Top NSF-funded Academic Institutions for FY 2022

- University of Puerto Rico - All Campuses: $16,334,126
- Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico: $1,329,730
- Universidad Metropolitana: $356,985

NSF By The Numbers

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is a $9.5 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.

- 11K Number of awards
- $9.9B NSF funds each year
- 39K Proposals evaluated
- $1.6B STEM education
- 1.8K NSF-funded institutions
- 93% Research, education, and related activities
- 352K People NSF-supported
- 258 NSF-funded Nobel Prize winners

Data represents FY 2022 Actuals unless otherwise indicated.

Invested in
Fundamental
Research in Puerto Rico
Invested in STEM
Education in Puerto Rico
Invested in Puerto Rico Businesses

$18,914,000
$14,726,000
$4,188,000
$502,000

Total NSF Awards to Puerto Rico
Invested in Fundamental Research in Puerto Rico
Invested in STEM Education in Puerto Rico
Invested in Puerto Rico Businesses
Expanding the Frontiers of Science

The Center for Advanced Radio Sciences and Engineering enables the development of integrated tools to resolve spectrum sharing and coexistence issues and improve performance on radio science observations through an innovation and collaboration ecosystem designed to elevate the science and engineering capacity at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez, Arecibo Observatory and Puerto Rico in general. The center will explore new concepts in radio astronomy, atmospheric sciences, spectrum monitoring and radio frequency interference mitigation, with a focus on scientific observations. The center aims to improve the research competitiveness of the Puerto Rico engineering and academic communities and train a new generation of students via hands-on experience with leading-edge research infrastructure and internships. The center provides support to maintain and grow the local scientific and engineering capacity and fosters new collaborations between Arecibo, the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, industry and the Puerto Rico academic community, which will enrich both radio sciences and engineering and position Puerto Rico students and scientists to participate strongly in future radio sciences projects.

STEM Education and Broadening Participation

With support from the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions program, the Track 1 Increasing Student Engagement and Retention in STEM through advancing Research Experience and Knowledge in Marine Biotechnology project aims to increase undergraduate student interest, retention and success in biological sciences. This collaborative project at the Barranquitas and Guayama campuses of the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico carries forward the goals of the program in economically disadvantaged, rural areas of Puerto Rico. The project targets those points along the academic pipeline that represent critical transitions at which students are most likely to switch to a non-STEM major or drop out of college and will do so through innovative changes in STEM teaching and learning. Puerto Rico being an island offers a plethora of opportunities in marine biotechnology, including research and industrial applications. By introducing a minor concentration in marine biotechnology, along with an elective course in “blue” chemistry at the undergraduate level, this project aims to revitalize the undergraduate biology program and train undergraduates to assume roles in academia, policymaking and industry. The project generates new knowledge about how a research-focused learning experience at the undergraduate level combined with the support from tutorial services and faculty trained in modern scientific tools and techniques can contribute to higher retention and degree attainment in STEM.

Regional Innovation Engines

The NSF Engines program envisions fostering flourishing regional innovation ecosystems across the country, providing a unique opportunity to spur economic growth in regions that have not fully participated in the technology boom of the past few decades. The NSF Engines program uniquely harnesses the nation's science and technology research and development enterprise and regional-level resources. NSF Engines can catalyze robust partnerships rooted in scientific and technological innovation to positively impact the economy within a geographic region, address societal challenges, and advance national competitiveness. Find potential NSF engines in your state.

Learn More

CHIPS & SCIENCE – The CHIPS and Science Act’s investments in the U.S. National Science Foundation will help the United States remain a global leader in innovation. Implementation of this legislation will be key to ensuring that ideas, talent and prosperity are unleashed across all corners of the nation. For more information, please visit NSF’s CHIPS and Science website.

RESEARCH SECURITY – NSF is committed to safeguarding the integrity and security of science and engineering while also keeping fundamental research open and collaborative. NSF seeks to address an age of new threats and challenges through close work with our partners in academia, law enforcement, intelligence and other federal agencies. By fostering transparency, disclosure and other practices that reflect the values of research integrity, NSF is helping to lead the way in ensuring taxpayer-funded research remains secure. To learn more, please visit NSF’s Research Security website.

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.

30.32% of Puerto Rico’s higher education degrees are concentrated in S&E fields.

3.15% of Puerto Rico’s workforce are employed in S&E occupations.