The University of Rochester is one of America’s leading private research universities and consistently ranks among the top in federally financed science, engineering, medical, and other research. In 2019, the University received $413 million in sponsored research funding across 1,892 awards. We are proud of our increasingly diverse student body, which represents all 50 states and more than 140 countries around the world. Our clinical care enterprise, UR Medicine, now includes six hospitals across the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier.

The University has added 9,000 employees over the last decade, making it the 5th largest private sector employer in New York State, and largest upstate-based employer. In that time, capital investments of more than $2.7 billion have been made, including major projects such as the Saunders Research Building, Golisano Children’s Hospital, Wegmans Hall/Goergen Institute for Data Science, UR Medicine’s Imaging & Autism Care Center, and the NextCorps high tech business incubator in the Sibley Building in downtown Rochester.

**STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

**UNIVERSITY-WIDE** 12,233

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FULL TIME</th>
<th>PART TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate ............ 6,789</td>
<td>Undergraduate ............ 370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate .................. 5,030</td>
<td>Graduate .................. 1,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional .............. 423</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMPLOYMENT**

TOTAL ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY AND AFFILIATES 32,488

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)</th>
<th>28,257</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Direct and Indirect Jobs</td>
<td>59,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty and Instructional Staff</td>
<td>3,108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

5th LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYER IN NEW YORK STATE

LARGEST UPSTATE-BASED EMPLOYER IN NEW YORK

$225.4M ECONOMIC IMPACT GENERATED BY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

73 PATENTS AND 107 INVENTION DISCLOSURES IN 2017

$290M IN ANNUAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT

$413M IN SPONSORED RESEARCH FUNDING IN 2019

$290.8M FEDERALLY SPONSORED

$14.5M STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPONSORED

**STUDENT AID AND OUTCOMES**

$274M IN INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED THIS YEAR

$26,927 AVERAGE GRANT AID PROVIDED PER STUDENT

86% 6-YEAR GRADUATION RATE (Class of 2016)

$28,503 AVERAGE LOAN DEBT AT GRADUATION (45% of the Class of 2019 graduated with no loan debt)

<2% LOAN DEFAULT RATE (Compared to 10.1% national average)
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER HOSPITALS AND SELECT AFFILIATES

- Strong Memorial Hospital
- Highland Hospital
- Golisano Children’s Hospital at Strong
- The Highlands (Living Center, at Brighton, at Pittsford)
- Thompson Health
- UR Medicine Home Care
- Noyes Health
- Jones Memorial Hospital
- St. James Hospital
- Strong West
- Nextcorps
- Excell Partners, Inc.

FINANCIAL AID

The University of Rochester is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduate students who earn admission to the College.

FINANCIAL FACTS

- Undergraduates receiving any financial aid: 81%
- First-year students receiving any financial aid: 74%
- Average total aid provided per student: $46,271

Students receiving non-need based scholarships exceeding their calculated financial need:

- First years: 20%
- Transfers: 7%

For the 2019 graduating class:

- Borrowed federal student loans: 48%
- Graduated with no loan debt: 45%
- Average federal loan debt at graduation: $21,206

Cost of attendance for 2019-20:

- Tuition and fees: $55,040
- Room and board: $16,548

STATE AND FEDERAL AID

- Students receiving NYS TAP: 758
- Students receiving NYS Bundy Aid: 999
- Students receiving Federal Pell Grants: 1,291
- Students receiving Federal SEOG: 1,072
- Students participating in NYS HEOP: 109
- Students participating in Federal Work-Study: 1,187

PURCHASING

The University and its affiliates purchased almost $1 billion of goods and services in 2017. Of this total, $182 million or 18 percent was spent in New York state, touching all but six counties.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

The University’s annual capital investments support around 3,500 jobs and bring in about $180 million of labor income to the state economy.

CONTACT

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 706 | Rochester, NY 14642
(585) 273-5955 | ogcr.rochester.edu
FY 2020 ICF Final: $565,000,000
FY 2021 ICF Request: $580,000,000
FY 2020 LLE Final: $80,000,000
FY 2021 LLE Request: $86,000,000 (incl. target costs)

Bill: Energy & Water Development  
Agency: National Nuclear Security Administration  
Account: Inertial Confinement Fusion & High Yield

About the Laboratory for Laser Energetics  
The University of Rochester’s Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) is recognized nationally and internationally as a center for education and research in inertial confinement fusion, high-energy-density physics (HEDP), and high-power lasers. LLE is home to the Omega Laser Facility, which houses two of the largest and most capable lasers at any academic institution in the world and is the largest U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) funded university-based research center in the nation.

As part of the National Nuclear Security Administration’s (NNSA) Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) program, LLE is an integral component of the science-based Stockpile Stewardship Program (SSP) that maintains a safe, secure, and effective nuclear deterrent. LLE is an extremely cost-effective facility for the SSP, performing 80% of all target shots used in the ICF and HEDP programs (over 2,300 per year) with only 15% of the ICF budget. About 57% of scheduled shot time is for external users at the national laboratories, other universities and industry.

