

UC Davis Research Brief: National Institutes of Health

UC Davis is a powerhouse for breakthroughs and impact. Our interdisciplinary research plays a vital role in building the region's economy. Our research contributes to our nation's global leadership in technology and innovation. Through collaboration between our top-ranked hospital and veterinary school, as well as our science and engineering discoveries, our research directly improves American lives.

The National Institutes of Health fosters discoveries and strategies to prevent disease, enhance health and reduce illness and disability. UC Davis was awarded \$276 million in NIH funding in 2024. UC Davis researchers have used NIH support to:

- Invent a [brain-computer interface](#) that translates brain signals into speech, restoring communication capabilities for people who can't speak due to paralysis caused by a variety of illnesses
- Develop a landmark form of surgery to [treat spina bifida](#), a disease that can lead to lifelong cognitive, mobility, urinary and bowel disabilities
- Create a cure for retinal vein occlusion, a common form of blindness affecting more than 1.6 million Americans, using stem-cell therapy
- Advance stem-cell therapy that could [eliminate HIV from the body](#), treat Huntington's disease and address other disorders
- Create a total-body, highly [accurate, low-cost scanner](#) to detect cancerous tumors and develop [precision, fluorescence-based surgical tools](#) to remove tumors
- Advance understanding of the [early stages of Alzheimer's disease](#), which affects nearly 7 million people in the United States, to identify effective new treatments
- Provide vital support in 2024 for 310 UC Davis graduate student and 161 post-doctoral researchers, individuals who will carry today's discoveries forward

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UC Davis Drives Economic Growth

- Supports \$2 billion in California economic activity and nearly 10,000 jobs
- 1,290 active patents
- 119 startups launched in last decade
- \$15 million in annual licensing, royalties and fees

Preparing the Future Workforce

Federal funding also plays a critical role in strategic preparations for the next generation of leaders, innovators and scientists. Agencies partner with UC Davis to offer workforce and career training in:

- Software security
- Advanced cell and gene therapy manufacturing
- Neuroengineering
- Plant breeding

A Cost-Efficient Model

The longstanding federal-university partnership leverages UC Davis expertise and state-of-the-art resources to generate new technologies and well-paying jobs, proving to be the most productive research model in the world.

Key facts on Facilities and Administration (F&A) costs:

- Current F&A rates do not cover all university costs
- F&A costs are not incidental—they are critical to conducting research
- F&A costs are essential to ensure safety in clinical and animal research

For more on F&A myths and facts,

visit: <https://research.ucdavis.edu/3-things-to-know-about-indirect-costs-aka-fa/>