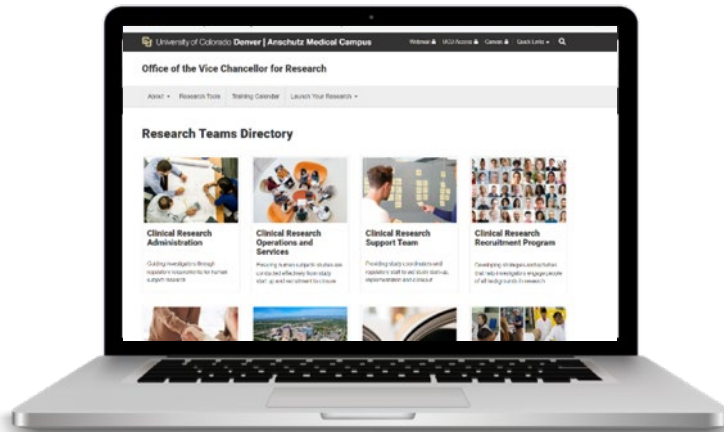
WE COLLABORATE ACROSS THE ENTIRE CLINICAL TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH SPECTRUM



RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research Website

*Your one-stop shop for
campus research resources.*



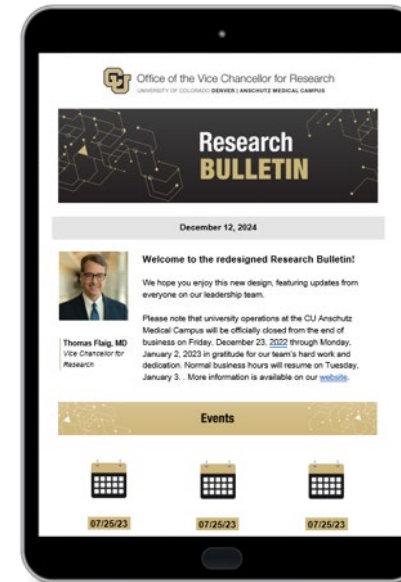
research.cuanschutz.edu



Newsletters

Subscribe by visiting our website.

Research Bulletin



Funding Focus



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL RESOURCES



Students practiced suturing and giving injections.

OLAR hosts Biomedical Research Bootcamp and Animal Science Adventures camp:

- CU Science Discovery: science education outreach program connecting K-12 students and teachers to current CU science.
- Students participated in OLAR facility tours, classroom sessions and experiments.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



Cs-137 Irradiator Decommissioning.

- Cesium Irradiator Replacement Project (CIRP) covered removal cost of 2 irradiators, reducing risk associated with radioactive sources.
- 2nd cesium irradiator decommissioned and removed in June 2025.
- Project took several months of planning and coordination with University, state and federal partners.



David Westerly, PhD

Associate Professor,
Radiation Oncology

CU Anschutz School of Medicine
Co-Director, Animal Imaging and
Irradiation Shared Resource (AIISR)

COLORADO CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES INSTITUTE

Pilot Awards: mentored and junior investigators, CU-CSU teams

- Child and maternal health research
- Translational methods
- Community engaged research

Cystic Fibrosis Research Success

- Pediatric Clinical Translational Research Center continues to advance the 'Miracle Drug' for kids with cystic fibrosis.

13th Annual CU-CSU Summit: Chronic Disease Research

- 160 researchers from CU Anschutz, CU Boulder, CU Denver and CSU learned about chronic disease research and forged new collaborations.



Colorado Clinical and Translational
Sciences Institute (CCTSI)

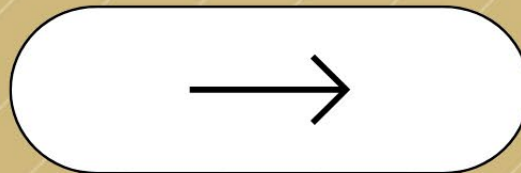
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