As the only fusion research program jointly supported by the federal government, New York State (NYS), industry and a research university, LLE is a vital contributor to our national security, an invaluable source of scientific education and leadership, and an engine of regional innovation and growth for the laser, optics, photonics and imaging sectors.

Federal and State Funding  
LLE and DOE/NNSA have finalized a $409,900,000 Cooperative Agreement (CA) for FY 2019-2023. The CA provides the necessary resources to support LLE’s research programs, operations and experiments in support of the SSP, an ignition demonstration on the NIF and basic science and education. Consistent with the CA, LLE is requesting $86 million in FY 2021, including $4.3 million for the costs of targets. LLE is also leveraging its core laser and scientific expertise to expand into other mission areas and support other agencies, including the DOE Office of Science, ARPA-E, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Defense. In addition, LLE receives critical annual support from New York State’s Energy Research Development Authority (NYSERDA).

Economic Impact  
LLE has attracted more than $2.3 billion to NYS since its inception. This funding supports cutting-edge research, jobs for the region’s optics, photonics and imaging industry and the creation of new companies. LLE employs ~350 full-time employees, but indirectly supports an additional 500 jobs for a total impact of about 850 jobs, $56 million of income and $3.7 million in revenue to state and local governments. Since 2015, LLE has made more than $28 million in purchases from over 300 companies across NYS. LLE provides a strong stimulus to the local economy by helping attract and develop new companies and investors. For example, Sydor Technologies is one of several companies created through transfer of technology developed at LLE and is now one of the fastest growing companies in the area.
Scientific Leadership and Impact

LLE is one of three primary ICF facilities, along with the National Ignition Facility (NIF) at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and the Z Pulsed Power Facility at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). LLE is the staging and support facility for experiments at NIF and supports laser research for Z, as well as innovative fusion approaches in partnership with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), SNL and LLNL. LLE serves as the lead laboratory for Direct-Drive fusion in partnership with the Naval Research Laboratory, LLNL and LANL. Direct Drive is one of the three recognized viable approaches to achieving ignition, a grand scientific and engineering challenge for the 21st century. Pursuing the goal of becoming the first nation to demonstrate ignition in the lab helps to maintain the United States’ global technical leadership and avoid “technical surprise” from other nuclear weapons states such as Russia or China, a concern noted in the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review.

LLE is the nation’s major HEDP user facility and is a center for the study of matter at the extreme conditions found in nuclear weapons, stars and the center of planets. The DOE Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (FES), Office of High Energy Physics, the NSF and industry also support research at LLE. These additional avenues of research leverage NNSA’s investment in Omega, expanding the benefits LLE delivers to the nation and helping to attract talented students. In addition to fundamental research, applications such as developing high temperature superconductors are possible spin-offs from LLE’s HEDP program.

LLE has a history of transformational leadership in high-powered laser science and technology. Chirped-Pulse Amplification (CPA), first discovered at LLE and recognized with the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics, has become the basis of all modern high-power lasers. CPA is now used in numerous applications, from advanced materials processing, including manufacturing glass for smart-phone screens, to cancer treatments and LASIK eye surgery.

LLE is continuing its leadership through the proposed next-generation laser concept, EP-OPAL, which would build on LLE’s existing infrastructure to develop the two most powerful lasers in the world. EP-OPAL specifically responds to concerns that U.S. leadership in ultrafast lasers is at risk. LLE’s expertise is also applicable to directed energy systems, an area of growing emphasis in the Department of Defense’s efforts to deal with the proliferation of missile technology.

Recent major awards for research conducted at LLE include the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics, 2019 John Dawson Award for excellence in plasma physics, 2019 LeRoy Apker Award for outstanding achievements in physics by undergraduate students and 2019 Bridgman Award in high pressure physics.

Faculty, Staff & Students

LLE is home to more than 350 scientists, engineers and staff and plays a critical role in attracting talented scientists and engineers to work in national security, a need highlighted in the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review. As the only major facility that trains graduate students in ICF and HEDP, LLE is a critical pipeline for the future national security workforce. Currently, over 200 students are engaged in research at LLE and more than 500 students from the University of Rochester and other leading institutions, such as MIT, Princeton, the University of Michigan, the University of California and the Ohio State University, have completed advanced degrees with LLE’s support. One-third of these students go on to work for the national labs and another one-third go on to work in the private sector. LLE also provides research opportunities for undergraduates from local universities, such as SUNY Geneseo, and a High School Summer Student Program that has hosted over 390 students since 1989.

