FOR FY2024, THE U OF I SYSTEM REQUESTS $11.9 BILLION FOR NSF.

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<th>NSF</th>
<th>FY2024 PBR</th>
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The U of I System has a longstanding and successful partnership with the National Science Foundation (NSF), the only federal agency charged with funding fundamental research and education across all scientific and engineering disciplines. NSF is the cornerstone of America’s basic research enterprise.

NSF-SUPPORTED PROJECTS AT UIUC
UIUC routinely leads the nation in NSF awards.

Research to Address Grand Challenges of Our Time
- POETS, a UIUC-led Engineering Research Center (ERC), addresses thermal and electrical challenges surrounding mobile electronics and vehicle design.
- UIUC leads a $25M NSF Quantum Leap Challenge Institute on hybrid quantum architectures and network.
- I-MRSEC, a $15.6M UIUC-led Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC), performs fundamental, innovative materials research and supports interdisciplinary education and training of students.
- NSF selected UIUC to create a $15M Institute for Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE) to better understand the risks and impacts of climate change and disasters.
- The NSF awarded a five-year, $12.5M grant to a UIUC collaborative research team for Genomics and Eco-Evolution of Multi-Scale Symbioses, a Biology Integration Institute.
- The NSF’s Innovative High-Performance Computing program awarded $10M to UIUC’s National Center for Supercomputing Applications to deploy and operate Delta, an advanced computing and data resource that will shape the future of technology and practice in advanced research computing.

Fostering Entrepreneurship & Advancing Commercial Applications
- Innovation Corps (I-Corps): The Illinois I-Corps Site (2013 - 2022) has played a key part of the Illinois innovation ecosystem with over 250 teams having participated in this commercialization program and raising close to $140M in external funding after participating in the program. UIUC played a leadership role in the $3.5M Midwest I-Corps node (2016-2021) which led to the recently launched $5M Great Lakes regional I-Corps Hub.
- Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers (I/UCRCs): UIUC participates in university research to meet industry needs that transfer research results and technological advances to the U.S. marketplace.

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• The NSF Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology
Transfer (STTR) program is critical to UIUC’s Research Park, particularly its tech incubator EnterpriseWorks. From 2003-2021, NSF awarded 105 SBIR/STTR awards to EnterpriseWorks companies for a total of more than $29.1M. Several NSF-funded startup companies have gone on to raise hundreds of millions of dollars in venture capital and private investments.

Faculty Career Development
UIUC has 104 active Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) awards, which provide funding to launch research programs for promising early-career faculty.

- Researchers are leading an Engineering Frontiers and Multidisciplinary Activities project that applies the science of teamwork to spark research collaborations across disciplines and institutions. The project seeks innovation by engaging a variety of scholars and researchers from the American Indian Higher Education Council, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

Education and Graduate Training

- With the support of an NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) grant, UIUC is beginning a PhD level certificate program that combines materials and data science.
- Also through an NRT grant, UIUC has launched the Miniature Brain Machinery (MBM) Program, which combines cognitive and behavior studies with brain cell and tissue biology studies to train the next generation of STEM workforce in advancing discovery.

Researchers affiliated with LSRI are leading a five-year, $4.7M project funded by NSF to develop and implement a professional development program for K-8 math educators that spans across three levels — teacher, school and district.

UIC is one of six institutions that is splitting an $8.8M NSF grant to develop theories, research methods and tools to help expand and tailor the field of STEM education to support Black students.

Through a $4M NSF grant, UIC will be home to the world’s first analytical, aberration-corrected and monochromated transmission electron microscope with a magnetic field-free objective lens.

UIC has a $2.5M NSF grant to improve undergraduate STEM engagement in environmental sciences, physiology and chemistry using the study of the Monarch butterfly.

A UIC researcher received a $14.1M, five-year grant to expand the experimental capabilities at NSF’s Chemistry and Materials Center for Advanced Radiation Sources, one of the world’s leading facilities for the study of the crystallography of small molecules and liquid surfaces and interfaces.