

## Station Material A: Department of Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services is the U.S. government's principal agency for protecting the health of Americans. The department provides essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. More than 300 programs cover a spectrum of activities. These activities include

- health and social science research.
- preventing disease, including immunization services.
- assuring food and drug safety.
- Medicare (health insurance for elderly and disabled Americans) and Medicaid (health insurance for low-income people).
- Head Start (preschool education and services).
- preventing child abuse and domestic violence.
- substance-abuse treatment and prevention.
- medical preparedness for emergencies, including potential terrorism.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

These are the department's projected mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.

Expenditure	Cost (in millions)
Medicare	\$367,000
Medicaid	\$198,000
Other	\$46,000



### Discretionary Expenditures

The department is requesting a 5% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year. Here are the department's three budget proposals for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$55,000 This figure maintains current staff and programs with a cost-of-living increase.	\$52,500 This figure maintains current programs with no cost-of-living increase and reduces staff by 1,000.	\$50,000 This figure cuts 2% of current programs and reduces staff by 1,500.
Preparedness for influenza pandemic and bioterror attacks	\$11,000 This figure funds 10 research facilities and builds 3 new manufacturing facilities to make and store vaccines.	\$10,500 This figure funds 10 research facilities and builds no new manufacturing facilities.	\$10,000 This figure funds 8 research facilities and builds no new manufacturing facilities.
State grants for health insurance to children of low-income families	\$22,000 This figure funds 100% of projected need (4 million children).	\$21,000 This figure funds 90% of projected need (3.6 million children).	\$20,000 This figure funds 80% of projected need (3.2 million children).

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.

## Station Material B: Department of Homeland Security

The National Strategy for Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Act of 2002 mobilized our nation to protect against terrorist attacks. To be successful, this complex mission requires a focused effort. The Department of Homeland Security was established to unify the network of organizations and institutions helping to guard our nation. The main goals of the department are to

- identify and understand potential threats to our nation.
- distribute timely information about security threats to our partners and the American public.
- detect, deter, and mitigate attacks on our homeland.
- safeguard our people along with the critical infrastructure, property, and economy of our nation from acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies.
- lead, manage, and coordinate the national response to acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies.
- lead national, state, local, and private-sector efforts to restore services and rebuild communities after acts of terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies.
- facilitate lawful trade, travel, and immigration.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

These are the department's projected mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.

Expenditure	Cost (in millions)
Federal Emergency Management Agency	\$3,000
Citizenship and Immigration Services	\$2,000
U.S. Secret Service	\$200
U.S. Coast Guard	\$1,300



### Discretionary Expenditures

The department is requesting an 8% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year. Here are the department's three budget proposals for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$28,000 This figure adds 2,000 additional staff.	\$26,000 This figure maintains current staff level.	\$25,000 This figure reduces staff by 1,000.
No-interest loans to victims of natural disasters (hurricanes, floods, tornados)	\$3,400 This figure funds 100% of projected need.	\$3,100 This figure funds 75% of projected need.	\$3,000 This figure funds 60% of projected need.
Scanners for containers entering U.S. seaports (to detect nuclear and chemical weapons)	\$5,600 This figure provides scanners for 22 of the busiest seaports in the country.	\$5,200 This figure provides scanners for 15 of the busiest seaports in the country.	\$5,000 This figure provides scanners for 10 of the busiest seaports in the country.

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.

## Station Material C: Department of State and Other International Programs

The State Department manages U.S. relations with foreign governments, international organizations, and the people of other countries. It aims to provide a freer, more prosperous, and more secure world. Through diplomacy, the State Department formulates, implements, and helps explain the president's foreign policy goals. The State Department protects our nation, its people, and our prosperity by helping to

- prevent terrorist attacks and strengthen international alliances to combat global terrorism.
- ensure homeland security by promoting policies to keep travel, trade, and infrastructure safe.
- provide guidelines to manage the entry of visitors to the United States.
- promote stability in all regions of the world.
- prevent enemies from threatening the United States or our allies with weapons of mass destruction.
- reduce the impact of international crime and illegal drugs on Americans.
- protect and assist U.S. citizens who travel, conduct business, and live abroad.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

The department has no mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.



### Discretionary Expenditures

The department is requesting a 5% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year.

Here are the department's three budget proposals for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$7,700 This figure maintains current staff and programs with a cost-of-living increase.	\$7,300 This figure maintains current programs with no cost-of-living increase and reduces staff by 100.	\$7,000 This figure cuts 1% of current programs or reduces staff by 200.
Diplomatic and consular expenses	\$5,500 This figure provides expenses for all U.S. embassies and for building maintenance and upgrades.	\$5,200 This figure provides expenses for all U.S. embassies, but not building maintenance and upgrades.	\$5,000 This figure closes 5 small U.S. embassies or 1 midsize U.S. embassy.
International peace-keeping missions	\$4,400 This figure provides civil support personnel for 100% of current commitments to peacekeeping missions.	\$4,200 This figure provides civil support personnel for 90% of current commitments to peacekeeping missions.	\$4,000 This figure provides civil support personnel for 80% of current commitments to peacekeeping missions.