The Nation’s Laser User Facility

LLE’s Omega facility is a unique environment for ICF and HEDP research. About 500 people from other universities, industry and the national laboratories visit LLE each year for fundamental research, training and education. Access for external users is made possible through the National Laser Users Facility (NLUF), part of the Joint Program in High-Energy-Density Laboratory Plasmas funded by NNSA and DOE, and LaserNetUS, a new DOE FES supported network of ten high-intensity laser user facilities formed to expand access and increase collaboration. Users have conducted experiments in many fields, including inertial fusion, high energy density physics, plasma physics, laboratory astrophysics, X-ray and XUV spectroscopy and instrumentation development. The NLUF and LaserNetUS provide qualified researchers from universities and industry access to Omega, as well as funding to support their experiments and the training of students and postdoctoral researchers. The Omega User’s Group provides a forum to discuss cutting-edge research, enhance the capabilities of the Omega facility through user feedback and recommendations and offers mentor-ship to young researchers. More than 180 outside students and postdoctoral researchers from other universities have conducted research at LLE with support from the NLUF program.

The National Laser Users’ Facility (NLUF) program provides access to LLE’s facilities for academic users.

* Most of the U.S. Ph.D. recipients in SSP-relevant HEDP rely on LLE’s laser facilities.
Ensuring Access and Improving Quality
UR Medicine, its affiliates and collaborators are upstate New York’s largest integrated health care system, serving 15 counties with a population of more than 2.6 million and directly employing 26,937 individuals. We are working to transform care as part of an integrated academic health care system by sharing and maintaining services, improving access, sustaining a physician and health care workforce, and providing quality care to our patients where they live, while reducing costs. UR Medicine provides $165 million in charity and uncompensated care to patients annually and collaborates with our community partners to improve the health of our region.

The reimbursement we receive from Medicare and Medicaid for Graduate Medical Education (GME), Medicare bad debt payments, Medicaid provider assessments, Medicare Dependent Hospital payments, Medicare Low-Volume adjustments, and Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments is critical to the accessible, quality health care we provide, and impacts our ability to train the next generation of providers.

Protect Patient Health Coverage and Care
Nearly five million New Yorkers currently access health coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Eliminating the ACA would create tremendous uncertainty in the nation’s health care system by undoing key coverage expansions, consumer protections, and delivery reforms.

- Congress and the Administration must take steps to stabilize the Health Insurance Marketplaces to ensure access to coverage for Americans who have benefited from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is maintained and protect hospital reimbursement to ensure that the most vulnerable are not left behind.

Protect the 340B Drug Discount Program
The Health Resources and Services Administration’s 340B Program is a crucial tool that allows designated safety-net hospitals such as Strong Memorial, Highland, Noyes, and Jones Memorial to save on outpatient drug costs. The savings, in turn, help fund UR Medicine’s charity care program, sustain services at 12 oncology clinics across the region, and mitigate losses due to chronic underpayment by public payers like Medicaid and Medicare. The program – which is not funded with taxpayer dollars - helps keep the doors open at rural hospitals like Jones.

Cuts to 340B, like the recent 28.5% reduction in Medicare Part B reimbursement that resulted in a $30M loss to Strong, Highland, and Noyes last year - threaten hospital viability and access to care for patients in communities across the country.

- In 2018, a U.S. District Court ruled that CMS overstepped its authority by imposing a 28.5% cut to hospital reimbursement for 340B drugs. CMS must ensure that all hospitals affected – including Strong, Highland, and Noyes – receive full restitution.
- We urge Congress to take action to ensure this cut does not continue in 2020 and beyond.

Investing in High-Quality Health Care
FY 2021
Oppose Surprise Billing Rate Setting Proposals
While we support taking patients out of surprise billing situations, UR Medicine is deeply concerned with recent proposals that would institute benchmark rates to solve payment disputes. Setting a rate in statute ignores the cost of care - which is inherently higher for Academic Medical Centers like ours - and does not take into account the many factors providers and health plans consider when deciding whether or not to enter into a contract. Providers and insurers should be allowed to negotiate fair and appropriate reimbursement without additional statutory interference.

- We urge Congress to reject surprise billing legislation that includes unworkable price transparency proposals and benchmark rates that impede provider and health plan contracting.

Preserve Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Payments and Rural Access to Care
Medicare and Medicaid DSH payments to hospitals are an essential mechanism for ensuring patient access to services in poor and underserved communities. Financially stressed facilities like Jones Memorial and St. James Hospitals rely on these payments to remain financially viable. Without Congressional action, New York hospitals will be subject to more than $7 billion in Medicaid DSH cuts by 2025. This is in addition to a 30% cut to Medicare DSH, that, along with CMS’ reallocation policies, will reduce DSH funding to New York hospitals by another $8.9 billion over the next decade.

- We thank the New York Congressional delegation for supporting a delay of the Medicaid DSH cuts in the FY20 final package, and urge Congress to pass a long-term solution before the delay expires on May 22, 2020.

