U.S. National Science Foundation

NSF 75 YEARS OF INNOVATION

2025 marks the 75th anniversary of NSF. Throughout the year, the agency will host in-person and virtual activities to commemorate this significant milestone. For more information, visit: nsf.gov/75years

CALIFORNIA

FAST FACTS

$1,028,083,000
Total NSF Awards to California

$862,061,000
Invested in Fundamental Research in California

$154,077,000
Invested in STEM Education in California

$68,369,000
Invested in California Businesses

TOP NSF-FUNDED ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

University of California, Berkeley	California Institute of Technology	University of California, San Diego
$88,732,000	**$75,629,000**	**$75,303,000**

NSF BY THE NUMBERS

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense. To fulfill this vital role, NSF supports basic research and researchers who create knowledge that transforms the future.

DID YOU KNOW? NSF has funded the work of **268** Nobel Prize winners over 75 years.

$9.06B
FY 2024 Total Enacted

92%
Funds research, education and related activities

11K
Awards

1.9K
Institutions

358K
People

"Data represents FY 2024 Actuals unless otherwise indicated"

www.nsf.gov

INNOVATION | *Generating new knowledge that provides a greater understanding of the world around us*

Through funding from the NSF BioFoundries to Enable Access to Infrastructure and Resources for Advancing Modern Biology and Biotechnology program, a collaborative team from the **University of California, Santa Barbara, University of California, Riverside** and **California State Polytechnic University, Pomona** have established the NSF BioFoundry for Extreme & Exceptional Fungi, Archaea and Bacteria (NSF Ex-FAB). NSF ExFAB will house unique equipment and user facilities that enable researchers to understand how microbes that thrive in extreme environments function. Traits of these microorganisms include novel pathways, proteins, and structures which represent an untapped resource for biotechnological advances. ExFAB will also train and attract researchers and users from the 23 campuses of the California State University system through a master's student education program. ExFAB will accelerate the translation of products, processes and intellectual property from the biofoundry to support start-up ventures and industrial use in California and nationwide.

EXPANDING FRONTIERS | *Generating institutional capacity, new technologies and societal impact*

The NSF Innovation Corps (NSF I-Corps™) Northwest Region Hub, led by the **University of California, Berkeley** is focused on the development of infrastructure needed for entrepreneurial training for academic STEM researchers and high-potential community teams. The aim of this training is to advance the translation of deep technologies into societal and economic impact, accelerate the commercialization of cutting-edge technologies and enhance regional innovation. It also supports workforce readiness in a region that is rapidly changing as the result of post-pandemic economic and geographic dynamics as well as net migration to and from rural areas. In addition, hub activities provide the training needed to power other NSF initiatives promoting commercialization and innovation. Developing these entrepreneurial skills for both academic researchers and throughout the region's workforce amplifies the economic and societal impacts of NSF and other basic research while accelerating the growth of startups, providing economic benefit to the region and beyond.

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE | *Supporting our STEM talent of today and tomorrow*

WestEd, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, is partnering with the **San Diego Unified School District**, the RAND Corporation and Northwestern University on a project that seeks to implement a practice-based professional learning program for teachers. The project, funded through the NSF Discovery Research PreK-12 program, employs performance assessments as a lever for instructional improvement by eliciting, centering, and advancing students' thinking in middle school science classrooms. The project uses a design-based implementation research approach, which means implementation of the educational innovation is coupled with a study of how that innovation plays out. The project directly impacts 70 middle school science teachers and their 18,000 students during the project period. The research practice partnership is also building capacity for the adaptation of the professional learning model to new grades and schools and the development of an open-access set of tools designed to be used flexibly by educational stakeholders across the country.

ON THE CUTTING EDGE

NSF is pushing the boundaries of what is possible in today's most important technology areas, including artificial intelligence, quantum information science, and biotechnology. The Foundation also maintains industry-leading, state-of-the-art facilities around the world.

NCSES

The National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) within the U.S. National Science Foundation is the nation's leading provider of statistical data on the U.S. science and engineering enterprise. As a principal federal statistical agency, NCSES conducts nationally representative surveys and publishes objective data and reports on topics related to research and development, the science and engineering workforce, and STEM education. For example, in FY 2024, **California** invested **$236,140,000,000** on research and development.

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

LEARN MORE

- **BROUGHT TO YOU BY NSF** – NSF has invested in discoveries, inventions, and innovations that have shaped the modern world, including the internet, 3D printing, American Sign Language, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), deep sea exploration, Doppler radar and more. For more information on NSF impacts, please visit: nsf.gov/impacts.
- **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.
- **FOSTERING INNOVATION** – Every year, NSF funds around 400 companies across nearly all technology areas to create prototypes and commercialize technologies. Learn more at seedfund.nsf.gov.