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

THE PARTNERSHIP

Government
NSF catalyzes partnership. Other government entities fund research relevant to their needs
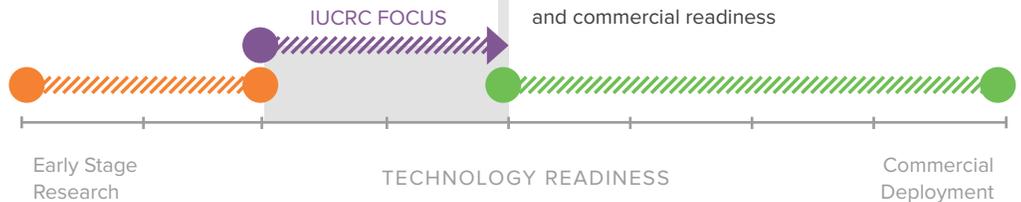
University
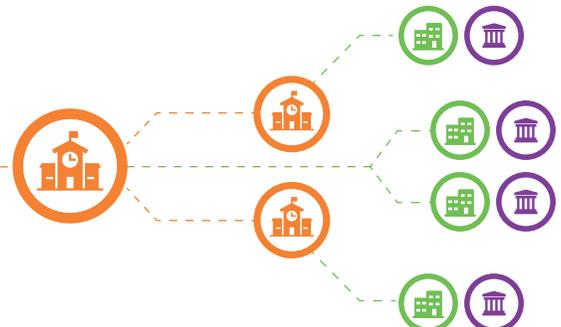Provides research infrastructure, human capital, and technical expertise

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

IUCRC FOCUS

Early Stage Research

TECHNOLOGY READINESS

Commercial Deployment

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

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Member Benefits

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

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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

KEY EVENTS TIMELINE

PRE-PROPOSAL

- Outreach to Members
- Submit Preliminary Proposal
- Submit Planning Proposal
- Hold Planning Meeting
- Submit Center Proposal
- First Industrial Advisory Board Meeting

CENTER LAUNCH

PLANNING AND COMMITMENT

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

Write Center Bylaws
Vote on Projects

PROPOSAL REVIEW

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