Protect Graduate Medical Education (GME) and Expand Residency Slots
The U.S. is expected to face a shortage of 90,000 doctors by 2025. Many medical schools are increasing class sizes to accommodate this shortage, but limits on GME funding and Medicare-funded residency slots constrain our ability to train new physicians and meet this need. Strong Memorial and Highland Hospitals train a combined 788 residents and fellows per year - 283 more than our Medicare-funded cap.

- We urge Congress to oppose reductions to GME’s IME adjustment and DGME payments, which are crucial as medical schools and teaching hospitals prepare the next generation of physicians and provide 24-hour care and critical services in the community.

- Support the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act (H.R. 1763/S. 348) to increase the number of Medicare-supported residency slots to accommodate changes in our nation’s health care needs and address the physician shortage.

- Support the Opioid Workforce Act (H.R. 3414/S.2892) to provide an additional 1,000 GME slots.

Support the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
SAMHSA’s mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America’s communities. UR’s Mt. Hope Family Center hosts the only National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) provider in upstate New York, which is funded in part by SAMHSA. Thanks to a 5-year, $1.98 million SAMHSA grant, the Center is training professionals in trauma-informed care and providing evidence-based models of intervention for children and families exposed to trauma and violence.

- Support $XX million for the NCTSN in FY21.

Support HRSA’s Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs
The Title VII and Title VIII programs provide education, financial aid, and training opportunities to health professions students in high-need disciplines and settings. These programs are critical to ensuring a strong workforce and access to care, particularly in underserved areas. With a focus on primary care and interdisciplinary, community-based training, Title VII and VIII are the only federal programs focused on filling gaps in the supply of health professionals not met by traditional market forces.

- Provide at least $XXX million for Title VII and $XXX million for Title VIII in FY21.

Oppose Hospital Outpatient Department Site-Neutral Payment Reductions
In 2019, CMS ignored Congressional intent by expanding site-neutral payment reductions to all hospital outpatient departments (HOPD), regardless of whether they were exempt from such reductions under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015. This new policy will reduce funding to New York’s off-campus HOPDs by $816 million over the next decade. This cut will be particularly harmful for urban and rural areas, where HOPDs are often the only place for patients to access physician services.

- Protect excepted or “grandfathered” HOPD sites and reject any new efforts to expand site-neutral payments to other care settings.
Stable and sustained federal investment in peer-reviewed and competitively awarded research is critical to driving U.S. leadership in innovation, job creation, and long-term economic growth. Over the past five years alone, the University of Rochester has attracted more than $1.93 billion in sponsored research funding to the region and is a national leader in translating discoveries into new technologies, applications, and companies that treat and cure disease, improve national security, and help our nation move toward a sustainable clean energy future.

More than 85% of our nation’s economic growth since World War II is attributed to innovation and scientific and technological progress, much of which is the result of federally funded scientific research. University-based scientific research is essential to fueling the new ideas and technologies on which our economy, health, and national security depend. With the federal government’s continued support and partnership, institutions like the University of Rochester can do more to harness innovation and discoveries into commercially viable technologies and companies.

Science and Security
The University of Rochester takes seriously the economic and national security threats posed by foreign adversaries who seek to interfere with our nation’s highly successful innovation enterprise. We are cooperating with the federal government and research agencies, updating our policies, and communicating with our campus on these concerns. Like other institutions, we are committed to balancing efforts to safeguard research with our responsibility to maintain the free flow of fundamental scientific information and international collaboration, which is key to fostering new ideas and facilitating novel research directions which lead to discoveries that fuel innovation and new technologies critical to our national security and economic competitiveness.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Funding through the NIH has helped to shape the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) into one of the nation’s premier academic health systems. In FY 2019, URMC received $165.3 million in NIH funding – the University’s largest source of sponsored research support – which is assisting 3,000 researchers across more than 250 centers, institutes, and labs pursue treatments and cures. Across New York State, NIH awarded $2.4 billion in grants and contracts in FY17 to support 5,056 awards at 183 institutions. A recent study by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that every additional $10 million in NIH funding generates 3.1 private-sector patents – one patent for every two NIH grants.

- **We applaud Congress for providing increased funding for NIH in FY20, and urge $44.7 billion for NIH in FY21.**

National Science Foundation (NSF)
As the cornerstone of America’s basic research enterprise, the NSF is committed to fundamental, interdisciplinary, high-risk, and groundbreaking research and education across all science and engineering disciplines. Competitively awarded NSF-funded research has led to fiber optics, the Internet, nanotechnology, and improved science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. Robust and sustained investment in NSF supports research and education, as well as the scientific equipment and infrastructure necessary to develop a STEM-capable workforce and ensure our nation remains the world innovation leader in the decades ahead.

- **Provide at least $9.0 billion for the NSF in FY21.**
**Department of Energy (DOE)**

The DOE’s Office of Science is the nation’s primary supporter of physical sciences research, including fields such as high energy physics and fusion that support the University’s Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE). In addition to the physical sciences, sustained and predictable funding for the Office of Science is critical to ensuring continued U.S. leadership in other fields including the biological sciences, computing, and engineering. The DOE’s Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) supports critical research that is unlikely to be supported by industry, but has the potential to dramatically change how we acquire and use energy in the future.

