

UTC by the Numbers: Results from Year 1 of TEA-21 Grants

Number of students receiving advanced transportation-related degrees: **1,154**

Number of those students moving into transportation-related jobs as their first career move: **388**

Number of those students who are minorities (includes males and females): **569**

Number of those students who are females: **350**

Students enrolled in transportation-related degree programs: **3,360**

Number of peer-reviewed transportation research reports and books published: **634**

Number of practicing transportation professionals participating in technology transfer and outreach activities: **25,236**

"STUDENT OF THE YEAR"

RSPA recognizes the outstanding achievements of UTC students at an annual awards ceremony during TRB Week. Each UTC selects one transportation student to receive a \$1,000 award. Selection is based on technical merit and research, academic performance, professionalism, and leadership.

For further information
on the UTC Program:

E-Mail: utc@rspa.dot.gov



The University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program

Meeting the nation's
need for safe, efficient,
and environmentally
sound movement of
people and goods
through education,
research, and technology
transfer at university-based
centers of excellence.

<http://utc.dot.gov>

U.S. Department of Transportation
Research & Special Programs Administration
Office of Innovation Research & Education
Washington, DC 20590

What is the UTC Program?

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program was created to advance innovative education, research, technology transfer, and outreach at selected institutions of higher learning, throughout the United States. By investing in the UTC Program, USDOT hopes to increase the numbers of talented individuals working in the diverse and complex field of surface transportation, and meet the 21st century challenge of safe, efficient, and environmentally sound movement of people and goods within the United States.

Recognized Centers of Excellence

The 33 UTCs are recognized centers of excellence in the transportation field, each with a specific transportation theme and fully integrated within individual institutions of higher learning.

The Next Generation of Transportation Professionals

Innovative education and research programs at each of the UTCs encourage undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students from diverse academic backgrounds to consider careers in transportation and be part of the next generation of transportation professionals.



The UTC Program is administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Research & Special Programs Administration (RSPA), with funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). RSPA is committed to supporting the highest quality research, technology, education, and training to realize the benefits of a safe, technologically advanced and efficient transportation system that promotes economic growth and international competitiveness now and in the future.

UTC web site address: <http://utc.dot.gov>

• 1987 •

The Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act establishes a program of University Transportation Centers at institutions of higher learning, with one center competitively chosen to operate in each of the 10 Federal regions.

• 1987 •

The UTC Program's mission is primarily transportation research and technology transfer. Funding is authorized at \$40M over four years. UTCs must match grants dollar for dollar.

UTCs Named in TEA-21

Assumption College
 George Mason University (consortium)
 Marshall University (consortium)
 Montana State University
 Morgan State University
 New Jersey Institute of Technology
 North Carolina A&T State University
 North Carolina State University
 Northwestern University
 Purdue University
 Rutgers University
 San Jose State University
 South Carolina State University
 University of Alabama
 University of Arkansas
 University of Central Florida
 University of Denver and
 Mississippi State University
 University of Idaho
 University of Minnesota
 University of Missouri, Rolla
 University of Rhode Island
 University of Southern California and
 California State University, Long Beach
 University of South Florida

• 1991 •

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) continues the 10 regional UTCs and designates nine others at named institutions. ISTEA adds education to some UTCs' missions. Funding is authorized at \$115.5M over six years.

Goals

EDUCATION

A multi disciplinary program of course work and experiential learning that reinforces the transportation theme of the Center

UTCs are reaching out to a variety of learners, from K-12 through the college level, to educators, and transportation professionals. Elementary teachers develop transportation-related curricula. A high school career expo draws students wanting to learn more about transportation engineering. At the college level, graduate students select from interdisciplinary certificate and degree programs in a variety of transportation-related fields. A UTC webcast on surface transportation brings students and faculty together with practicing transportation professionals in the public and private sectors.

HUMAN RESOURCES

An increased number of students, faculty, and staff who are attracted to and substantively involved in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of the Center

Through innovative curricula, graduate and doctoral research fellowships, undergraduate summer programs, internships, and work study programs, UTCs are actively promoting careers in a variety of transportation disciplines.

DIVERSITY

Students, faculty, and staff who reflect the growing diversity of the U.S. workforce and are substantively involved in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of the Center

UTCs are committed to a highly skilled and diverse workforce to meet future transportation needs. Centers are actively recruiting and training minorities and women as the next generation of transportation professionals.

• 1998 •

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) continues the 10 regional UTCs and designates up to 23 others at named institutions.

RESEARCH SELECTION

An objective process for selecting and reviewing research that balances multiple objectives of the program

Each UTC has a transportation-related theme, ranging from policy guidance and economic analysis to technology assessment and human factors. Research projects are selected by UTCs and their partners, in consultation with USDOT, taking into account the various program objectives and the center's theme.

RESEARCH PERFORMANCE

An on-going program of basic and applied research, the products of which are judged by peers or other experts in the field to advance the body of knowledge in transportation

Working closely with Federal, State, and industry partners, UTCs are able to assess how well research initiatives are meeting program objectives.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND OUTREACH

Availability of research results to potential users in a form that can be directly implemented, utilized, or otherwise applied

Communication is the cornerstone of technology transfer and outreach. UTCs are successfully combining the more traditional approaches of printed materials, such as annual reports, newsletters, conference proceedings, and journal articles distributed to the public and private sector, and face-to-face interactions, such as conferences, workshops, and technology expos, with the more sophisticated high tech approach, such as web sites, satellite broadcasts, streaming video, teleconferencing, e-mail, and CD-ROMs.

• 1998 •

TEA-21 specifies an educational mission, a multi-modal focus, and strategic planning management for the UTC Program. Funding is authorized at \$194.8M over six years.

Regional UTCs all with consortia

Region 1: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Region 2: City University of New York, New York, NY

Region 3: Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA

Region 4: University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

Region 5: University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Region 6: Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Region 7: Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Region 8: North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

Region 9: University of California, Berkeley, CA

Region 10: University of Washington, Seattle, WA

• 2003 •

Current authorization under TEA-21 expires.