Founded in 1900, the Association of American Universities is composed of America’s leading research universities. AAU’s 65 research universities transform lives through education, research, and innovation. Our member universities earn the majority of competitively awarded federal funding for research that improves public health, seeks to address national challenges, and contributes significantly to our economic strength, while educating and training tomorrow’s visionary leaders and innovators.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

- 4,826 Patents in 2018
- 5,134 Technology license agreements in 2018
- 4,039 Total operational startups in 2018
- 64 Current Fortune 100 CEOs*

**VALUE**

- 83% of students graduate within 6 years**
- 57% AAU students who graduate debt-free

**RESEARCH**

- $25.6B Federal research dollars awarded in 2018

---

*CEOs who attended an AAU university as of 2019. **2018 graduation rate at AAU universities. ***Not including professional doctoral degrees.
Total employees at AAU universities in 2018: 780,060
Total salaries paid by AAU universities in 2018: $82.4 Billion

25 AAU universities were among the top 10 employers in their state as of 2018.
41 AAU universities were in the top 50 for producing venture capital backed entrepreneurs as of 2019.

Total salaries paid by AAU universities in 2018: $82.4 Billion

Patents issued in 2018: 4,826
Technology license agreements in 2018: 5,134

Cumulative operational startup companies formed as of 2018: 4,039
Startup companies formed in 2018: 663
Startup companies created in home state in 2018: 427
**DEGREES AWARDED BY AAU UNIVERSITIES IN THE U.S. AS OF 2018**

- **Total Degrees**: 531,026
- **Research Doctorates**: 31,132
- **Professional Practice or Other Doctorates**: 25,288
- **Master’s Degrees**: 166,155
- **Bachelor’s Degrees**: 307,831

**In 2017, AAU institutions awarded 50% of all research doctoral degrees and 18% of all undergraduate degrees in STEM and Social Sciences**

**RESEARCH DOCTORAL DEGREES** in STEM out of National Total (2017)

- **Physical Sciences**: 59%
- **Engineering**: 58%
- **Math & Computer Sciences**: 54%
- **Life Sciences**: 46%
- **Psychology & Social Sciences**: 39%

**BACHELOR DEGREES** in STEM out of National Total (2017)

- **Physical Sciences**: 30%
- **Math and Computer Sciences**: 14%
- **Life Sciences**: 11%
- **Psychology & Social Sciences**: 9%
- **Engineering**: 8%

**STUDENTS AT AAU UNIVERSITIES IN 2018**

- **Total Undergraduates**: 1.3 million
- **Graduate Students**: 641,073
- **Postdocs**: 44,295
- **International Students**: 388,485
- **Study Abroad Students**: 93,199
- **Teachers**: 8,890
- **Medical Degrees**: 6,667
- **Dental Degrees**: 2,497
- **Nursing Degrees**: 9,382

*For all U.S. 4-year institutions. **Number of Postdocs in 2017.*
### Federally Funded Academic Research and Development in 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>$25B</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defense</td>
<td>$20B</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Energy</td>
<td>$15B</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services (including NIH)</td>
<td>$10B</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</td>
<td>$5B</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>$25B</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Federal Departments and Agencies</td>
<td>$2B</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Federal R&amp;D at AAU universities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25.6 Billion</strong></td>
<td><strong>61%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*% of total amount awarded to AAU universities / total dollar amount received by AAU universities

### Scholarly Output

- **21.4 Million** citations (2014-2018)*
- **2.4 Million** publications (2014-2018)*
- **60,945** books (2009-2018)**

*Thomson-Reuters InCites  **2018 Academic Analytics

### Honors & Awards

- **54%** of all National Academy Members
- **70%** of all American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows
- **89%** of all National Academy of Inventors
- **38%** of all winners are at AAU universities
- **78%** of recipients are at AAU universities (of university winners)
- **73%** of all awardees are affiliated with an AAU university

**Total Federal R&D at AAU universities**: $25.6 Billion

**Total Publications (2014-2018)**: 2.4 Million

**Total Books (2009-2018)**: 60,945

**Total Citations (2014-2018)**: 21.4 Million

**Total Books (2009-2018)**: 60,945

**Total National Academy Members**: 3,836

**Total National Academy of Inventors**: 56

**Total Elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows**: 3,486

**Total Nobel Prize winners at AAU universities**: 38%

**Total National Medal of Technology & Innovation winners at AAU universities**: 78%

**Total National Medal of Science winners at AAU universities**: 73%

**Total startup and early stage technology investment programs**: $10.8 B

**Total university accelerator programs**: 73

**Total research parks**: 22

**Total research parks**: 22

**Total research parks**: 22
In 2018, only 4 out of 10 graduating seniors from AAU universities had debt, while 7 out of 10 graduating seniors from non-AAU universities had debt.

STUDENT DEBT DEFAULT RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF AID</th>
<th>Non-PROFIT Universities</th>
<th>FOR-PROFIT Universities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Loans</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Grants</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2018, Institutional Grant Aid made up 73% of an AAU student’s total financial aid.

INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT GRANT AID IN 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Loans</td>
<td>$501.71M</td>
<td>$502.91M</td>
<td>$504.01M</td>
<td>$473.67M</td>
<td>$480.02M</td>
<td>$462.60M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
<td>$260.69M</td>
<td>$265.31M</td>
<td>$269.80M</td>
<td>$268.26M</td>
<td>$269.80M</td>
<td>$290.44M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2018, 65% of AAU seniors with debt had $515.02 million, while 7 out of 10 non-AAU seniors with debt had $260.69 million.

STUDENT DEBT

AAU seniors with debt

Non-AAU seniors with debt

2018 AAU GRADUATION RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>AAU Seniors</th>
<th>Non-AAU Seniors</th>
<th>4 Years</th>
<th>5 Years</th>
<th>6 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2018 NATIONAL GRADUATION RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>4 Years</th>
<th>5 Years</th>
<th>6 Years Painful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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