- Support the Department of Energy Office of Science in FY21 to ensure sufficient support for core scientific research programs and scientific user facility operations.

- Support ARPA-E and additional support for the Office of Fusion Energy Science, which funds the Fusion Science Center for Extreme States of Matter at the University of Rochester’s LLE.

**Department of Defense (DoD) Basic Research**

Defense 6.1 basic research programs support cutting-edge scientific and engineering research as well as under-graduate scholarships, graduate research assistantships, and fellowships that maintain our military superiority and strengthen our nation’s scientific and technical workforce. DoD funded research is known for high risk, high reward endeavors that have led to paradigm shifts in the nation’s technical capabilities. As our nation’s battlefronts and enemy capabilities evolve, new materials and disruptive technologies, which enable our military to preserve a leading edge and avoid strategic surprise, are essential. DoD must invest in foundational science and technologies to confront these challenges.

- Support funding for Defense 6.1 basic research and DARPA.

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**

For more than 60 years, NASA has revolutionized our understanding of earth and space sciences, the life sciences, aeronautics, and has led to new technologies. Since 2004, the University of Rochester has partnered with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory to lead development of the Near-Earth Object Camera (NEOCam), an infrared telescope and wide-field camera designed to discover and characterize potentially hazardous asteroids near earth. In addition to the space program and mission directorates, NASA’s university-based programs help educate America’s future technological and scientific workforce. For the U.S. to remain the global leader in space, the nation must continue to make robust investments in NASA’s science, aeronautics, and space technology directorates.


### FAST FACTS

- According to the National Science Board’s 2020 *Science and Engineering Indicators*, the U.S. has fallen to 10th in the world in the ratio of R&D-to-GDP expenditures, as the share of U.S. R&D funded by the federal government has consistently declined since 2000.

- UR graduate Donna Strickland and former faculty member Gerard Mourou were awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics for their work at the University’s LLE to develop “chirped-pulse amplification,” which opened the door to new medical, scientific, and commercial laser applications. To date, UR has had 11 Nobel Prize recipients.

- Since 1996, UR has launched 62 high-tech startup firms and our research has fostered pioneering work in optics and lasers, cardiac arrhythmias, medical imaging, LASIK surgery, and vaccine development.

- In 2019, UR was awarded a 6-year, $29 million grant from the NIH’s National Cancer Institute that will allow the Wilmot Cancer Institute to design and oversee studies into ways to lessen the impact of the side effects of cancer treatment on patients.
Keeping College Affordable
A robust higher education sector that is affordable, accessible, and accountable is vital to American economic competitiveness. Higher education provides immeasurable value to students and is one of the best investments a society can make. The University of Rochester is one of only a few institutions nationally that is committed to ensuring every qualified student has access to a world-class education regardless of family finances. In addition to student aid, limiting regulatory burden and preserving federal programs that help low-income, first generation, and other underrepresented students prepare for and succeed in college, as well as those that bolster national expertise in important fields of study, are critical to maintaining our nation’s global competitiveness.

Reauthorizing the Higher Education Act (HEA)
Since 1965, the HEA has been a critical vehicle for expanding access to postsecondary education for low- and middle-income Americans. H.R. 4674, the College Affordability Act, takes great strides in addressing issues of college access and affordability. The bill, however, contains a number of provisions that would impose an additional undue and costly burden on universities without providing any added benefit for students and their families.

- We support the reinstatement of the Perkins Loan Program, but oppose the redistribution of funds for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG) and Federal Work-Study (FWS), which would reduce federal student aid available to students at New York institutions.

- We oppose a “one-size-fits-all” accreditation process for all colleges, as it would not take into account student populations or current performance, and would take resources from lower performing schools.

- When proposing new regulations and reporting, Congress should carefully weigh the benefits to students, families, government, and the public against the costs of compliance.

Support College Readiness Programs
TRIO. With funding through Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, and Talent Search, the University is providing outreach to more than 125 first generation, minority, and low-income Rochester City School District students this year. The Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Program is helping 50 low-income, first-generation and underrepresented minority undergraduates at the University of Rochester pursue graduate and doctoral study. 97% of our Upward Bound students graduate from high school and 98% of our McNair students pursue advanced degrees.

- Support at least $1.09 billion for TRIO in FY21.

GEAR UP. The Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) provide tutoring, mentoring, academic, financial aid, and career counseling services to prepare low-income middle and high school students to enter and succeed in college. The GEAR UP program is helping to serve students at East High School, which is under an Educational Partnership Organization with the University of Rochester.

- Support GEAR UP in FY21.

Support Graduate Education Programs
The Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program helps ensure a strong pipeline of talented experts and educators to meet the demands of our 21st century workforce. Several University of Rochester departments, including Chemistry and Engineering, as well as the School of Nursing, have received funding through
GAANN to help students from underrepresented backgrounds with financial need pursue doctoral degrees.

