

Fact Sheet: UC Research and the National Science Foundation

Research at the University of California (UC) is helping confront major societal challenges, in large part due to funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF). NSF has a broad mission: “to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense.” NSF funding constitutes 25 percent of the total federal budget for fundamental research conducted at U.S. colleges and universities and to train and educate the next generation workforce in science and engineering.

UC supports \$10.2 billion in FY 2022 funding for NSF programs that advance fundamental research in all areas of science and engineering across research directorates and cross-cutting research programs.

- **UC researchers are awarded more NSF funding than any other institution in the country**, receiving approximately 7 to 8 percent of NSF’s annual appropriations.
- **In FY 2020, UC researchers successfully competed for \$586 million in NSF funding across 2,195 grant awards.** Historically, UC’s NSF funding represents more than half of the total for all California institutions.
- **NSF funding supports future innovations** in areas such as quantum computing, artificial intelligence, robotics, 5G, space exploration, digital agriculture, cancer and aging.
- **NSF funding can ensure the continuity of a robust and sustainable research enterprise and workforce** within our universities and national laboratories. This includes funding for supporting early career researchers and increasing diversity in the STEM workforce.

Campus	NSF funding FY 2020 (in million of dollars)*	Distinct awards FY2020
UC Berkeley	\$164,023	363
UC Davis	\$42,351	290
UC Irvine	\$55,116	246
UC Los Angeles	\$75,243	311
UC Merced	\$7,568	33
UC Riverside	\$28,967	199
UC San Diego	\$114,476	437
UC San Francisco	\$13,735	23
UC Santa Barbara	\$67,048	209
UC Santa Cruz	\$18,006	81

**NSF funding, federal fiscal year, not inflation adjusted*