FY 2021 Fast Facts

- **$445,549,000**
  - Total NSF Awards to the District of Columbia

- **$364,692,000**
  - Invested in Fundamental Research in the District of Columbia

- **$28,451,000**
  - Invested in STEM Education in the District of Columbia

- **$1,788,000**
  - Invested in District of Columbia startups

Top NSF-funded Academic Institutions for FY 2021

- **$17,466,000**
  - George Washington University

- **$15,181,000**
  - American University

- **$7,589,000**
  - Howard University

NSF By The Numbers

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an **$8.8 billion** independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense. NSF's vital role is to support basic research and researchers who create knowledge that transforms the future.

- **93%**
  - Funds research, education and related activities

- **$8.8B**
  - FY 2022 Enacted

- **43,600**
  - Proposals evaluated

- **2,000**
  - NSF-funded institutions

- **11,300**
  - Number of awards NSF funds each year

- **318K**
  - People NSF supported

- **$1.5B**
  - STEM education

- **$181M**
  - To seed public/private partnerships

- **253**
  - NSF-funded Nobel Prize winners

Data represents FY 2021 Actuals unless otherwise indicated. Corresponds to NSF investments initiated in FY 2021 and spanning multi-year periods.

nsf.gov
NSF-funded COVID-19 Research and Recovery

Researchers at George Washington University seek to develop new computational approaches to integrate diverse data types (such as genetic and medical information), identify patterns of associations among these data types, identify treatment targets, and understand how these relationships change over time and with variation in viral and host populations. The project targets COVID-19 as an exemplar system because of the explosion of available data associated with it, but the methodology developed will be applicable across a broad range of infectious diseases in humans and other animals and plants. Ten local students (including underrepresented groups) will conduct research projects related to this award during summers and in an online webinar for 30 students nationwide that will be offered to broaden the impact and reach of the funded research.

STEM Education

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program, or HBCU-UP, at NSF has identified research in broadening participation in STEM as a priority and has committed to funding innovative models to enhance the understanding of barriers that hinder inclusivity STEM. With support from HBCU-UP, Howard University and a consortium of schools have designed a project to implement essential research to set the foundation for development of theoretical models that pertain to research on identity and motivation of African American students in STEM fields.

Research Driving Innovation

NSF is supporting a new CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service program at Georgetown University to prepare highly qualified cybersecurity professionals for entry into the federal, state, local or tribal government workforce. The Cybersecurity Fellows program at Georgetown will provide students with a broad view of cybersecurity. CyberCorps SFS students will not only learn the technical aspects of cybersecurity but will also understand domestic and foreign policy, politics, business, culture and ethics. The Cybersecurity Fellows program aims to diversify the cybersecurity workforce by recruiting, graduating and placing women and members of underrepresented groups in government positions. The program will also offer additional faculty mentoring, interdisciplinary academic programming and job placement services. Cybersecurity Fellows will use Georgetown's relationship with the Cristo Rey network of high schools to recruit underrepresented students from urban schools to Georgetown. Additionally, the Regents Scholars Program, a summer bridge program for underrepresented students in STEM, will help usher in well-prepared students for a rigorous science curriculum.

Infrastructure

The Center for Nanotechnology Research and Education at the University of the District of Columbia is part of the NSF CREST, Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology, program to enhance the research capabilities of minority-serving institutions through centers that effectively integrate research and education. The center at UDC focuses on emerging nanotechnology areas of computer technology, advanced manufacturing and thermal energy transport.

NCSES

According to the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), which is housed in NSF, District of Columbia ranks 4th in the nation for Federal R&D obligations. Visit District of Columbia's science and engineering state profile to learn more!

- 11.25% of the District of Columbia's workforce are employed in S&E occupations.
- 40.63% of the District of Columbia's higher education degrees are concentrated in S&E fields.

Learn More


NSF FACT SHEETS – NSF provides fact sheets about the agency and its bold investments in basic research. These fact sheets profile NSF investments in research across all fields of science and engineering, including quantum, artificial intelligence, and advanced manufacturing, and the NSF-supported research and computing infrastructure powering the U.S. response to COVID-19.

CONNECT WITH NSF – For more information on NSF’s impact in your state, please contact NSF’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at congressionalteam@nsf.gov.