- Support at least $48 million in funding for GAANN in FY21 and ensure the arts, humanities, and social disciplines are eligible fields for grant competition.

Support the Title VI and Other International Education Programs
The Department of Education’s Title VI programs support institutional and fellowship grants that contribute to our nation’s long-term national security, global leadership, and economic competitiveness. The University of Rochester is also a prolific participant in the State Department’s Fulbright Program having once again been named a “Top Producer” of scholars in 2018, and has a record 27 semi-finalists in 2019. The U.S. needs a steady supply of graduates with expertise in less commonly taught languages, world areas, and transnational trends to maintain diplomacy and future global engagement.

- Support at least $106 million for the International Education and Foreign Language programs in FY21, and provide robust funding for the State Department’s Fulbright Program.

Support Education Research
The Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES) offers high quality, evidence-based research and innovations in teaching and learning to inform education practice and policy in formats that are useful and accessible to parents, educators, researchers, policy makers, and the public.

- Support $690 million for IES in FY21.

Support Programs to Assist Students with Developmental and Other Disabilities
The Warner School’s Center on Disability and Education helps people navigate the world of disability and is working to increase inclusive higher education initiatives. Since 2010, the Center has received $5 million through the Department of Education’s Transition and Post-Secondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID). TPSID supports students with intellectual disabilities in the transition to adulthood through access to higher education, vocational training, and job placement.

- Support at least $12 million for TPSID in FY21.

The Implications of Tax Reform on Higher Education
Tax reforms that promote economic growth, foster a well-educated, productive workforce, and strengthen incentives for charitable giving are important to our nation’s prosperity. Reforms should simplify and strengthen existing policies that students and their families rely on to finance higher education. We are grateful to Congress for providing relief and certainty for colleges and universities, our students, and employees by repealing several provisions from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), including the “Kiddie Tax” and the tax on employer provided parking and transportation benefits. We were also pleased to see the retroactive reinstatement and extension of the above-the-line tuition deduction through 2020.

- We continue to urge Congress to repeal the unprecedented 1.4% excise tax on higher education institutions included in the TCJA.

- Additional tax reforms considered by Congress that promote economic growth, foster a well-educated, productive workforce, and strengthen incentives for charitable giving are important to our nation’s continuing prosperity.
Making Higher Education Accessible to All Students
Higher education provides immeasurable value to students and is one of the best investments a society can make. At the University of Rochester, we believe that no student's financial status should inhibit them from pursuing high-quality higher education. We are one of only a few institutions in the nation committed to meeting 100% of the demonstrated need of all undergraduates earning admission to the College. While we provide $274 million in institutional aid annually to undergraduate and graduate students, the federal student aid, college readiness, and federal student loan programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels remain essential to ensuring students from all backgrounds can pursue the academic path of their choice.

Support for Pell Grants
The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students who might otherwise not have access to college. In 2018-19, the University of Rochester enrolled 1,219 students who received assistance through the Pell Grant program, with an average award of $4,719.

- Maintain the discretionary base and support a maximum Pell Grant award of $6,655.

Support for Federal Work-Study (FWS)
Federal Work-Study helps students finance the cost of college through part-time employment. In 2018-2019, the University of Rochester received $1,393,971 to support 1,187 work-study positions. Including the University match, $2,310,937 in wages was provided to students in work-study positions. Nearly 20% of the University’s FWS funding supports the Career Services Job Location and Development Program and UReading, a tutoring and mentoring program that pairs undergraduates with preschool and kindergarten students from the Rochester City School District.

- Provide at least $1.43 billion for Federal Work-Study in FY21 and maintain program eligibility for graduate students.

Support Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)
SEOG provides grants to low- and middle-income students and funds programs that help at-risk students get into and stay in college. In the 2018-19 academic year, the University of Rochester received $713,285 in federal funding for SEOG, that, when combined with the University’s matching funds, provided 1,072 students with an average award of $887.

- Support at least $1.03 billion for Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants in FY21.
Support the Federal Student Loan Programs

Federal student loans are a critical tool that helps millions of Americans access a college education. Through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, University of Rochester students received over $54 million in the 2018-19 academic year to help pay for college. Thanks to the institutional aid the University provides, the average University of Rochester student in 2019 graduated with only $21,206 in student loans, and less than 2% of University of Rochester students default on their loans.

- The availability of federal loan programs, including Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, and PLUS loans must be preserved with adequate borrowing limits that encourage choice and help students avoid more costly private loans.

- Student loan options are critical for graduate students. We support the reauthorization of GRAD PLUS and Parent PLUS loans, allowing student borrowing up to the cost of attendance, maintaining graduate and professional student eligibility for unsubsidized Stafford loans, strong repayment terms, and loan forgiveness benefits that put graduate and professional studies within reach for all interested students.

