

Department of Defense (DoD) Historically Black Colleges/ Universities & Minority-Serving Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program



National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance – Technical Assistance Workshop

Mrs. Evelyn Kent (evelyn.w.kent.civ@mail.mil)
Director, DoD HBCU/MI Program and Outreach

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for
Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))
Deputy Chief Technology Office for Science and
Technology

Controlled by: OUSD(R&E)
Controlled by: S&T Foundations Office
Washington, DC
8 June 2023



DoD HBCU/MI Program

The DoD HBCU/MI Program provides support to covered educational institutions to assist the Department in defense-related research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) activities. The Program is established by 10 U.S.C. Section 4144 and uses the statutory authorities to pursue the following objectives:



Enhance the research and educational capabilities of HBCUs/MIs in science and technology areas of importance to national defense



Encourage the participation of HBCUs/MIs in RDT&E programs and activities of the DoD

Increase the number of HBCU/MI graduates engaged in disciplines important to the national security functions of the DoD



Encourage research and educational collaborations with other institutions of higher education, Government defense organizations, and the defense industry



Justice40 Initiative: Army Corps of Engineers

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program (Corps) released on August 2022 a list of the programs included as part of President Biden's Justice40 Initiative, which aims to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, clean water, and other investments to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.
- There are 11 covered programs within the Corps, each of which will help to advance the Biden-Harris administration's commitment to environmental justice.
- Corps Website:
https://www.army.mil/article/259455/army_civil_works_announces_programs_covered_under_the_biden_harris_administrations_justice40_initiative

Covered programs list for the Army Corps

1. Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration – Construction
2. Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration – Investigations
3. Flood and Storm Damage Reduction Program – Construction
4. Flood and Storm Damage Reduction Program – Investigations
5. Continuing Authorities Program
6. Floodplain Management Services
7. Planning Assistance to States
8. Tribal Partnership Program
9. Pilot Programs on the Formulation of Corps of Engineers Projects in Rural Communities and Economically Disadvantaged Communities
10. Pilot Program for Continuing Authority Projects in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (Section 165 of WRDA 2020)
11. Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)



National Defense Authorization Act Language (NDAA) Impacting the HBCU/MI Program

The FY 2020, FY 2022, and FY 2023 NDAA's have contained language encouraging DoD to enhance research and development capacity of HBCUs and MIs and strengthen their ability to participate in defense research activities. The following NDAA sections highlight the intent of each section.

- **FY 2020 NDAA Section 262: *National Study on Defense Research at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions***
 - Required DoD to enter into a partnership with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM) to complete a study detailing the methods and means necessary to expand research capacity at HBCUs/MIs to conduct defense research.
 - Within the study, the NAEM developed research conclusions and made eight strategic recommendations to expand HBCU/MI research capacity and, in turn, further the mission of DoD.
- **FY 2022 NDAA Section 220: *Defense Research and Engineering Activities at Minority Institutions***
 - Requires the DoD to develop a plan to promote defense-related engineering, research, and development activities at HBCUs/MIs for the purpose of elevating research & education capacity.
- **FY 2023 NDAA Section 223: *Report and Pilot Program Based On Recommendations Regarding Defense Research Capacity at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority-Serving Institutions***
 - Requires the Secretary to submit to Congress a report and establish a pilot program based on the recommendations set forth in the NAEM publication titled “*Defense Research Capacity at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions: Transitioning from Good Intentions to Measurable Outcomes.*”



National Academies Consensus Study: Defense Research Capacity at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Institutions – Transitioning from Good Intentions to Measurable Outcomes

• Report Recommendations

- The committee developed eight broad recommendations related to institutional support, data collection and analysis, true partnerships, and promising practices
- Recommendations fall into four areas:
 - » Increasing DoD support to HBCUs/MIs
 - » Improving data collection and Evaluation
 - » Fostering true partnerships
 - » Incorporating promising practices and programs
- **Recommendation 1A: DoD entities with responsibilities to establish or increase DoD relevant research capacity at HBCUs/MIs should provide long term institutional support in one or more of the following areas:**
 - physical research infrastructure (e.g., equipment, facilities);
 - institutional research support and personnel (e.g., sponsored program offices, tech transfer offices, administrative and technical support);
 - programmatic support to research faculty and students (e.g., reduction of faculty teaching loads, training in DoD grants and contracts; incentives to conduct DoD relevant research); and/or
 - business information technology support (i.e., establishment or updates in grant management systems).



Thank You!