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.

## Station Material D: Department of the Treasury

The Department of the Treasury is the primary federal agency responsible for the economic and financial prosperity and security of the United States. This includes advising the president on economic and financial issues, and promoting the president's growth agenda. The department works with other federal agencies, governments of other nations, and international financial institutions for several purposes. These include encouraging economic growth, raising living standards, and predicting and preventing, to the extent possible, economic crises. The basic functions of the department include

- managing federal finances.
- collecting taxes, duties, and other monies due to the United States.
- paying all bills of the United States.
- producing postage stamps and currency.
- managing government accounts and the public debt.
- supervising national banks.
- enforcing federal finance and tax laws.
- investigating and prosecuting tax evaders, counterfeiters, and forgers.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

These are the department's projected mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.

Expenditure	Cost (in millions)
Interest on the national debt	\$464,000
Payments owed to taxpayers after filing taxes	\$40,000



### Discretionary Expenditures

The department is requesting a 10% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year. Here are the department's three budget proposals for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$11,500 This figure restores 2,000 staff members to the Internal Revenue Service and U.S. Mint. Staff was lost in budget cuts over the past 5 years.	\$11,000 This figure maintains current programs and staff with no cost-of-living increase.	\$10,500 This figure reduces staff by 1,000.
Technology: hardware and software upgrades to monitor terrorist activities and to prevent fraud	\$3,400 This figure adds 100 new computers and upgrades the security software on all department computers.	\$3,100 This figure maintains the current level of hardware and software on all department computers.	\$3,000 This figure downgrades the security software on all department computers.
Legal fees for criminal cases against major tax evaders (those who owe more than \$1 million)	\$6,200 This figure funds legal fees to pursue 95% of major tax evaders.	\$5,700 This figure funds legal fees to pursue 90% of major tax evaders.	\$5,500 This figure funds legal fees to pursue 85% of major tax evaders.

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.



## Station Material E: Environmental Protection Agency

In July 1970, the White House and Congress established the Environmental Protection Agency in response to the growing public demand for cleaner water, air, and land. The agency leads the nation's environmental science, research, education, and assessment efforts by

- developing and enforcing regulations that implement environmental laws enacted by Congress.
- setting national standards for environmental programs.
- offering financial assistance to state environmental programs.
- performing environmental research to identify and solve current and future environmental problems.
- providing leadership in addressing emerging environmental issues.
- sponsoring voluntary pollution-prevention programs and energy-conservation efforts.
- educating to develop an environmentally conscious and responsible public, and to inspire personal responsibility in caring for the environment.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

The agency has no mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.



### Discretionary Expenditures

The agency is requesting a 5% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year.

Here are the agency's three budget proposals for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$4,400 This figure maintains current programs and staff with a cost-of-living increase.	\$4,200 This figure maintains current programs and staff without a cost-of-living increase.	\$4,000 This figure cuts current programs by 2% or reduces staff by 100.
State grants under Clean Air and Water Acts	\$1,150 This figure funds 80% of proposed state grants for pollution cleanup, education and training programs, and legal fees to pursue major polluters.	\$1,050 This figure funds 65% of proposed state grants for pollution cleanup, education and training programs, and legal fees to pursue major polluters.	\$1,000 This figure funds 55% of proposed state grants for pollution cleanup, education and training programs, and legal fees to pursue major polluters.
Superfund expenses: cleanup of toxic waste sites identified by the EPA	\$2,200 This figure funds cleanup of an additional 200 toxic waste sites from the Superfund waiting list.	\$2,100 This figure accelerates the level of cleanup at the 1,200 Superfund sites across the country, reducing cleanup time by several months.	\$2,000 This figure maintains the level of cleanup at the 1,200 Superfund sites across the country.

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.

## Station Material F: Social Security Administration

The mission of the Social Security Administration is to advance the economic security of the nation's people through vigilant leadership in shaping and managing Social Security programs. The administration is headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, and has 10 regional offices and about 1,260 local offices nationwide. The administration touches the lives of nearly everyone in America by

- issuing Social Security numbers.
- providing financial support for older Americans, Americans with disabilities, and their dependents.
- managing the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance programs, universally known as Social Security.
- running the Supplemental Security Insurance program for low-income aged and disabled persons.



## PROPOSED BUDGET

### Mandatory Expenditures

These are the administration's projected mandatory expenditures for the next fiscal year.

Expenditure	Cost (in millions)
Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance	\$604,000
Supplemental Security Insurance	\$42,000



### Discretionary Expenditures

The administration is requesting a 7% increase in discretionary spending for the next fiscal year. Here is the administration's budget proposal for discretionary spending.

Expenditure	Budget with Proposed Increase (in millions)	Budget with No Increase (in millions)	Budget with 5% Decrease (in millions)
Operating expenses	\$9,000 This figure adds 800 staff to local and regional offices across the country.	\$8,400 This figure maintains current level of staff without a cost-of-living increase.	\$8,000 This figure reduces staff by 500.

Note: Budget proposals are hypothetical.