



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for the military forces needed to safeguard the United States' vital national interests. The President's 2025 Budget for DOD provides the resources necessary to sustain and strengthen U.S. deterrence, advancing vital national security interests through integrated deterrence, campaigning, and investments that build enduring advantages. The Budget supports America's servicemembers and their families, strengthens alliances and partnerships, bolsters America's technological edge, ensures readiness, preserves economic competitiveness, and combats 21<sup>st</sup> Century security threats.

The Budget includes \$850 billion in discretionary budget authority for 2025, a \$34 billion or 4.1-percent increase from the 2023 enacted level. This growth is in alignment with levels agreed to in the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 and enables DOD to make the investments necessary to execute the Administration's 2022 *National Security Strategy* and 2022 *National Defense Strategy*.

In addition, the Budget includes a request for unmet needs from the Administration's October 2023 supplemental request for urgent security needs through the end of 2024.

### The President's 2025 Budget:

- **Promotes Integrated Deterrence in the Indo-Pacific and Globally.** To sustain and strengthen deterrence, the Budget provides funding to prioritize China as America's pacing challenge in line with the 2022 *National Defense Strategy*. DOD's 2025 *Pacific Deterrence Initiative* highlights some of the key investments the Department is making, focuses on strengthening deterrence in the region, and demonstrates the Department's long-term commitment to the Indo-Pacific. The Budget also provides funding to advance the Administration's commitments under the Australia-United Kingdom-United States enhanced trilateral security partnership (AUKUS) dedicated to bolstering security and stability in the region. DOD is building the concepts, capabilities, and posture necessary to meet these challenges, working to integrate deterrence efforts across the U.S. Government and with U.S. allies and partners.
- **Supports Ukraine, European Allies, and Partners.** The Budget continues to provide critical support for Ukraine, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, and other European partner states by prioritizing funding to enhance the capabilities and readiness of U.S., allied, and partner forces in the face of continued Russian aggression. However, the Budget cannot address the critical support to Ukraine, which requires congressional action on the Administration's October 2023 national security supplemental request.

- **Counters Persistent Threats.** While focused on maintaining robust deterrence against China and Russia, the Budget also provides funding to enable DOD to remain vigilant in the face of other persistent threats including those posed by North Korea, Iran, and violent extremist organizations.
- **Modernizes the Nuclear Deterrent.** The Budget provides funding to maintain a strong nuclear deterrent as a foundational aspect of integrated deterrence, for the security of the Nation and U.S. allies. The Budget supports the U.S. nuclear triad, NATO strategic deterrence, and the necessary ongoing nuclear modernization programs, to include the nuclear command, control, and communication networks.
- **Invests in the Submarine Industrial Base (SIB).** DOD conducted the 2025 SIB study to determine how to complete the once-in-a-generation recapitalization of the submarine force needed to increase the United States' ability to build and sustain attack submarines to meet U.S. military requirements. The Budget builds on the Administration's October 2023 supplemental request supporting the SIB and also supports the Administration's commitments under AUKUS—the first major deliverable of which was the historic decision to support Australia acquiring conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines.
- **Advances U.S. Cybersecurity.** The Budget continues to invest in cybersecurity programs to protect the Nation from malicious cyber actors and cyber campaigns. These investments strengthen cyber protection standards for the defense industrial base (DIB) and cybersecurity of DOD networks.
- **Delivers a Robust Military Pay Raise.** The Budget funds a robust 4.5 percent pay raise for America's servicemembers, continuing to build on the highest pay raise in decades of 5.2 percent in 2024. The Budget also provides servicemembers with annual rate increases for both housing and subsistence allowances.
- **Increases Income Eligibility Threshold for Basic Needs Allowance (BNA).** The Budget proposes to increase the income eligibility threshold for BNA from 150 percent to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- **Fulfills America's Commitment to Military Families.** Military families are key to the readiness and well-being of the All-Volunteer Force, and therefore are critical to national security. The Budget continues to support military families by prioritizing programs, including the Secretary of Defense's Taking Care of People initiatives, that seek to increase access to behavioral health providers, continue access to employment opportunities for military spouses, and increase access to high-quality child care for military families via the Child Care Workforce Initiative.
- **Focuses on Suicide and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Efforts.** The Budget includes funding to support the Department's efforts on Suicide Prevention and Response and implements recommendations from the Suicide Prevention and Response Independent Review Committee. This funding would support improving the delivery of mental health-care, addressing stigma and other barriers to care, revising suicide prevention training, and promoting a culture of lethal means safety. The Budget also includes funding to support the Department's efforts on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response and implements Secretary-approved recommendations from the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military, designed to increase awareness, provide support mechanisms to victims, and significantly reduce the environment for, tolerance of, and occurrence of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and domestic violence in the Joint Force. The Budget also includes funding to

continue implementation of military justice reforms, led by each of the Services' Office for Special Trial Counsel.

