

Pharmacy Research Funding: A National Powerhouse

Faculty and researchers in colleges and schools of pharmacy across the country lead or participate in research projects receiving more than \$1 billion in federal and non-federal research funding, which supports innovations in cancer treatment, reproductive health, infectious disease, vaccinations and more.

In FY23, researchers at colleges and schools of pharmacy led or participated in over **\$1 billion** in competitively awarded research funding, including more than **\$850M** from federal funders. NIH is the largest source of funds, supporting more than **1000 investigators** at more than **95 schools**.

In addition, AHRQ, CDC, DoD, EPA, HRSA, NSF, SAMHSA, USDA and the VA also fund research in academic pharmacy.

Pharmacy researchers build on this strong base of federal funding with research funded by individual states and private funders including pharmaceutical and healthcare companies and foundations like the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association and the Gates Foundation.

The Expansive Reach of Pharmacy Research

Scientific research is the bedrock of our healthcare system and the driving force behind drug development. Without it, advancements in medicine, the economy, and society itself would stagnate.

The medication that a patient takes for a disease or illness began as a project in a researcher's lab, almost always with federal funding. The research happening right now in a pharmacy school lab could lead to the discovery of a lifesaving or life-altering medication.

1. Students at the Auburn University Harrison College of Pharmacy help to develop a novel drug that may become a [therapeutic for patients who are at risk for early onset Alzheimer's disease](#).
2. Researchers at Texas A&M University's Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy [received a \\$2.8 million NIH grant to use 3D printers for pediatric medications](#).
3. A \$19 million grant may help [University of Florida Health researchers uncover a treatment for stimulant use disorder](#).

Cutting research funding also harms the economy. University employees directly employed in research could lose their jobs, along with businesses and employees who provide goods, services and materials for those researchers also being impacted.

1. **\$2.56 multiplier:** Every dollar spent on NIH yields \$2.56 in economic activity, so the \$1 billion in research involving pharmacy researchers is linked to over \$2.5 billion in employment and other spending at their institutions and at local businesses, spin off companies and in industry.
Source: <https://www.unitedformedicalresearch.org/nih-in-your-state/>
2. More than 700 pharmacy researchers received research funding from non-Federal sources, totaling almost \$200 million in FY23. This funding often builds on research originally funded by the federal government, translating basic discoveries into treatments.

Article:
[US Tax Dollars Funded Every New Pharmaceutical in the Last Decade](#)

Article:
[Trump's Science Policies Pose Long-Term Risk, Economists Warn](#)

Pharmacy Research Funding: A National Powerhouse

Leading the Way: Graduate Education Excellence

In Fall 2023, over **3,500 students** were enrolled in Ph.D. programs in pharmacy schools. Nearly half of these were international students that came from across the globe to the United States for graduate education that is unmatched anywhere else. While here, these students contribute to research that has a significant impact on our nation.

Cuts to NIH include prestigious fellowship and career development awards that prepare US students and postdoctoral scholars for careers in research, including dozens at pharmacy schools.

Supporting Innovation: The Role of Facilities and Administrative Costs

Cuts to facilities and administrative (F&A) funding for research at our colleges and schools of pharmacy will immediately compromise their ability to develop new treatments for patients.

1. Facilities and administrative costs play a crucial role in sustaining the infrastructure necessary for groundbreaking biomedical research, ensuring that laboratories, research facilities, and administrative functions operate effectively.
 - a. Cutting funds that cover facilities and administrative costs means research labs may be unable to pay their utility bills, cover facility maintenance such as cleaning and security fees, or support salaries for administrative staff such as lab managers, human resources and IT personnel.
2. A decline in innovation from our colleges and schools of pharmacy will put the United States at a disadvantage in the global pharmaceutical market.
3. If funding for facilities and administrative costs is cut, the knowledge and innovative discoveries being developed will be lost forever. This wipes away a decades-long American investment in research, which has become the envy of the world.

Resource:
[Costs of Federally Sponsored Research](#)
(Council on Government Relations Resource)