

# IMPACT OF DISRUPTIONS TO BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH AND TRAINING

July 2025

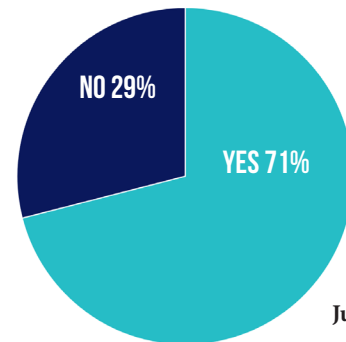
The American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) surveyed biomedical/biological engineering departments across the country to assess:

- Prevalence of Funding Cuts and Grant Terminations
- First-Year Graduate Student Positions in Biomedical / Biological Engineering Programs for Fall 2025
- Capacity for Scientific Research
- Restrictions on DEIA-related Work

Responses were received from 55 departments out of 114: 33 public institutions (60%) and 22 private institutions (40%), for a 48% response rate. Responding institutions hailed from 28 red states and 25 blue states (2 respondents did not report their states).\*

## Grant Terminations

Survey Question: "Have faculty in your biomedical/biological engineering department had grant funding terminated since Jan 2025?"



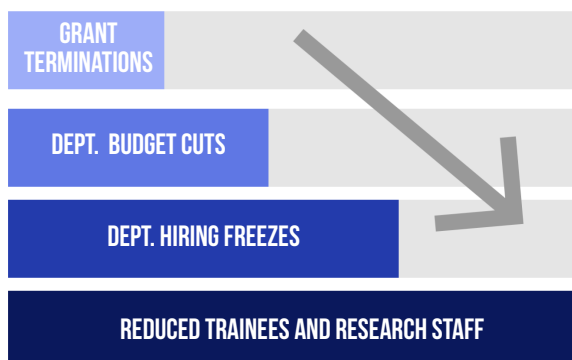
July 2025

## PREVALENCE OF FUNDING CUTS AND GRANT TERMINATIONS

Overall, 71% of responding departments have experienced grant funding terminations since January 2025. These include grants from: National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, USAID, and DOD.

### Grant Termination Repercussions

Grant terminations have a cascading negative effect on institutional capacity for research and the ability to train high-skilled engineers and trainees.



#### GRANT TERMINATIONS

82% of private institutions and 64% of public institutions reported grant terminations.



Biomedical/biological engineering departments reported a reduction in federal funding since January 2025.



Private intuitions reported greater financial losses than their public institution counterparts.

#### BUDGET CUTS

68% of private institutions and 39% of public institutions reported budget cuts since January 2025.

#### HIRING FREEZES

68% of private institutions and 24% of public institutions reported hiring freezes.

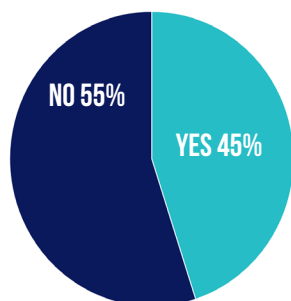
#### TRAINEE/STAFF REDUCTIONS

48% of private institutions and 42% of public institutions reported reductions in trainees and/or research or administrative staff. (Trainees include graduate students and post-docs).

# IMPACT ON STUDENTS AND TRAINING

## Reduced Graduate Student Enrollment

Survey Question: "Do you plan to enroll fewer first-year graduate students in the Fall of 2025?"



More than 45% of the responding departments indicated they plan to enroll fewer first-year graduate students in the Fall of 2025. Decreased enrollment ranged from 10% to 50% fewer first-year graduate students.

July 2025



Biomedical/biological engineering departments reported plans to **enroll fewer first-year graduate students** in Fall of 2025.

- 48% of private institutions and 42% of public institutions reported they plan to enroll fewer first-year graduate students in the Fall of 2025. Decreased enrollment ranged from 10-50%.
- 24% of private institutions indicated they rescinded offers of graduate program acceptances made for Fall of 2025, while none of the responding public institutions indicated they rescinded offers of graduate program acceptance made for Fall of 2025.

# IMPACT OF FEDERAL BAN ON DEIA

More than 35% of departments reported that faculty in their departments have lost funding for research that includes broadening participation in science, with only an indirect focus on DEIA (diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility), including 43% of private reporting departments, and 30% of public reporting departments. Nearly 20% of public and private departments reported being unaffected by the federal ban on DEIA-related activities.

## A CLOSER LOOK AT THE IMPACT ON STATES BY POLITICAL AFFILIATION

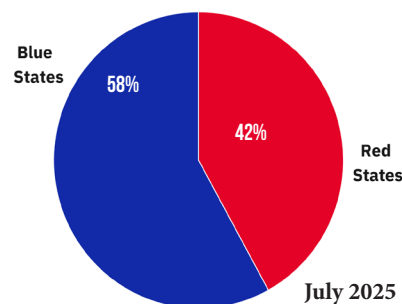


While institutions in blue states reported worse outcomes for research and departmental funding, as well as student enrollment, the impact to red states is also pronounced.\*

### Reductions in Graduate Student Enrollment by State/Political Party

Of the responding institutions that indicated plans to enroll fewer first-year graduate students:

- 58% are from blue states
- 42% are from red states

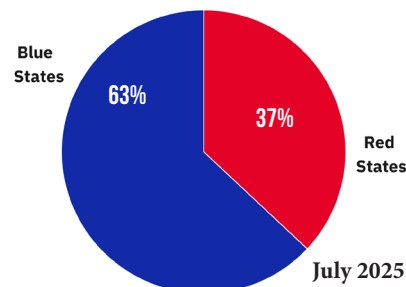


States' political affiliation determined by the 2024 electoral college election results

### Impact of Ban on DEIA by State/Political Party

Of the responding institutions that have lost funding for research that includes broadening participation in science, with only an indirect focus on DEIA:

- 63% are from blue states
- 37% are from red states

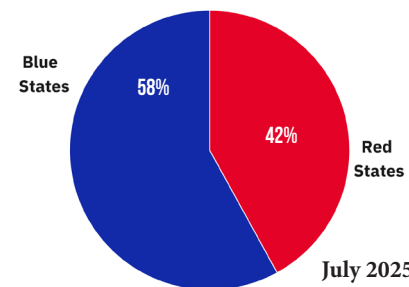


States' political affiliation determined by the 2024 electoral college election results

### Grant Terminations by State/Political Party

Of the responding departments that reported grant funding terminations:

- 58% are from blue states
- 42% are from red states



States' political affiliation determined by the 2024 electoral college election results

\*States' political affiliation determined by the 2024 electoral college election results