

# WE'RE POWERING THE FUTURE



UNC Charlotte's research is at the forefront of solving complex societal challenges and cultivating talent to meet critical workforce needs.

As a world-class research university, our research supports the industries and communities in our fast-growing region and state. With extraordinary growth in research funding over the past decade, faculty, staff, students and alumni are producing a wide range of innovative discoveries and new technologies.

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* projects that Charlotte will formally be elevated to R1 status ("very high research activity") in early 2025.

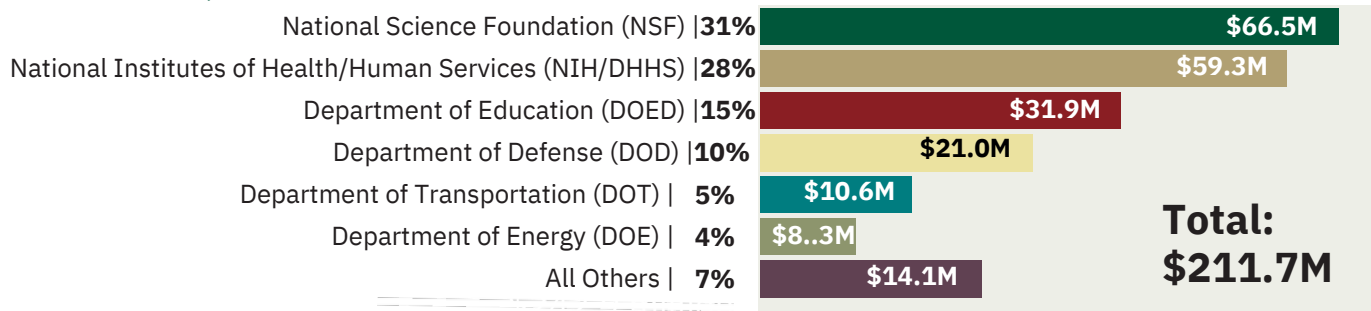
**RESEARCH EXPENDITURES**  
+272% over last decade

**ACTIVE GRANTS &  
CONTRACTS PORTFOLIO**  
\$242.9 million  
As of July 1, 2024

**TOP 10 IN U.S.**  
Startup companies and patents  
per research expenditures  
(Association of University Technology Managers, 2023)

## Active Federal Awards

As of July 1, 2024



## ACCELERATING IMPACT

**86**

New patents awarded  
since 2019

**17**

NSF CAREER awards  
since 2017

**\$92M**

Research  
Expenditures  
FY23



**65**

Faculty  
in Charlotte's Million Dollar  
Research Circle  
(FY24)

**600**

Active research  
awards  
As of July 1, 2024



## WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

With record research expenditures and innovative partnerships, UNC Charlotte is one of the nation's fastest growing research universities. Here are a few exciting illustrations of how we are shaping the future for our region, state and beyond.



### U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration Tech Hub Development Award

The Carolinas Innovation Center for Optics and Metrology Strategy Development Consortium will position the Charlotte region as an optics and metrology national hub, expanding economic development and spurring job creation. Led by UNC Charlotte, the consortium brings together more than 25 industry, educational and governmental partners, and is funded through a \$500,000 development grant. The grant will help the region compete for an EDA Designated Tech Hub, unlocking between \$40 million and \$70 million in additional funding.



### CLEANcarolinas: A Regional Innovation Engine Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF)

CLEANcarolinas aims to establish the Carolinas as a hub for clean energy innovation. Through a blend of research and development, investment, education, and multi-stakeholder collaboration, CLEANcarolinas aims to foster innovation, drive economic growth and enhance the region's competitiveness. With a \$1 million development grant, the initiative is led by UNC Charlotte with partners including the N.C. Department of Commerce, Clemson University, East Carolina University and the South Carolina Research Authority. If selected as a regional innovation engine, the initiative is eligible to receive up to \$160 million from the NSF over 10 years.



BATTERY AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



AVIATION/AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE



SECURE AND RELIABLE POWER GRID



GENOMICS



CYBERSECURITY AND CYBER DEFENSE



MILITARY DEFENSE