- **Promotes Energy Efficiency and Installation Resilience for Warfighting Operations.** The Budget invests in power and energy performance, which makes U.S. forces more agile, efficient, and survivable. The Budget also improves the resilience of DOD facilities and operations to protect mission critical capabilities.
- **Enhances Biodefense and Pandemic Preparedness.** The Budget provides robust funding to support the Administration's *2022 National Biodefense Strategy and Implementation Plan for Countering Biological Threats, Enhancing Pandemic Preparedness, and Achieving Global Health Security*, the National Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Initiative, and to implement recommendations from DOD's *2023 Biodefense Posture Review*.
- **Ensures Readiness across America's Armed Forces.** The Budget continues to ensure that U.S. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Guardians remain the best trained and equipped fighting forces in the world. The Budget places additional emphasis on foundational investments to sustain current weapon systems and support increased training across the Department, while pursuing technological enhancements to extend the service life of material vital to the warfighter. In addition, the Budget continues the recapitalization and optimization of the four public Naval Shipyards to meet future submarine and carrier maintenance requirements.
- **Builds the Air Power Needed for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.** The Budget funds the procurement of a mix of highly capable crewed aircraft while continuing to modernize fielded fighter, bomber, mobility, and training aircraft. The Budget also accelerates the development and procurement of uncrewed combat aircraft and the relevant autonomy to augment crewed aircraft. Investing in this mix of aircraft provides an opportunity to increase the resiliency and flexibility of the fleet to meet future threats, while reducing operating costs.
- **Optimizes U.S. Naval Shipbuilding and Modernization.** Maintaining U.S. naval power is critical to reassuring allies and deterring potential adversaries. The Budget includes executable and responsible investments in the U.S. Navy fleet. The Budget also continues the recapitalization of the Nation's strategic ballistic missile submarine fleet while robustly investing in the SIB. In addition, the Budget invests in improving the lethality and survivability of the fleet, particularly improving undersea superiority.
- **Strengthens the U.S. Supply Chain and Industrial Base.** The Budget invests in key technologies and sectors of the U.S. industrial base such as microelectronics, submarine construction, munitions production, and biomanufacturing. The Budget supports DOD's modernization initiatives in its organic industrial base to maintain the Nation's readiness.
- **Supports a Ready and Modern Army.** The Budget maintains a ready Army capable of responding globally as part of the Joint Force through investments in Army modernization initiatives, including critical non-kinetic and long-range strike capabilities. In addition, the Budget modernizes and expands the production capacity of the industrial base to ensure the Army can meet strategic demands for critical munitions.
- **Invests in Long-Range Fire Capabilities.** The safety and security of the Nation requires a strong, sustainable, and responsive mix of long-range strike capabilities. The Budget invests in the development and testing of hypersonic strike capabilities while enhancing existing long-range strike capabilities to bolster deterrence and improve survivability.

- **Increases Space Resilience.** Space is vital to U.S. national security and is integral to modern warfare. The Budget maintains America’s advantage by providing funding to improve the resilience of U.S. space architectures, such as in-space sensing and communications, in order to bolster deterrence and increase survivability.
- **Optimizes Force Structure.** In line with the *2022 National Defense Strategy*, the Budget provides funding to optimize force structure in order to build a Joint Force that is lethal, sustainable, resilient, survivable, agile, and responsive.
- **Supports Defense Research and Development (R&D) and the Defense Technology Industrial Base.** DOD plays a critical role in overall Federal R&D that spurs innovation, yields high-value technology, enables America to maintain and build advantages over strategic competitors, and creates good-paying jobs. The Budget sustains high levels of defense R&D, testing, and evaluation funding to invest in breakthrough technologies that drive innovation, support capacity in the defense technology industrial base, ensure American technological leadership, and underpin the development of future defense capabilities.
- **Invests in Artificial Intelligence (AI).** The Budget provides funding to responsibly develop, test, procure, and integrate transformative AI applications across the Department. The Budget also supports the implementation of Executive Order 14110, “Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence.”
- **Reiterates the Administration’s Request for Urgent National Security Priorities.** In October 2023, the Administration submitted an emergency national security supplemental request to the Congress for urgent security needs through the end of 2024. This request included \$58 billion for DOD to provide critical support to Israel and Ukraine, and to strengthen integrated deterrence in the Indo-Pacific. The request would also make crucial investments in the American DIB, benefitting U.S. military readiness and helping to create and sustain jobs across America. Absent congressional action on this emergency request, DOD would not be able to provide this urgently needed support to its allies and partners, or to make these critical DIB investments. The Administration appreciates the bipartisan supplemental legislation that passed the Senate that would address these urgent needs.