**KANSAS FACT SHEET**

**FY 2020 FAST FACTS**

- **$44,239,000**
  - Total NSF awards to Kansas

- **$41,156,000**
  - Invested in fundamental research in Kansas

- **$3,083,000**
  - Invested in STEM education in Kansas

- **$1,785,000**
  - Invested in Kansas startups through NSF’s small business program

**TOP NSF-FUNDED ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR FY 2020**

- **$20,624,000**
  - University of Kansas

- **$17,757,000**
  - Kansas State University

- **$1,933,000**
  - Wichita State University

**NSF BY THE NUMBERS**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an **$8.5 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.
NSF-FUNDED RESEARCH FIGHTING COVID-19

Congress provided NSF with funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 in the CARES Act of 2020 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. For more information on NSF’s COVID research, visit NSF’s award database and COVID funding reports.

COVID-19 RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT | One project funded at Kansas State University aims to design and validate optical nanobiosensors—sensitive nanoscale sensors of biological substances—to detect active coronavirus infections. Current techniques for detecting the virus that causes COVID-19 are limited—they can’t clearly differentiate between active or recent past infection. Optical nanobiosensors could offer a new technique to obtain a quantitative measure of virus activity.

STEM EDUCATION

STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | Driven by local demand for trained facility technicians in biotechnology and other fields, including the Department of Homeland Security’s new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, NSF is supporting development of a certificate and an associate of applied science degree in critical environments engineering technology at Manhattan Area Technical College. This project is funded through NSF’s Advanced Technical Education program, with an emphasis on two-year institutions of higher education. The ATE program focuses on the education of technicians for the high-technology fields that drive our nation’s economy.

RESEARCH DRIVING WORKFORCE INNOVATION

FUTURE OF WORK | Researchers at Kansas State University’s Wheat Genetic Resource Center, an NSF Industry-University Cooperative Research Center, identified a gene that provides resistance to many wheat viruses, including the wheat streak mosaic virus, a disease causing economic devastation across the Great Plains. The researchers and local partners are now producing a new variety of wheat seed with the resistant gene to make it available to Kansas wheat farmers, thus contributing to both food and economic security. Across the state, researchers at the University of Kansas are working to understand the multitudes of microbes that naturally inhabit Kansas’ soil and water. Understanding the interconnections of this microbiome can aid ecosystem management to increase plant, root and soil productivity while maintaining water quality of streams and lakes. This five-year project, funded for $20,000,000, was awarded through NSF’s EPSCoR, the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. EPSCoR was created to provide deliberate investments in science and engineering research and capacity-building in U.S. states and territories receiving a disproportionate share of NSF funds.

EPSCoR

• COMPETITIVE RESEARCH | Kansas is one of 28 U.S. states or territories under NSF’s Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). Over $7,790,000 in awards have been made to Kansas academic institutions through EPSCoR in FY 2020. For more information, visit Kansas’ EPSCoR state web page.

NCSES

• According to the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), which is housed in NSF, 34% of Science, Engineering, and Health doctorates conferred in Kansas are made in Life sciences. Visit Kansas’ science and engineering state profile to learn more!

4.26% of Kansas’ workforce are employed in S&E occupations.

8.65% of Kansas’ industries offer high-level science, engineering and technology occupations.

LEARN MORE

• NSF70 – In 2020, NSF commemorated its 70th anniversary and the 75th anniversary of the publication of Science - the Endless Frontier. Watch the highlight video for NSF’s seven decades of funding the best and brightest ideas that have transformed our lives and established the U.S. as a science and technology leader.

• 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.