Support the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF)

The PSLF program is an important tool to attract talented individuals to work in critical jobs within their communities as educators, emergency responders, librarians, nurses, government employees, and many other professions. As the nation faces physician workforce shortages, PSLF also helps to encourage new doctors to enter public service and practice in non-profit settings. Eliminating PSLF would disproportionately impact rural, urban, and tribal communities that are underserved.

- Preserve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to ensure the future workforce of public servants.

FAST FACTS

- UR ranked #23 nationally as a 2019 Best Value School by U.S. News World & Report, and ranked #33 in Kiplinger’s list of Best Values in Private Colleges for 2019.

- The University of Rochester provided $274 million in institutional scholarships to students last year.

- The University provided an average of $26,927 in grant aid to undergraduates in 2018-19.

- 86% of University of Rochester students receive financial aid.

- 45% of University of Rochester students graduate with no loan debt.

- The average Class of 2019 undergraduate student who took out loans graduated with $21,206 in federal loan debt

- Less than 2% of our students default on their loans.

- Nearly 20% of University of Rochester undergraduates receive Pell Grants.
International Talent is Critical to U.S. Global Leadership

In the years following World War II, federal investment in research made the United States a magnet for international talent that was unrivaled around the world. This influx of top students and scholars has enhanced the U.S. higher education system and contributed to innumerable discoveries and innovations that have improved human health, created new technologies, and thereby strengthened our economic and national security.

Today, the U.S. is in a fierce competition for global talent with other countries. In 2018, our nation experienced a third consecutive year of decline in new international student enrollment. We continue to lose global market share of research and development expenditures to other countries that have established aggressive national policies and marketing strategies to attract these talented individuals and expand their research enterprise.

- U.S. policies must balance efforts to safeguard research and national security with the need to attract the best and brightest individuals and exchange of ideas that fuel our global economic leadership.

Preserve Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

The establishment of the DACA program in 2012 has allowed approximately 800,000 young people across the country — brought to the United States as children through no fault of their own — to become eligible for a work permit, a Social Security card, a driver’s license, and deferral from deportation. Roughly 350,000 individuals with DACA status are enrolled in school or college. DACA has allowed these young people to achieve their full academic potential, serve our nation in the military, and become full participants in the American workforce.

- Congress must act pass legislation like the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act to provide legal status and a firm statutory basis to allow DACA students to continue to work, study, and contribute to our great country without fear or uncertainty about their legal status.

Support Smart Enforcement and Border Security Policies

Border security and interior enforcement are essential to a functioning immigration system and our national security, but must be done in a way that upholds American values, preserves our nation’s economic vitality, and ensures public safety in a fair and just manner. The 2017 executive orders limiting immigrant and non-immigrant entry to the U.S. threaten our nation’s standing as the destination of choice for the world’s best and brightest students and scholars. University of Rochester students from the nations affected by the travel ban have not been able to return home to see their families since its implementation, for fear they will not be allowed to return to the U.S. to complete their studies.

In addition, checks and detentions of foreign students, researchers, and faculty in recent years — among the most closely vetted and monitored groups of any international visitors — have caused undue hardship and created an unfriendly environment that has disrupted research and education activities at the University of Rochester and many other institutions.

- Interior enforcement policies must preserve international cultural exchange so that those who wish to visit the U.S. to foster scholarship, science, medicine, or to contribute to our nation’s workforce are able to achieve their goals and benefit our national interest.
Protect the H-1B and J-1 Employment Programs
As a nation, we rely on talent from around the world to make our economy prosper. The H-1B program is critical for filling real and significant gaps that exist in the U.S. workforce with highly skilled workers from other nations. To hire H-1B professionals, U.S. companies already must meet strict criteria set by the U.S. Department of Labor to protect American workers, such as ensuring prevailing wage and providing notice to other workers in the same occupation.

The J-1 work- and study-based exchange visitor program has allowed countless promising scholars and physicians to come to the U.S. to teach, study, conduct research, or receive on the job training. UR Medicine routinely relies on the J-1 program to hire qualified physicians to fill critical needs in care in underserved areas across our region.

- We urge Congress to expand the H-1B program and maintain the higher education exemption from the H-1B cap, and protect the J-1 visa program to ensure access to the expertise needed to fill our nation’s innovation, research, and health care sector needs.

Support the Optional Practical Training (OPT) Programs
The Optional Practical Training (OPT) program allows foreign U.S.-educated students time-limited, practical work experience immediately upon completion of their academic studies. In addition, graduates in STEM fields are granted additional work authorization. The OPT program and STEM extension are important experiential learning opportunities that not only attract top foreign students to study in the U.S., but also permit them to contribute to America’s innovation economy for up to three years.

- We urge the Administration to maintain OPT and the OPT STEM extension to allow U.S. educated international students to continue to participate in enriching work experience and incentivize “the best and brightest” to continue to seek higher education experiences in the U.S.

