UC and the Federal Government

The federal government is an essential partner to the University of California, helping ensure that UC is an economic and innovation engine for California and the nation. The federal government provides support for UC in three crucial areas: student financial aid, research, and health care delivery and training. These funds help UC educate our nation’s workforce, advance scientific and technological breakthroughs, and provide world-class medical training and patient care.

Together, UC, the federal government and the state of California open doors of opportunity for the next generation.

Federal support for UC

UC FY 2021-22 federal support for UC and UC students (expenditures; dollars in millions).

Program Support

- Research Grants and Contracts: $2,631.4
- Indirect Cost Recovery: $981.0
- DOE National Lab Management and Operations: $1,016.9
- Other Contracts and Grants: $374.5

2020 CARES Act, CRRSSAA & ARP Funding

- Higher Education: $642.7
- Health Care Provider Relief: $52.8

Student Financial Aid

- Pell Grants: $439.4
- Other Undergraduate Grants and Scholarships: $7.4
- Graduate Fellowships and Scholarships: $146.4
- Student Loans: $1,034.9
- Work-Study: $18.7

Patient Care

- Medicare: $3,969.1
- Medicaid: $3,630.8

Total: $14,946.0

Federal financial aid at UC

UC combines federal, state and university aid — along with contributions from students and their families — into a comprehensive package that helps ensure that cost is not a barrier to enrollment and graduation for our 230,000 undergraduate students.

- 37% of undergrads are first-generation college students
- 54% of California undergrads have their tuition fully covered
- 33% are Pell Grant recipients
- 61% of California undergrads graduate without student loan debt
- 27% transferred from a community college
- Average student loan debt at graduation: $17,900 for UC undergrads, $28,950 for National

A UC diploma is a ticket to economic mobility

Across disciplines, incomes of UC bachelor’s degree recipients double between two and ten years after graduation.

- 93% of UC’s lowest income students go on to earn more than their parents
- 5 years after graduating, most of UC’s Pell Grant recipients earn more than their parents
Federal investment in UC research

Federal funds are the university’s single most important source of support for research, accounting for more than half of UC’s total research awards.

8.5% of all academic research in the U.S. is conducted by UC researchers.

$3.97B in federal agency research funding awarded in FY 2022.

Many of California’s leading industries grew from UC research, including biotechnology, computing, semiconductors, telecommunications and agriculture.

5 number of new inventions (on average) per day

1,502 startups from UC intellectual property/technology (through UC FY 2021)

1,718 inventions disclosed (UC FY 2021)

13,308 active US and foreign patents (through UC FY 2021)

Three affiliated national laboratories

The Department of Energy national labs embody UC’s mission of public service, research and education.

| Laboratory Operating Budgets (FY 2022) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Los Alamos National Laboratory       | $4.0B                  |
| Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory | $2.9B                 |
| Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory | $1.4B                 |

For more information, please contact UC’s Office of Federal Governmental Relations at (202) 974-6300.

Providing health care at UC

University of California Health (UCH) is the nation’s largest academic health system, serving as a critical part of the California safety net.

9.5M hospital & schools of medicine outpatient visits

1.16M inpatient days

370,284 emergency room visits

$1.64B net community benefit

One of California’s largest Medicaid providers

UC’s academic health centers are the second-largest provider of Medicaid hospital services by most measures, yet they operate less than 6% of the acute care beds across the state.

35.7% Medicare inpatient days

35.2% Medicaid inpatient days

UC trains nearly half of the medical students and medical residents in California

5,516 number of medical residents trained each year through UC federal partnership, at an average cost of $130,664 per resident per year.

860 number of medical residents UC funds each year without federal support, at a cost of approximately $113M per year.

Data is drawn from most recent available; published April 2023.