Anschutz

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN SERVICES

**CLINICAL RESEARCH
RECRUITMENT PROGRAM**

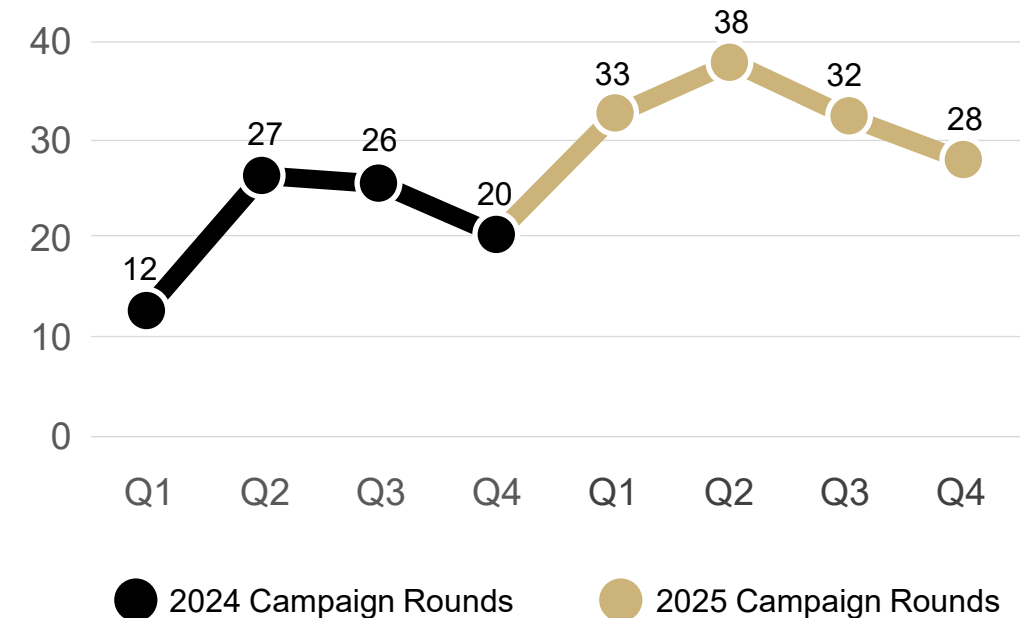


SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

OUR NUMBERS

	2024	2025
# of Requests:	46	41
# of Completed Campaigns:	34	45
# of Campaign Rounds:	85	108
Avg. # of Campaign Rounds	2.5	2.4
Avg. Campaign Budget:	\$335	\$471
Avg. Campaign Duration:	6.4 days	6.3 days

Number of Campaign Rounds by Quarter



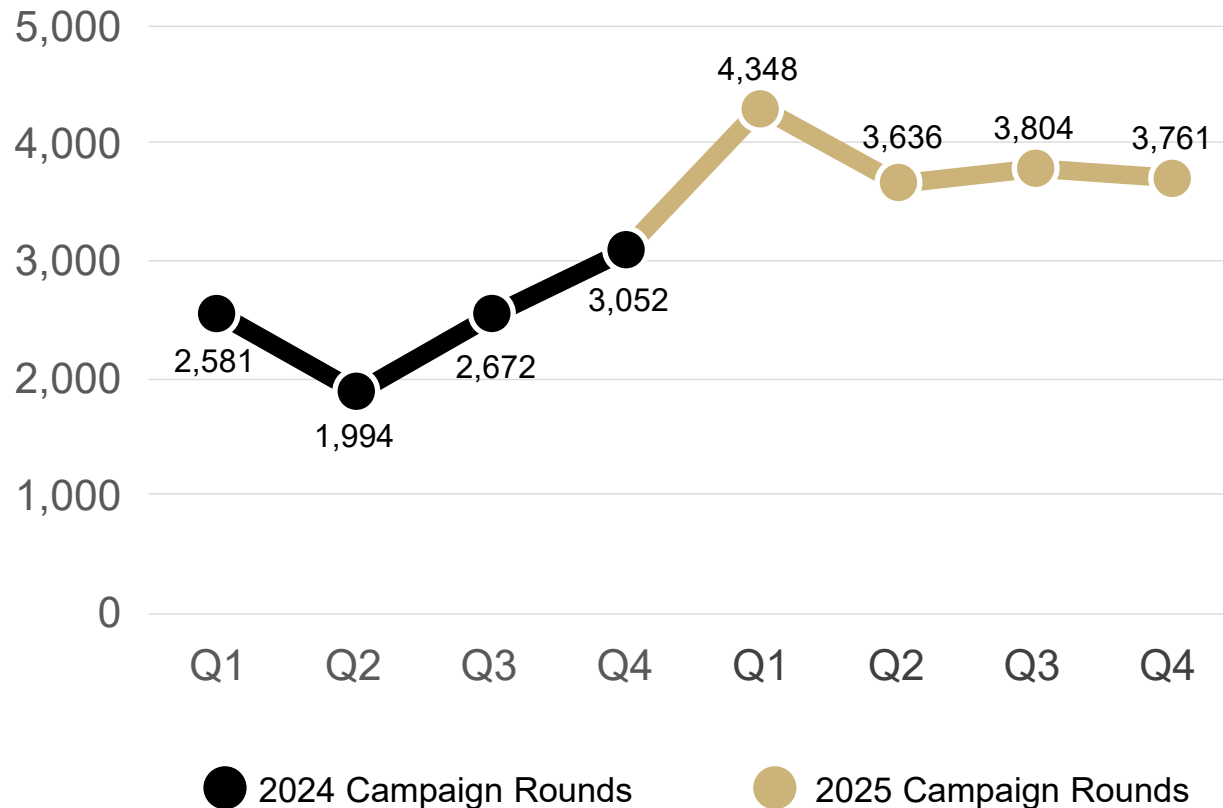
Total Campaigns
per Year

85 2024 Campaign Rounds

131 2025 Campaign Rounds

META AD MANAGER METRICS

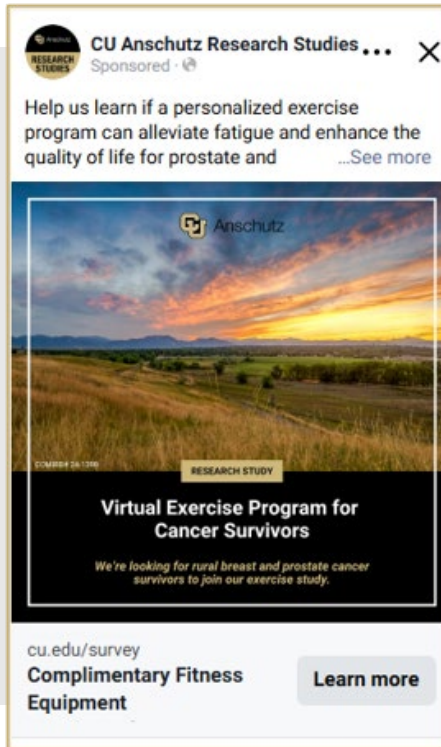
Average Number of Links by Quarter



Link clicks are the primary social media metric that we measure as this is associated with study screener.

