

Programs & Subprograms

Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars

The Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program was established in 1988 as a matching grants program to attract eminent scholars to Louisiana. A minimum \$600,000 contribution of private funds is required, which is matched with \$400,000 from the BoRSF to create a minimum \$1million endowed chair. The same private funds: BoRSF ratio can be used to endow a \$2 million or \$3 million chair. Since its inception, the Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program has awarded \$140 million in matching funds to establish 265 \$1 million and 40 \$2 million chairs at 26 campuses across the State.

Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students

The Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program is designed to help recruit students of superior ability to Louisiana and encourage top graduates from the State's higher education institutions to pursue advanced degrees. It consists of three competitive subprograms:

- **Traditional Graduate Fellows** primarily supports fellowships across all disciplines for excellent doctoral-level students, but also allows student stipends in master's-level programs of distinction.
- **Graduate Fellowships for Teachers** offers support to pre- and in-service teachers seeking master's degrees in science or mathematics.
- **Board of Regents/Southern Regional Education Board Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity** help successful universities build diversity in graduate programs by recruiting and retaining excellent under-represented minority doctoral candidates.

The Board has invested \$81 million in the Graduate Fellows Program since 1987, funding 1,429 graduate fellowships at 14 campuses.

Research & Development

The Research and Development Program provides competitive grants for basic and applied research projects with the potential to contribute to the knowledge base and the State's economic development. Awards are made through three subprograms:

- The **Research Competitiveness Subprogram (RCS)** is a stimulus program directed only toward those researchers who are at the threshold of becoming competitive in the Federal R&D marketplace. It is designed to assist these researchers to overcome the barriers that have prevented them from competing successfully at the national level for R&D funds.
- The **Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS)** funds research proposals that have significant near-term potential for contributing to the development and diversification of the Louisiana economy. Accordingly, all proposals and funded projects must demonstrate strong interest from and continued involvement by the private sector and/or non-State public agencies.
- The **Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Subprogram** provides support for major scholarly and artistic productions with potential to have a broad impact on a regional or national level. ATLAS awards facilitate the completion of manuscripts for publication and the mounting

of creative productions including recordings, performances, and gallery shows.

Since 1987, the Board has invested \$131.7 million in more than 1,300 R&D projects across 22 campuses. All R&D components are competitive and use the services of out-of-state consultants to review and make recommendations relative to proposals submitted for consideration.

Enhancement

The Enhancement component includes the widest variety of programs and supports the broadest range of activities in the Support Fund. Through Enhancement, the BoRSF supports competitive programs for departments and units, non-competitive endowment programs, and matching for federal awards:

- **Competitive Enhancement Programs** – **Traditional Enhancement**, **Undergraduate Enhancement**, and **Enhancement for Two-Year Institutions** – provide opportunities to improve the quality of academic departments or units at all academic levels, thus enhancing the infrastructure of individual institutions and higher education across the State. Emphasis is on the purchase of instructional and research equipment, although other types of enhancements are allowed. Proposals, reviewed by teams of out-of-state experts, are judged principally on the value and potential impact of proposed enhancements. Approximately 2,800 Enhancement projects have been funded since 1987.
- **Enhancement's Endowment Programs** – **Endowed Professorships** and **First-Generation Endowed Undergraduate Scholarships** – are non-competitive programs in which a non-State donation is matched with a Support Fund contribution to establish an endowed fund. In Endowed Professorships, matching funds help campuses recruit or retain faculty whose research, teaching, and public service uniquely contribute to the mission of their departments and institutions. Established in FY 2007-08, the Endowed Undergraduate Scholarships program provides match to establish endowed scholarships in support of first-generation college students. To date, 2,322 \$100,000 Professorship slots and 45 Undergraduate Scholarships have been matched.
- **Federal Matching** uses Support Fund monies to leverage funds from federal research programs, particularly through the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The Board has also matched Enhancement monies to obtain federal grants to implement and sustain statewide education reform efforts. Between 1987 and 2011, joint federal/State programs were awarded over \$140 million, for which the BoRSF provided match of \$92.5 million.

As the most inclusive program, Enhancement represents the largest investment of BoRSF monies, committing \$363.4 million over 27 years to fund thousands of competitive projects, endowments, and matching opportunities across eligible campuses statewide.

