

National Institutes of Health and the University of California Research Partnership

The University of California (UC) is the largest single recipient of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), receiving more than half of the NIH funding distributed in California. With all UC campuses and health centers receiving funding from the NIH, federal support for medical research is critical for UC researchers as they seek to enhance health through cures and treatments, contribute to the California economy and better understand health equity.

UC requests that Congress provide the highest possible appropriation increase for the NIH and ensure that the funding provided is at least \$51 billion for fiscal year (FY) 2024.

NIH FUNDING SUPPORTS UC EFFORTS TO DISCOVER NEW CURES AND TREATMENTS

Federal investment in the NIH has led to a steady stream of scientific breakthroughs that have improved human health – such as new treatments for cancer, declining death rates for heart attack and stroke, and extended survival for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Studies have shown that the basic scientific discoveries funded by NIH underlie virtually every new drug application to the FDA. The storied history of biomedical advancements at UC includes: the first radiation treatment for cancer, the first flu vaccine, the discovery of the role of LDL and HDL cholesterol in heart disease, the discovery of vitamin K's role in newborn health and much more.

- In FY 2022, UC faculty were awarded nearly \$2.6 billion in total NIH research funding, making the NIH the University's largest federal research sponsor.
- UC—with more than 800 research centers, institutes, laboratories and programs spanning ten campuses, six academic health centers, three affiliate national laboratories and other specialized research facilities—conducts nearly 9 percent of all academic research and development in the United States.
- Of UC's 70 Nobel laureates since 1934, more than 20 were in physiology and other fields that contributed significantly to the advancement of biomedicine.

NIH FUNDING SUPPORTS UC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE CALIFORNIA ECONOMY

NIH research funding supports US scientific competitiveness in the world and enables California's to remain a global innovation leader, supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions in economic growth in the state and across the nation.

- In FY 2022, NIH awards directly supported over 86,000 jobs and over \$15 billion in economic activity in California, according to a study by United for Medical Research.
- Four of the top five recipients of NIH funding in California are UC campuses and many of California's leading industries grew from UC research, including biotechnology, semiconductors and agriculture.
- Fundamental discoveries from NIH funding support a California life sciences sector that employs more than 335,000 people and directly supported more than 1.1 million jobs in California in 2021.

NIH FUNDING SUPPORTS UC RESEARCHERS' EFFORTS TO SEEK A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTH EQUITY

Federal funding for medical research supports important health equity work, such as diversifying clinical research participation and efforts to eliminate health disparities. With support from the NIH, UC faculty are actively pursuing multiple pathways to address health care disparities and to promote health equity. Some examples of UC campuses and academic centers' recent NIH-funded projects focused on health equity include:

- The **UCLA-UC Irvine Center for Eliminating Cardiometabolic Disparities in Multi-Ethnic Populations** ([UC END DISPARITIES](#)) works to prevent cardiometabolic disease for minority communities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. This center is supported by the **NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities**.
- With support from the **NIH National Institute of General Medical Sciences**, **UC Merced** has offered the Undergraduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement ([U-RISE](#)) whose goal is to develop a diverse pool of undergraduates who transition into and complete biomedical, research-focused degree programs.
- Funding from the **NIH National Human Genome Research Institute** has allowed scientists at **UC Santa Cruz** and researchers from the Human Pangenome Reference Consortium ([HPRC](#)) to release a draft of the first human pangenome which will allow for a deeper, more accurate understanding of worldwide genome diversity.
- [SF BUILD](#) (Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity) is a collaboration between **UCSF** and San Francisco State University that aims to enhance the diversity of the biomedical research workforce. With support from the **National Institute of General Medical Sciences**, this project aims to build a national, large-scale model for creating collaborative, affirming, and inclusive teaching and research environments for historically underrepresented students.
- With funding support from the **NIH National Cancer Institute (NCI)**, researchers at **UC San Diego** are implementing the Accelerating Colorectal Cancer Screening and Follow-Up Through Implementation Science ([ACCSIS](#)), which aims to close a disparity among the uninsured and underserved communities that are more heavily impacted by cancer due to low screening rates for colorectal cancer.
- The [BREATHE Center](#) at the **UC Riverside** School of Medicine is a multidisciplinary collaborative whose research efforts include regional climate modeling, culture and policy studies on air quality and health, environmental justice and health disparities, and the health impacts of aerosolized particles. With support from the **National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)**, a project from the BREATHE Center is using an environmental chamber to study the effects of Salton Sea aerosols on models of lung inflammation.
- Researchers at UC Irvine have put together a multidisciplinary team that focuses on diversifying clinical research participation for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (ADRD) research. With support from the NIH National Institute on Aging, this project gets people from diverse neighborhoods into the local participant registry and keeps them in it until they can be enrolled in the clinical study.

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