

HISTORY

In 2011-2012 UT-Austin's amount from the Texas Competitive Knowledge Fund (TCKF) dropped to \$18.4m/year. This level amounted to a reduction of one-third since the fund was created. The 83rd Legislature began restoring funding to TCKF for the 2015-2016 biennium.

The Texas Competitive Knowledge and Research Development Funds were phased out last legislative session, and three new funds were created. The Texas Research University Fund provides a \$1.2 million investment for every \$10 million in research expenditures at UT-Austin and Texas A&M. The Core Research Support Fund supports emerging institutions, and the Comprehensive Research Fund will cover the rest of the colleges and universities in Texas. Preexisting matching funds will also now include undergraduate research as well as graduate research, and the new Governor's University Research Initiative adds \$40 million to help universities attract world-class researchers.

2017 GOAL

We ask the legislature to support the Governor's University Research initiative and to continue to invest in research programming at the public Tier One institutions through the Texas Research University Fund.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

Research does not add substance to a higher education.

- Basic research is conducted at universities and colleges throughout the nation to contribute to greater knowledge and understanding of fundamental phenomena in physical sciences, engineering, environmental and life sciences, and the humanities.
- Students at a Tier One research institution receive invaluable opportunities for applied learning through hands-on experiences, advanced problem solving and instruction from world class faculty.

Nothing useful comes out of university research.

- Some examples of the innovation that have come from UT-Austin research include: lithium-ion batteries, anthrax treatment, whooping cough vaccine, replacement heart valves, and safe nuclear waste removal.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Sponsored research at UT-Austin has extended humanity's base of knowledge and brings royalties, tax revenues, and new business to the Lone Star State.
- Research from UT-Austin brings in more than \$724 million to the Texas economy, the equivalent of almost 12,000 jobs.
- Research at UT-Austin has resulted in more than 700 U.S. and international patents over the past decade.