

White House Advocates for Increased Focus on and Efforts to Expand STEM Education

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The White House in September announced plans to spend \$200 million a year on grants meant to boost STEM education in an effort to close a widening skills gap that, some say, has left Americans out of the running for scientific and technical jobs.

Bay Area powerhouses Facebook, Google and Salesforce have committed \$50 million apiece to support these efforts—making up about half the \$300 million commitment from the private sector. Other companies funding STEM education efforts include Amazon, General Motors and Lockheed Martin.

It was not immediately clear where the \$200 million in federal dollars would come from, though the Trump administration emphasized that it would not be new funding, but rather existing money that would be redirected.