While a link click does not automatically equate to a completed study screener, it is the measure of most significance.

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT



Rural Cancer Survivor Study

Recruited rural breast or prostate cancer survivors aged 18+ to join fitness study to alleviate cancer-related fatigue and improve quality of life.

- 6-day campaign
- \$500 budget
- 10 Colorado ZIP codes

Campaign Performance

- 18,788 people saw ad
- 865 clicked on ad
- 44 completed form
- 35 screened
 - 21 ineligible
 - 14 eligible

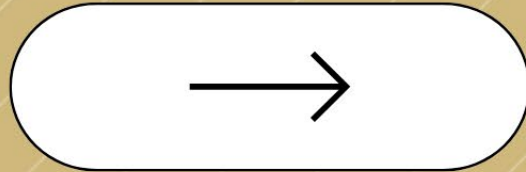
“

Overall, this is working very well for us, thank you! It's been surreal to see all our hard work finally reach those we want to impact.”

– Feedback from study

“DAY IN THE LIFE” SOCIAL MEDIA SERIES

**CLINICAL RESEARCH
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

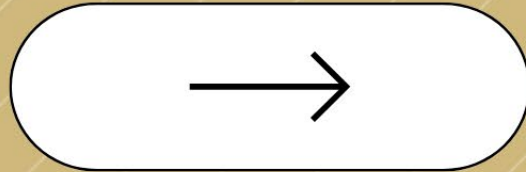


DAY IN THE LIFE SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN SERIES

- Showcasing the **friendly faces** behind the research to build trust and relatability within the community.
- **Educating** the public on what it means to be a research participant.
- Reducing misconceptions and encouraging **informed involvement**.
- Promoting clinical research as a meaningful **career path** to attract new talent to CU.
- Increasing access and awareness to clinical research through trendy and **public-facing content**.



PARTNERING ACROSS CAMPUS



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO

Making it easier to conduct research.

- **MOSIO:** Two-way text messaging with trial participants and families, improving communication and engagement.
- **COLORADO CHILD HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CCHRI):** Robust, centralized research support services, streamlining processes and reducing administrative burden.



Ronald Sokol, MD
Chief Scientific Officer
Child Health



Jenae Neiman, RN, MBA
Vice President
Research Operations

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO

Optimizing Clinical Trial-Related Processes.

- **Florence eBinders:** for storing regulatory and subject documents for all new studies, improving workflows and document management.

Operational Efficiencies:

- **Study Start-Up Dashboard:** provides real-time status for all studies conducted at CHCO.
- **Coordination & Integration Committee:** shared CU Anschutz and CHCO goals aligning strategy, improving efficiency and removing barriers to clinical child health research.



UCHEALTH

Research IT Efforts Empower Patient Engagement:

- **39,100 patients** responded to specific study invitations, demonstrating role of **RECRUIT**.
- **~8,100 first-time participants**, expanding research and growing a community of new research participants.
- **1,500+ new patient consents** collected via research IT-enhanced recruitment workflows in Epic.



