



Homeland Security
Science and Technology

Office of University Programs (OUP)

Bringing Innovation to Operations

OUP enables Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components and their partners to bring innovation to operations by tapping the expertise of the Nation's colleges and universities.

LAUNCH ▶

2003, as called for in the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*

PROGRAMS ▶

Centers of Excellence, Workforce Development, and Minority Serving Institutions Program

University Partnerships Deliver Results

Centers of Excellence (COEs) university-led consortia that work with industry, DHS components, other government and homeland security agencies (federal, state, and local), and first responders to develop critical technologies and analyses to secure the homeland. COEs also develop homeland security-related curricula and training.

Workforce and Professional Development Initiatives develop the current and future homeland security science and engineering workforce. OUP grants, internships, and fellowships expose students to advanced technical knowledge, training, and complex, real-world challenges, in order to become the next generation of homeland security leaders.

The **Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)** Program provides grants and awards to build a diverse, highly capable, technical workforce for the homeland security enterprise.

Feedback from Our Partners

"Thank you for providing a tool that enabled me to make this difficult decision; in hindsight, probably the most important decision made in our response [to Hurricane Irene]."

Rear Admiral W.D. Lee
Commander, Fifth District
U.S. Coast Guard

"I hope to continue this research at Tuskegee and possibly create novel analytical platforms for explosives detection... We're very excited for the future."

Dr. Marilyn Toure
Summer Research Team
Participant, Minority Serving
Institutions Program



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dhs.gov/science-and-technology/office-university-programs

Current COEs

Arctic Domain Awareness Center (ADAC), led by the University of Alaska at Anchorage

Borders, Trade and Immigration Institute (BTI), led by the University of Houston

Center of Excellence for Awareness & Localization of Explosives-Related Threats (ALERT), led by Northeastern University

Center for Accelerating Operational Efficiency (CAOE), led by Arizona State University

Coastal Resilience Center of Excellence (CRC), led by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in partnership with Jackson State University

Criminal Investigations and Network Analysis Center (CINA), led by George Mason University

Critical Infrastructure Resilience Institute (CIRI), led by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Cross-Border Threat Screening and Supply Chain Defense Institute (CBTSi), led by Texas A&M University

Maritime Security Center (MSC), led by Stevens Institute of Technology

Emeritus* COEs

Center of Excellence for Zoonotic and Animal Disease Defense (ZADD), co-led by Texas A&M University and Kansas State University

Center for Visualization and Data Analytics (CVADA), co-led by Purdue University and Rutgers University

Food Protection and Defense Institute (FPDI), led by the University of Minnesota

National Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE), led by the University of Southern California

National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), led by the University of Maryland

**DHS S&T Emeritus Centers of Excellence are active, but no longer receive base grant funding. DHS and its operational components can access Emeritus Centers through DHS Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs).*



For more information, please visit [dhs.gov/science-and-technology/office-university-programs](https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/office-university-programs)

Impacts

Achievement Through Collaboration

- **Developed** more than 100 targeted tools, technologies, and knowledge products through COEs for use across the homeland security enterprise.
- **Performed** targeted research for 11 DHS components and offices and five other Federal agencies, which have contributed over \$140 million in supplemental COE investments.
- **Attracted** over \$420 million in additional funding from external sources for homeland security research, development, and education.
- **Placed** 445 students in summer internships since 2008 to conduct research in DHS mission-relevant research areas at federal research facilities located across the country.
- **Awarded** 63 Career Development Grants to universities plus 289 Fellowships and 256 Scholarships to individuals.

Working with OUP

Getting Started

- Identify your university-based research and development or education requirements.
- Learn more about the COEs at <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/centers-excellence>.
- Contact OUP by emailing universityprograms@hq.dhs.gov. We will match you with the appropriate OUP program manager to meet your needs and find needed research and development capabilities within OUP's network of more than 200 partner institutions.

Vehicles to Access OUP Research and Education

OUP offers a variety of vehicles through which DHS components and other partners can access the expertise found at the DHS COEs.

- **Basic Ordering Agreements** - Through a Basic Ordering Agreement (BOA), DHS components can establish a contractual task order directly with a COE to conduct targeted R&D or education projects. To learn more, visit <https://www.dhs.gov/coes-boa>.
- **OUP Cooperative Agreements and Grants** - OUP has a suite of standing cooperative agreements and grants with dozens of colleges and universities. DHS components and other federal agencies can tap into these vehicles through a variety of partnership opportunities or Interagency Agreements.