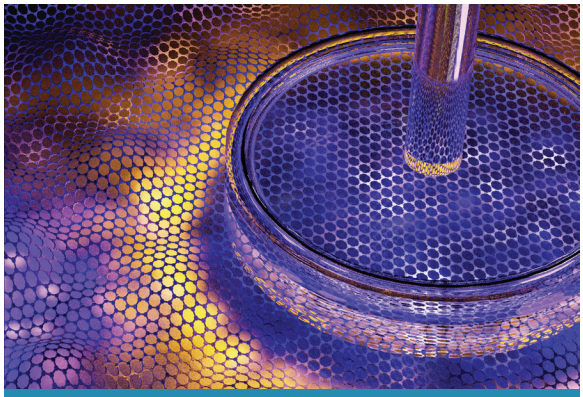
NSF BY THE NUMBERS

ADVANCING SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD

- NSF was created by Congress in **1950** to continue the U.S. science and technology enterprise begun during World War II.
- NSF allocates **93 percent** of its approximately **$8.3 billion** budget for grants and awards to support research projects, facilities and STEM education.
- NSF funds research in **all 50 states** and U.S. territories.
- NSF fosters international scientific collaboration on **all 7 continents** around the globe.
- About **2,000 academic and other private and public institutions** across the U.S. conduct NSF-funded research.
- NSF supports **25 percent of all federally funded academic fundamental research** at U.S. colleges and universities.
- In 2018, NSF received approximately **48,000 research proposals** from scientists and engineers and funded about 12,000.
- **248** NSF-funded researchers have received Nobel Prizes.



25% of all federally funded academic fundamental research comes from NSF

SUPPORTING WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- NSF supports almost **60 centers** focused on interdisciplinary research in areas such as chemistry, engineering, materials, nanotechnology, energy and biology.
- NSF has **4 oceanographic research vessels** and provides support to all **18 ships** and **3 submersibles** in the U.S. Academic Research Fleet.
- NSF owns **2 aircraft** that provide unique research capabilities to probe the Earth's atmosphere.
- NSF supports **19 ground-based telescopes or observatories** in the U.S. and around the world.
- NSF funds **7 of the world's supercomputers**.
- NSF supports **8 facilities** to study and mitigate powerful natural forces including a shake table for **earthquakes**, a large wave basin for **tsunamis**, and wind facilities for **hurricanes and tornados.**

19 NSF-supported, ground-based telescopes and observatories around the world

- NSF supports **50 biological field stations and marine laboratories** across the U.S. and overseas.
- NSF funds **28 Long-Term Ecological Research sites** to achieve an understanding of how components of ecosystems interact.
- NSF's **National Ecological Observatory Network comprises 81 sites across the United States** and provides open data to researchers to understand how our ecosystems are changing.
- NSF manages all U.S. logistics and research for **3 permanent stations in Antarctica**: McMurdo, Amundsen-Scott South Pole and Palmer.

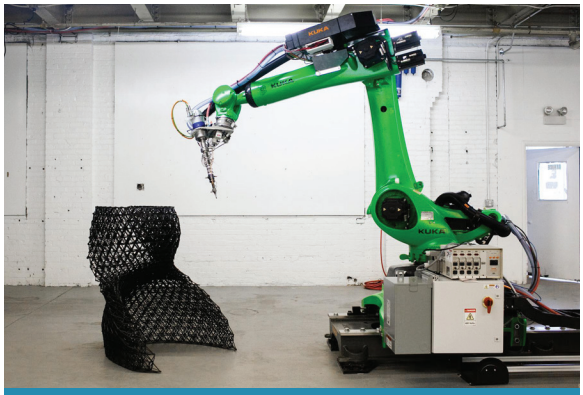
EXPANDING THE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING WORKFORCE

- Annually, NSF funding **directly impacts 386,000** researchers, technical professionals, post-doctoral students, graduate students, undergraduates, K-12 teachers and students.
- **Since 1952**, NSF has supported **more than 57,000 students** through its flagship Graduate Research Fellowship Program.
- In FY 2018, approximately **42,000 graduate students** received funding through NSF programs as part of research and education grants.
- NSF Advanced Technological Education program supports **35 centers across the U.S.**, preparing students for jobs in high-tech industries.
- The **NSF INCLUDES national network** broadens participation in STEM by creating access and opportunities for all U.S. residents through public, private and academic partnerships.

386K people directly involved in NSF activities annually

ACCELERATING THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN LAB AND MARKET

- **NSF created the Small Business Innovation Research program** in 1977, which has expanded across government and spends approximately **$3 billion annually** on research and development.
- NSF established the **Small Business Technology Transfer Program** in 1992 to encourage the translation of research from lab to marketplace; through small business and technology transfer programs, the federal government sets aside **$2.5 billion annually** and produces about **10 patents per day**.
- In FY 2018, NSF awarded more than **$200 million** in R&D funding through its small business programs.
- Each year, NSF funds about **400 companies** across nearly all technology and market sectors.
- NSF established Innovation Corps, or I-Corps™, which offers entrepreneurship training to scientists and engineers; the program has resulted in **645 startup companies**.



400 companies receive NSF small business funding each year

DID YOU KNOW?

Since 1992, NSF's Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation program has helped more than **650,000 students from groups historically underrepresented in STEM** – African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Native Pacific Islanders – attain a bachelor's degree in a science or engineering discipline.

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