Jean Kutner, MD
Chief Academic Officer



Laurie Blumberg-Romero, MA
Vice President
Research Administration



UCHEALTH

Research IT Efforts to Support Researchers with IT Tools in Epic

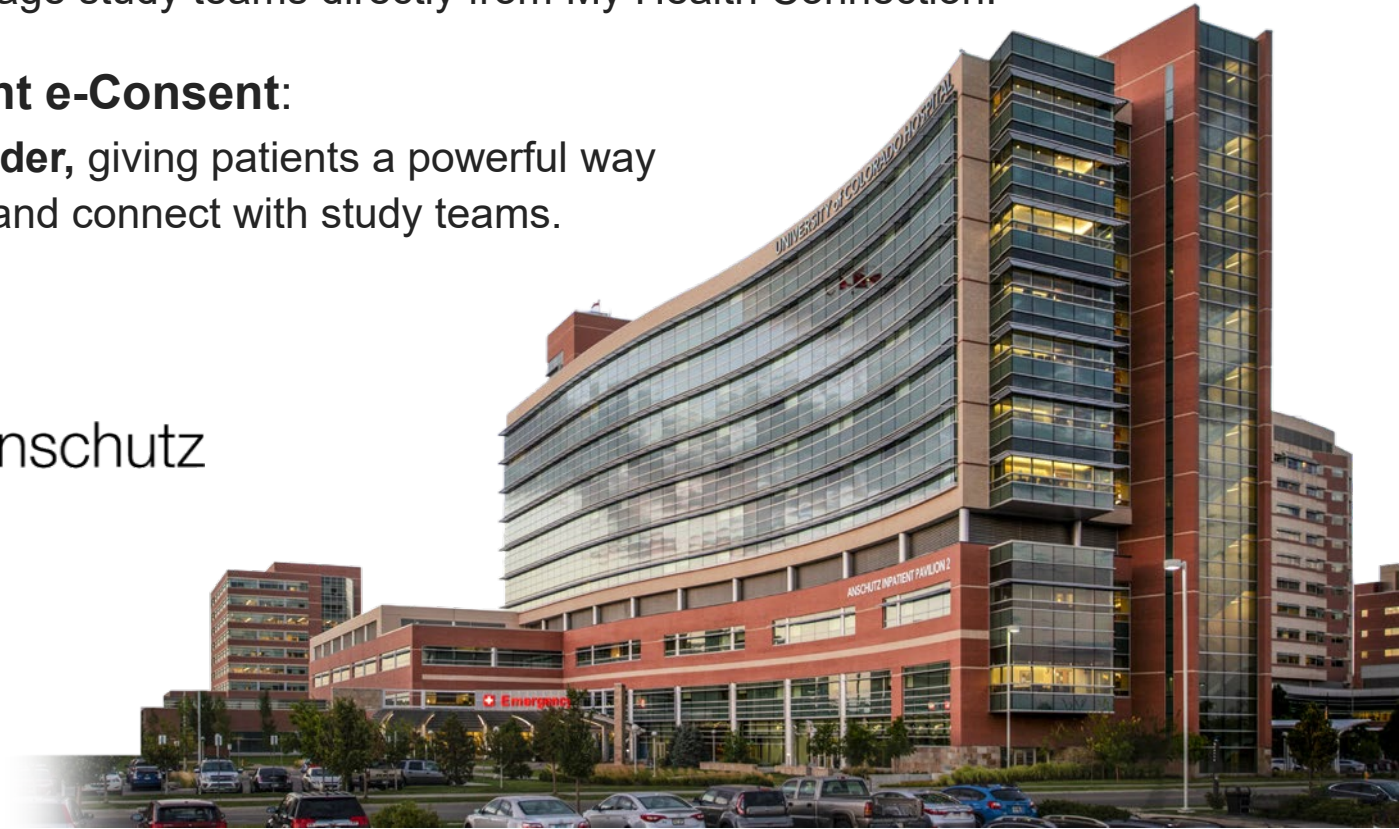
Implementation of Research Care Journeys:

- Patient access to study visits, team members, consent forms and questionnaires.
- Patients can sign documents and message study teams directly from My Health Connection.

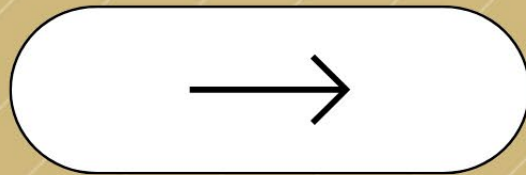
Implementation of Part 11 Compliant e-Consent:

- Recruitment support through **Study Finder**, giving patients a powerful way to discover studies that matter to them and connect with study teams.

uchealth



CAMPUS RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



AB NEXUS

Funding and resources for interdisciplinary teams from CU Anschutz and CU Boulder to advance new innovations and discoveries while growing CU's collective research enterprise. This year's winning teams will receive **\$750,000** in funding to advance cutting-edge research that improves human health and well-being.

2025 AWARD WINNING TEAMS



"Harnessing AI-Quantum Computing for Colorectal Cancer Therapies"

Daniel LaBarbera, PhD*
(CU Anschutz School of Pharmacy) &
Karolin Luger, PhD



"Optimizing Beneficial Fungi to Support Infant Gut Health and Prevent Infection"

Jennifer Hill, PhD & **Kyla Ost, PhD***
(CU Anschutz School of Medicine)



"Using Quantum Sensing to Detect Pneumonia and Asthma in Children"

Lilliam Ambroggio, PhD*
(CU Anschutz School of Medicine)
& Jun Ye, PhD



"Studying How Baby Diets Shape Their Microbiomes— and Future Allergy Risk"

Julia Dunn, PhD* (CU Anschutz School of Medicine) & Matthew Olm, PhD

* Primary Investigator from CU Anschutz

FEATURED ARPA-H AWARDS

The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).



*Novel Innovations for
Tissue Regeneration in
Osteoarthritis (NITRO)*

\$20M

Karin Payne, PhD &
Michael Zuscik, PhD
CU Anschutz School of Medicine



*Transplantation
of Human Eye Allografts
(THEA)*

\$46M

Kia Washington, MD &
Christene Huang, PhD
CU Anschutz School of Medicine

ARPA-H Awarded Contracts
\$70.3M (5)

Proposals Under Negotiation
\$9.3M (2)

Proposals Under Review
\$16.3M (4)

NOTABLE AWARDS



Advancing the Science of Palliative Care Research Across the Lifespan (ASCENT) Consortium, NIH, U54

\$64M

Jean Kutner, MD, MSPH

CU Anschutz School of Medicine



Early Fibrinogen for Endotheliopathy and Coagulopathy in Severe Trauma (EFFECT Trial), Octapharma

\$29M

Adit Ginde, MD, MPH

CU Anschutz School of Medicine

ANSCHUTZ ACCELERATOR INITIATIVE (AAI)

- \$50M investment from Anschutz Foundation
- Clinical impact within 5 years



Jeffrey Stansbury, PhD
CU Anschutz School of
Dental Medicine

FEATURED PROJECT:

Multimaterial 3D Print Processing of Antimicrobial and Antifungal Dental Prosthetics

Developing **next-generation dentures using advanced 3D printing** to make them stronger, more comfortable, and resistant to bacteria and fungi. These innovative dentures could dramatically **improve quality of life, reduce healthcare costs and expand access to care.**

