Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers Program (IUCRC)

IUCRCs drive innovation by facilitating partnerships between universities, companies, and government agencies.

**MISSION**

IUCRCs leverage the talent and resources of industry, universities, and government to generate advances in technology and enhance industrially relevant workforce training for researchers.

**FAST FACTS**

(Data from 2015)

1:42

$1 in member contributions leverage $41 additional dollars in research funding

876

unique members

76

centers nationwide

211

research sites worldwide

37

states with an IUCRC site

1,586

center-trained students hired by members (2006–2015)

For more information visit www.nsf.gov/IUCRC

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**THE PARTNERSHIP**

- **Government**
  - NSF catalyzes partnership.
  - Other government entities fund research relevant to their needs

- **University**
  - Provides research infrastructure, human capital, and technical expertise

- **Industry**
  - Provides funding for research and insight for industrially relevant projects

IUCRCs are focused on bridging the gap between early academic research and commercial readiness.

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**THE STRUCTURE**

**Centers**

Research collaborations focused on a topical area that are catalyzed by NSF and funded by industrial and government members

**Sites**

Geographically distinct research labs that are located at universities and participate in the IUCRC

**Members**

Companies and government agencies provide funding and expertise for needed innovation in their sector or industry
**TAKE ACTION**

**Search for Existing Centers**

Search iucrc.org for existing centers in relevant technology sector. Contact center director for guidance on joining existing center.

**Enable Creation of New Centers**

If no center exists in relevant sector, partner with academic institution by sending a 'letter of support' and ‘letter of financial commitment’ articulating how the center would address sector, corporate, or government needs.

**Sign a Membership Agreement**

In order to become a member of a center, sign a membership agreement committing funds to a research site that is part of an IUCRC.

**Form an IAB**

Form an industrial advisory board (IAB) that will define research priorities for the IUCRC and agree on bylaws that define center policies and operations.

**Vote on Projects**

Through a democratic process, IAB members vote on projects. Projects of greatest interest to the IAB will be executed.

For more information visit www.nsf.gov/IUCRC

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**Member Benefits**

**VALUE PROPOSITION**

- **NSF provides** $ for administrative and management costs
- **Universities provide** infrastructure and people to conduct research
- **Members gain access** to pre-competitive research and highly-skilled workforce (only 10% overhead)

**Access to Talent**

Opportunity to mentor and train students to attain desired skills for work in your industry.

**Leverage Research Dollars**

Earn higher return on investment when research is jointly funded.

**De-Risk R&D**

Share risks of early stage research leading to disruptive business opportunities.

**Access to Network**

Learn from interacting with center participants within your technology sector.

**Research Cost Avoidance**

Save internal research dollars through access to facilities, infrastructure, and lower human capital costs.

**Access to Intellectual Property**

Gain royalty-free, non-exclusive licenses on intellectual property produced in the center.

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**KEY EVENTS TIMELINE**

**PRE-PROPOSAL**

- Outreach to Members
- Submit Preliminary Proposal
- Submit Planning Proposal
- Hold Planning Meeting
- Submit Center Proposal

**PLANNING AND COMMITMENT**

- Letter of Support
- Letter of Support
- Letter of Financial Commitment
- 3–6 MONTHS
- Signed Membership Agreement
- Vote on Projects

**PROPOSAL REVIEW**

- Provide Feedback to Applicants
- Award Planning Proposal
- Award Center Proposal

**CENTER LAUNCH**

- First Industrial Advisory Board Meeting
- Write Center Bylaws

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