



FAST FACTS

\$58,987,000

Total NSF awards to Alabama in FY19

\$38,252,000

Amount invested in fundamental research in Alabama in FY19

\$20,734,000

Amount invested in STEM education in Alabama in FY19

\$6,500,000

Amount dedicated to stimulate competitive research in Alabama through NSF EPSCoR

TOP 3 NSF-FUNDED ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR FY19

\$16,772,000

University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa

\$13,395,000

Auburn University

\$7,870,000

University of Alabama in Birmingham

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NSF & ALABAMA

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the **National Science Foundation made \$58,987,000**

in awards to Alabama in support of fundamental research, advanced technical education, entrepreneurial training, STEM teacher training, long-term ecological monitoring, small business development, major research instrumentation and more.

DID YOU KNOW?

DISCOVERY | Researchers at the University of Alabama in Huntsville are studying how to create, control and predict the properties of plasmas, a state of matter found in stars, neon signs and rocket exhaust. This knowledge will be used to develop new technologies in areas of aerospace, manufacturing, prosthetics, agriculture, and even food safety. **NSF made \$15,642,000 in investments** which will help establish Alabama as the premier region for plasma-related research and industry.

STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | The NSF funded Cybercorps Scholarship for Service program at the **University of Alabama at Birmingham, the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Auburn University, and the University of South Alabama** is designed to recruit and train the next generation to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments. This program provides scholarships for up to 3 years of support for cybersecurity undergraduate and graduate education and in return recipients agree to work after graduation for the U.S. Government, in a position related to cybersecurity.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS | **NSF made \$3,978,178 in awards** to support a Tuskegee University led team of Alabama institutions on the Making to Advance Knowledge, Excellence, and Recognition in STEM (MAKERS) project. MAKERS aims to increase student retention in STEM by empowering students to create meaningful connections with the local community and build a professional network.

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS | **The University of Alabama at Birmingham and Alabama Innovation and Mentoring of Entrepreneurs Center** are part of NSF's national Innovation Corps network that prepares scientists and engineers to extend their focus beyond the university laboratory and accelerates the economic and societal benefits of NSF-funded, basic-research projects that are ready to move toward commercialization. Teams can receive a \$50,000 grant to determine the commercial potential of their innovation.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING INDICATORS | **3.82 % of the Alabama workforce is employed in S&E occupations**, and 7.20 % of Alabama business establishments are industries with high employment in science, engineering and technology (SET) occupations.⁺

COMPETITIVE RESEARCH | **\$6,500,000 in awards to Alabama academic institutions** through NSF's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), which promotes scientific progress in states that have traditionally received lesser amounts of NSF R&D funding



Image of a strong tornado near Arab, Alabama. Through Vortex-SE, NSF has been working in conjunction with NOAA to study the unique characteristics of tornadoes in the southeast
Image Credit: Charles Whisenant

⁺ National Science Board, National Science Foundation. 2020. Science and Engineering Indicators 2020: The State of U.S. Science and Engineering. NSB-2020-1. Alexandria, VA. Available at <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsb20201/>.