CELEBRATIONS

CU ANSCHUTZ RESEARCH AWARDS



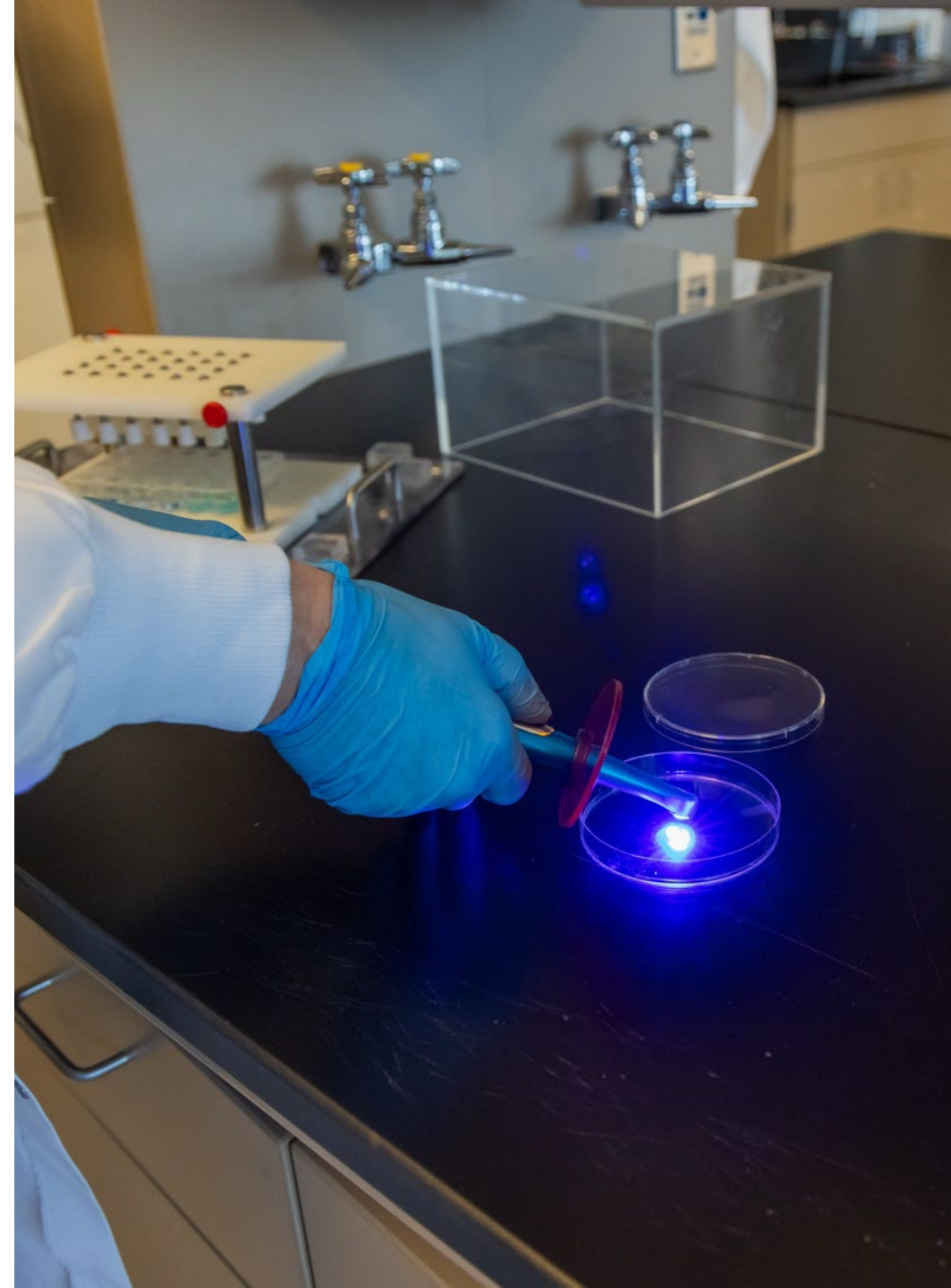
- Chancellor's Distinguished Research Lectureship Award
- Research Administration Award
- Research Collaboration Team Award
- Research Mentor Award
- Research Staff Award
- Rising Star Research Award
- Trainee Research Excellence Award – Basic Science
- Trainee Research Excellence Award – Clinical/Translational
- Research Sustainability Award

CELEBRATIONS

CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH LECTURESHIP

To honor their work, two CU Anschutz faculty members will be selected annually for the Chancellor's Distinguished Research Lecturehip Series.

The awardees will be selected based on the novelty and impact of their research.



