

CORE RESEARCH SUPPORT FUND (CRSF)

CRSF investment has contributed towards UTSA's national recognition as a research intensive university that embraces diversity, inclusion and global discovery

FUNDING REQUEST | \$9,910,104 per biennium

OVERVIEW

UTSA has seen tremendous growth over the past 10 years, with research expenditures growing from \$51 million to \$140 million. The Core Research Support Fund (CRSF) was the catalyst that allowed UTSA to expand research and attain the Carnegie R1 classification as it also pursues National Research University Fund (NRUF) eligibility. Building upon this success, UTSA is focusing on emerging areas of research to further expand our institutional reputation in new, convergent areas of exploration. This investment will further develop UTSA's research capacity, leading to successful recruitment of premier research faculty and top students, which in turn will further enhance UTSA's competitive research ecosystem in support of Texas and the nation.

THE IMPACT

Enhanced Research Development Programming

The CRSF has allowed UTSA to invest in research development programs that ensure stronger success rates in nationally competitive research programs. With CRSF funding, UTSA's external awards and research expenditures have increased dramatically. This investment has also led to a higher level of research expenditure per tenured and tenure-track faculty members.

Recruited Nationally Recognized Research Leadership

UTSA has leveraged CRSF funding to recruit key leadership and national academy members to UTSA, including the inaugural Director of the MATRIX AI Institute for Human Wellbeing, the inaugural Academic Director of the School of Data Science and the Director of the National Security Collaboration Center. These leadership positions capitalize on UTSA's strengths by further building our areas of scholarly excellence where UTSA holds national recognition and a notable volume of research expertise.

Built Safe and Secure Research Facilities

These funds have ensured faculty and students have the facilities and technical expertise needed to conduct biological, chemical, radiological and animal research that complies with accreditation standards, which demonstrates UTSA's commitment to a responsible research culture and ensures all faculty and students experience research in a safe and secure environment.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jason Hassay

UTSA Government Relations

o: 210.458.5102 | m: 512.413.9598

jason.hassay@utsa.edu

Albert Carrisalez

UTSA Government Relations

o: 210.458.5138 | m: 210.452.7557

albert.carrisalez@utsa.edu

Updated January 12, 2023

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IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

UTSA Research Metrics	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Total Research Expenditure	\$70M	\$81M	\$134M	\$140M
Total Research Expenditure per Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty	\$67K	\$79K	\$103K	\$110K
UTSA National Academy Members	5	6	10	11

THE CHALLENGE

The federal funding climate is increasingly competitive, meaning that UTSA will need to leverage the CRSF investment to strengthen research capacity. UTSA will use these funds to help recruit renowned faculty with established programs in our targeted areas by offering competitive start-up packages and enhancing the culture and infrastructure needed for their scholarly success.

Advanced research activities also require stable and state-of-the-art equipment, maintenance and facility support. UTSA must leverage the CRSF to address deferred maintenance and necessary upgrades to specialized equipment, support existing complex and unique research instrumentation, and strategically invest to enhance our technological infrastructure to serve an ever-evolving digital research base.

THE SOLUTION

CRSF support is essential for UTSA to serve our researchers on campus and engage external stakeholders in solving global grand challenges. We urge the State of Texas Legislature to continue to provide CRSF to emerging research universities such as UTSA. This support is critical to producing groundbreaking fundamental research, translating knowledge into practice, and contributing to the economic growth of the region, all while expanding diversity, equity and inclusion. Should state funding levels allow in future biennium, we strongly urge the legislature to consider increasing CRSF for those institutions like UTSA that have the potential to further support the societal impact of their research discovery enterprise.