Preserve Duration of Status
For decades, students have been granted immigration status for the period of time they are engaging in their studies and practical training, known as “Duration of Status.” The Administration included the elimination of Duration of Status in its Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions of Fall 2018 and Spring 2019. Duration of Status provides needed flexibility for common changes in student goals and actions. For example, without this policy in place, a student wishing to transfer from a community college to a 4-year institution would have to apply to extend their status.

Ending Duration of Status would create an enormous influx of new extension of status filings at USCIS, which would exacerbate the existing backlogs and delays that have already caused processing times to increase nearly 50% in the last two years, and nearly double since fiscal year 2014.

- Providing Duration of Status for international students is essential to ensuring students an uninterrupted course of study and minimizing already excessive USCIS backlogs.

FAST FACTS
- In the current academic year, the University of Rochester is hosting 3,651 international students and 450 scholars from 140 countries.
- International students contributed nearly $41 billion to the U.S. economy – including $5.3 billion in New York State – through tuition, room and board, and other expenses in 2018-19.
- International students and scholars at the University of Rochester contributed $225.4 million to the local economy in 2018, supporting 2,973 jobs.
- According to the 2019 Institute for International Education’s Open Doors report, the U.S. remains the top host of international students globally. However, new international student enrollments in the U.S. continued to fall in the 2018-19 academic year, continuing a downward trend first observed in 2015-16.
- The National Science Board’s 2020 Science and Engineering Indicators report shows that the economies of East-Southeast and South Asia - including China, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and India - have surpassed the U.S. and E.U. in global R&D expenditures.
The arts and humanities provide valuable, accessible cultural enrichment to our communities and help to cultivate and support a broadly educated workforce ready to compete in the knowledge-based, global economy. They represent the core fields of knowledge and capacities that enrich individuals, provide a foundation for success in a wide range of careers, undergird our civic institutions, support strategic national interests, and help advance sound public policymaking in addressing the challenges of the 21st century.

Since 2014, the University of Rochester’s Memorial Art Gallery (MAG) has received eight grants from federally funded arts and humanities programs. Sustained federal investment in the arts and humanities is critical to our national interests and continued status as a world leader as rapid globalization, economic crises, and new challenges to our national security have heightened the need for a well-rounded citizenry.

Support the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
NEA programs encourage creativity through support for performances, exhibitions, festivals, artist residencies, and other art projects throughout the country in a variety of disciplines that have a great impact on art education and local economies. In FY18, the NEA awarded nearly 2,300 grants in every Congressional district in the U.S. Each NEA grant dollar is typically matched by nine dollars of additional investments in nonprofit arts organizations. In partnership with the NEA, state arts agencies serve more than 16,000 communities across the country through arts education programs, regional touring projects, and arts activities in underserved communities.

In 2018, the Memorial Art Gallery received a $20,000 grant through the NEA to support Path to Paradise, an exhibition of groundbreaking stained glass work by artist Judith Schaechter, on display in the gallery in early 2020. Another application is currently pending with the NEA to support an upcoming exhibition highlighting the University’s world renowned collection of AIDS posters, which offer a visual history of the first three decades of the HIV/AIDS crisis from 1981 to the present.

- Support $167.5 million in FY21 for the NEA to ensure sufficient support for the NEA’s grantmaking programs.
Support the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
The humanities programs funded by the NEH are vital to ensuring that America can compete successfully in a global economy and advance sound public policy to address the challenges of the 21st century. These programs teach essential skills, such as creativity, critical thinking, and effective communication that have brought world leadership and underlie the cultural intelligence that buttresses successful diplomacy. In FY17, the NEH funded 813 education, preservation and access, digital humanities, research, and federal/state partnership projects across the country. The NEH also funds humanities councils in every state and U.S. territory, which sponsor family literacy programs, speakers’ bureaus, cultural heritage tourism, exhibitions, and live performances.

- Support $167.5 million for the NEH in FY21.

Support for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
The IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Grant support through the IMLS to libraries and museums, such as the University of Rochester’s Rush Rhees Library and the Memorial Art Gallery, advances innovation, lifelong learning, cultural understanding, and civic engagement to connect people with information and ideas. Museums provide more than $50 billion in U.S. economic activity annually, support more than 726,000 jobs, and generate $12 billion in tax revenue. The IMLS works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development.

- Support at least $252 million in FY21 for IMLS.

FAST FACTS

- Last year, the MAG welcomed more than 279,000 visitors - a 17% increase.
- More than 12,000 students visited the MAG last year from nearly 30 school districts last year.
- The MAG’s Centennial Sculpture Park, opened in 2013, has recast 10 acres of the Gallery’s grounds into a showcase of public art and urban space in the heart of the Neighborhood of the Arts.
- The MAG’s Teacher Resource Center offers books, posters, videos, and other classroom resource material to area teachers free of charge.
- 500 low-income residents receive free transportation, free museum admission and free family memberships through MAGconnect each year.
- All Rochester City School District students receive free admission to the MAG.