AWARD WINNERS & LECTURES



“My Journey in Life-Course Diabetes Research”

Presented Sept 17, 2024

Dana Dabelea, MD, PhD

Colorado School
of Public Health



“From Discovery to Insight: Uncovering the Role of MUC5B in Lung Fibrosis”

Presented Feb 4, 2025

David A. Schwartz, MD

CU Anschutz School
of Medicine

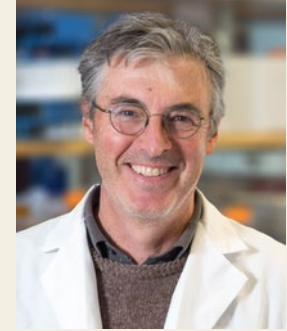


“The Human Menstrual Cycle: A Life Long Love Story”

Presented Nov 18, 2025

Nanette Santoro, MD

CU Anschutz School
of Medicine



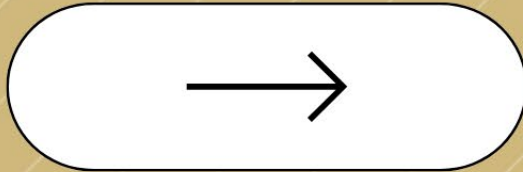
SAVE THE DATE:

April 21, 2026

**David Bentley,
PhD, FRS**

CU Anschutz School
of Medicine

LOOKING AHEAD



FUNDING ANALYTICS & FORECASTING

NEW LANDSCAPING TOOLS IN THE OFFICE OF
RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND STRATEGY



NIH National
Landscaping



Blue Ridge Institute for
Medical Research Ranking

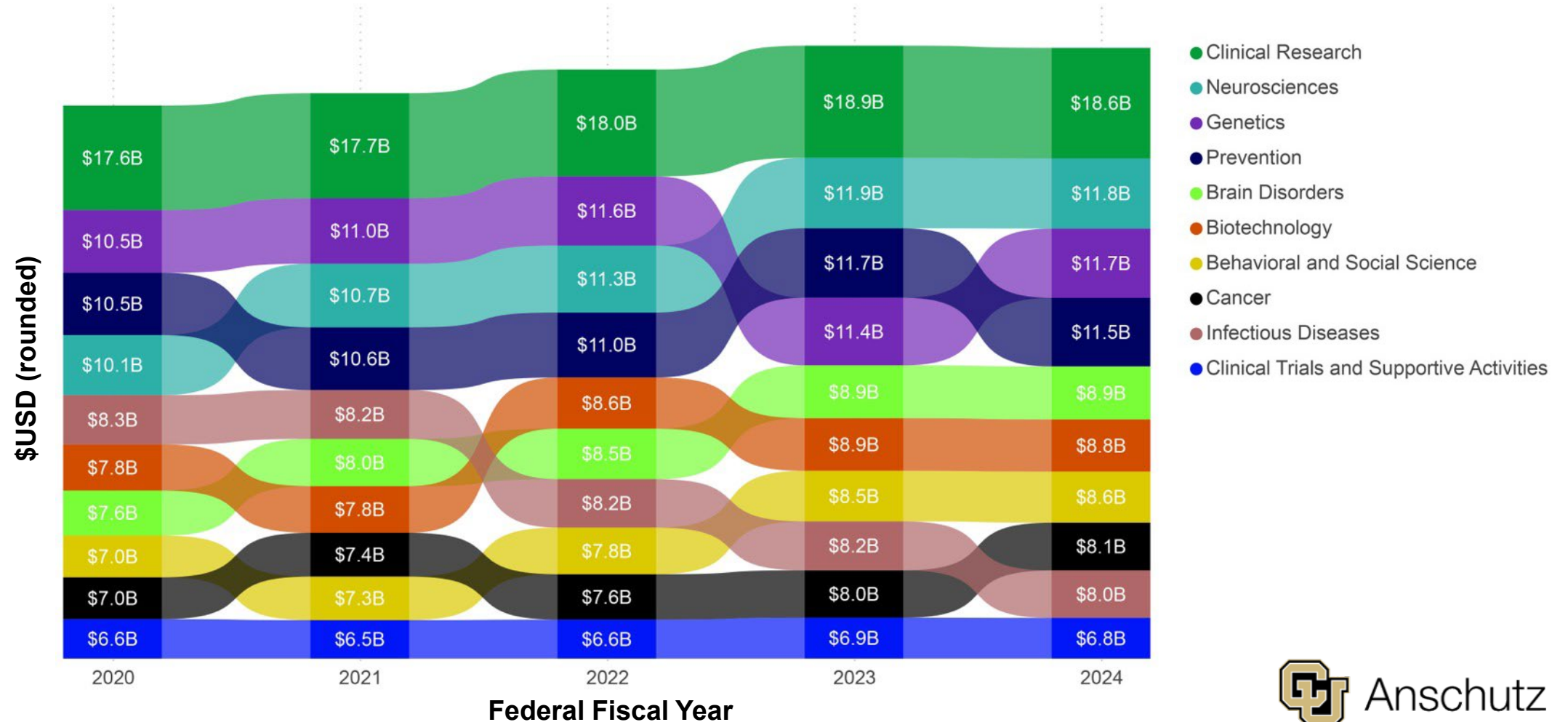


CU Anschutz
NIH Data

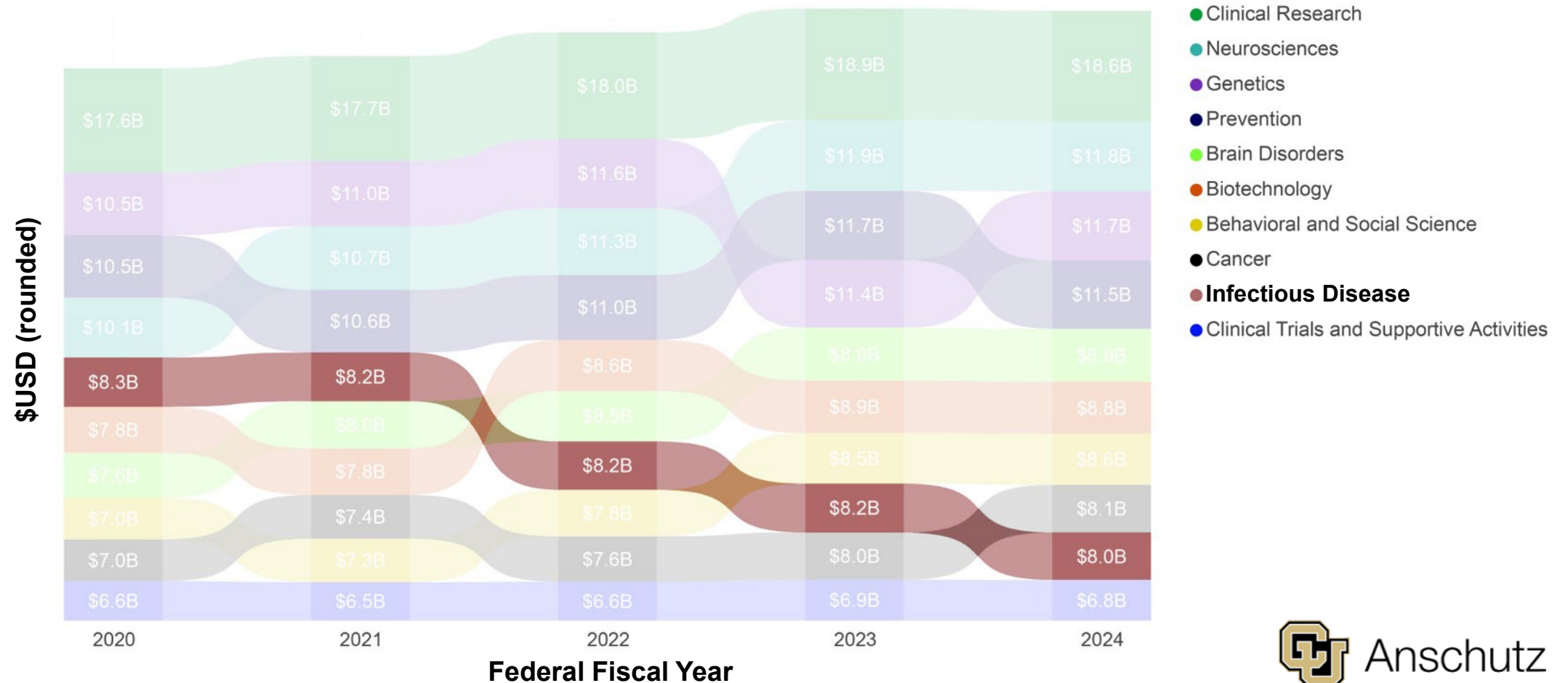


ARPA-H Data

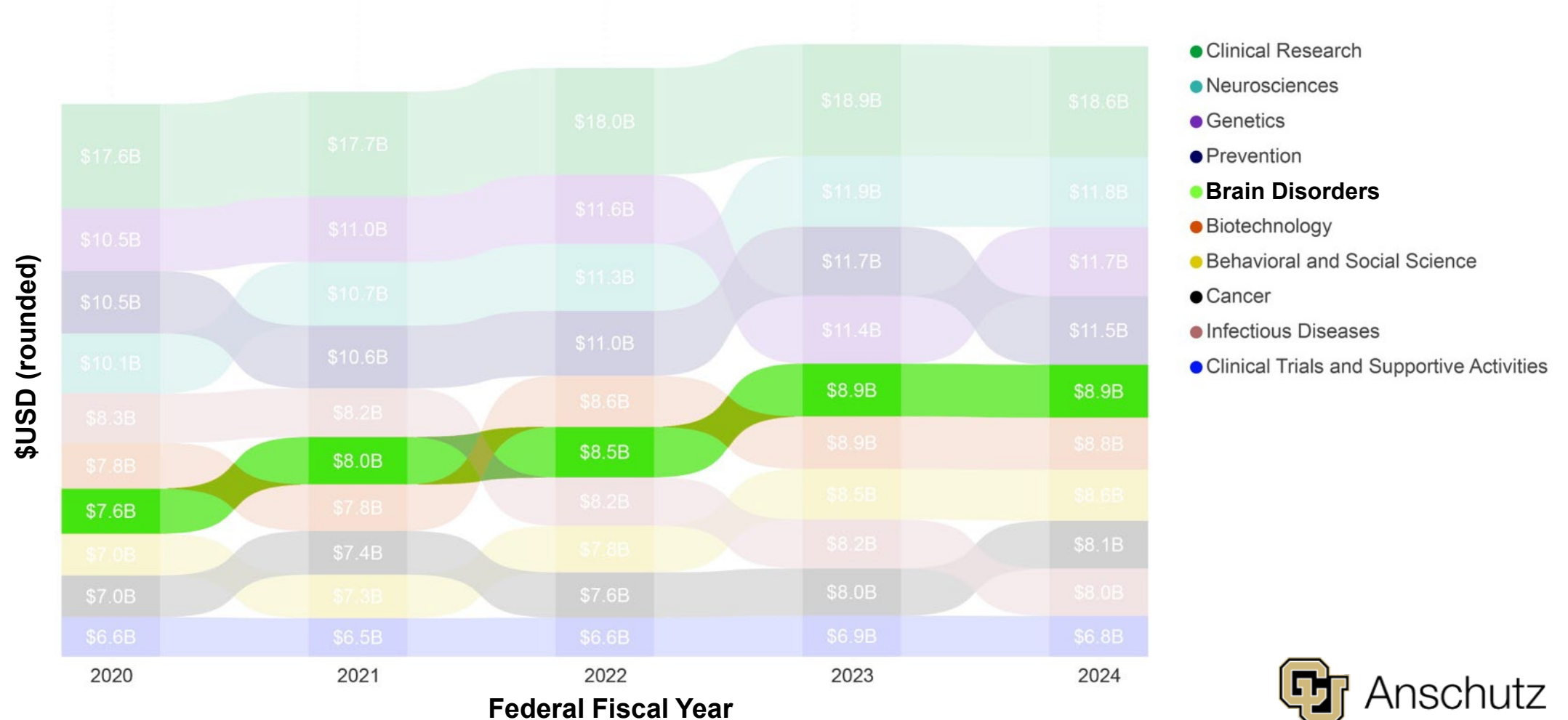
NATIONAL TOP 10 RCDC FUNDING BY INSTITUTE / CENTER

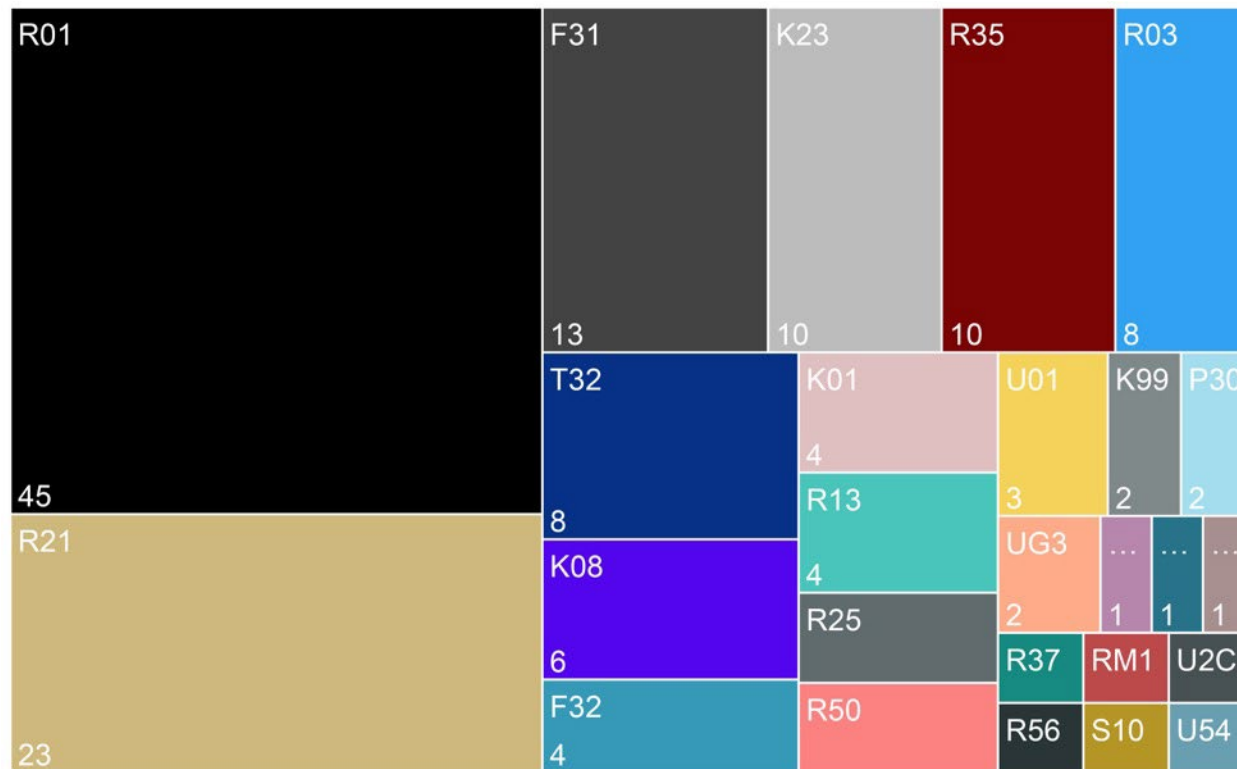


NATIONAL TOP 10 RCDC FUNDING BY INSTITUTE / CENTER



NATIONAL TOP 10 RCDC FUNDING BY INSTITUTE / CENTER





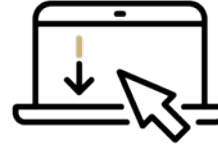
CU ANSCHUTZ NIH PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION, FY2025

**NEW AND COMPETITIVE
RENEWALS**

FUNDING STRATEGY RESOURCES



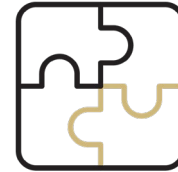
Funding Landscape & Portfolio Analysis



Pivot-RP



Virtual Grant Library



Complex Awards Program



Grantwriting Training & Education



Learn More

research.cuanschutz.edu/research-development

SUMMARY

- The federal funding landscape is undergoing significant change.
- Our campus research community remains strong and productive.
- We are working to understand new research opportunities.
- The OVCR is developing additional resources.



Q&A

