Founded in 1900, the Association of American Universities is composed of America’s leading research universities. AAU’s 62 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**

- **VALUE**
  - 83% of students graduate within 6 years**
  - 50% AAU students who graduate debt-free

- **EDUCATION 2015 Data**
  - AAU universities make up only 2% of all 4-year universities in the U.S., yet award nearly 42% of all research doctorate degrees.***
  - % Degrees awarded by AAU universities:
    - 51% of all doctoral degrees in STEM and Social Sciences
    - 21% of all undergraduate degrees in STEM and Social Sciences
    - 61% of all doctoral degrees in Arts, Humanities, and Music
    - 16% of all undergraduate degrees in Arts, Humanities, and Music

- **RESEARCH**
  - $24.3 BILLION Federal research dollars awarded in 2017

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*CEOs who attended an AAU university as of 2018.
**2017 graduation rate at AAU universities.
***Non-professional doctorate degrees.
**Economic Impact**

**EMPLOYEES**
- 740,107 Total employees at AAU universities in 2017

**SALARIES**
- $82 Billion Total salaries paid by AAU universities in 2017

**EMPLOYMENT**
- 30 in Top 10
  - 30 AAU universities were among the top 10 employers in their state as of 2017

**ENTREPRENEURS**
- 40 in Top 50
  - 40 AAU universities were in the top 50 for producing venture capital backed entrepreneurs as of 2017

**ECONOMIC IMPACT OVER TIME (2007–17)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Patents</th>
<th>Licenses</th>
<th>Total operational startups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>5,006</td>
<td>4,022</td>
<td>3,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PATENTS**
- 5,006 Patents issued in 2017

**LICENSES**
- 4,022 Technology license agreements in 2017

**TOTAL STARTUPS**
- 3,674 Cumulative operational startup companies formed as of 2017

**STARTUPS IN 2017**
- 669 Startup companies formed in 2017

**HOME STATE COs.**
- 490 Startup companies created in home state in 2017
**DEGREES AWARDED BY AAU UNIVERSITIES IN THE U.S. AS OF 2017**

- **502,179** Total Degrees
- **29,846** Research Doctorates
- **24,747** Professional Practice or Other Doctorates
- **155,834** Master's Degrees
- **291,091** Bachelor's Degrees

**DOCTORAL DEGREES (STEM and Social Sciences) 2015 Data**

- **27%** Engineering
- **30%** Life Sciences
- **13%** Physical & Geosciences
- **9%** Math & Computer Sciences
- **18%** Social Sciences & Psychology
- **27%** Other

**UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES (STEM and Social Sciences) 2015 Data**

- **35%** Social Sciences & Psychology
- **21%** Engineering
- **9%** Math & Computer Sciences
- **3%** Other

**STUDENTS AT AAU UNIVERSITIES IN 2017**

- **1.2 million** Undergraduates
- **613,770** Graduate Students
- **43,333** Total Postdocs
- **369,113** International Students
- **85,456** Study Abroad Students

**GRADUATES OF AAU UNIVERSITIES**

- **23** Governors in 2018
- **238** Members of Congress in 2018
- **13** U.S. Presidents 1900–2018
- **9** All 9 current U.S. Supreme Court Justices
- **45** Supreme Court Justices 1900–2018
- **60** Fortune 100 CEOs in 2018
- **6,282** Doctors in 2018
- **2,453** Dentists in 2018
- **10,251** Nurses in 2018

*For all 4-year institutions. ** Number of Postdocs in 2016.*
**Research**

**FEDERALLY FUNDED ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>$25B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defense</td>
<td>$20B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Energy</td>
<td>$15B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services (including NIH)</td>
<td>$10B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</td>
<td>$5B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>$2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Federal Departments and Agencies</td>
<td>$485 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total federal R&amp;D at AAU universities</td>
<td>$24.3 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

68% of all American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows Elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows affiliated with AAU universities

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**HONORS & AWARDS**

- **Nobel Prize**: 38% of all winners are at AAU universities
- **National Medal of Technology & Innovation**: 68% of all American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows Elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows affiliated with AAU universities
- **National Medal of Science**: 92% of all National Academy of Inventors National Academy of Inventors Member Institutions

- **52% of all National Academy Members**: 3,798 Members of the National Academies at AAU universities
- **68% of all American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows**: 3,346 Elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows affiliated with AAU universities
- **92% of all National Academy of Inventors**: 57 National Academy of Inventors Member Institutions

- **78% of recipients are at AAU universities (of university winners)**
- **70% of all awardees are affiliated with an AAU university**

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**SCHOLARLY OUTPUT**

- **20.2 Million Citations (2011-2017)**
- **2.4 Million Publications (2013-2017)**

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**RESOURCES**

- **24 research parks**
- **62 have startup and early stage technology investment programs**
- **74 university accelerator programs**
- **$9.5B in institutional contributions to research and development**

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*Thomson-Reuters InCites **2017 Academic Analytics*
INSTITUTIONAL GRANT AID IN 2017

Institutional grant aid exceeded federal aid by 40% (aid to first-time, full-time undergraduates)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Grants</td>
<td>$1.35B</td>
<td>$1.46B</td>
<td>$1.54B</td>
<td>$1.62B</td>
<td>$1.72B</td>
<td>$1.81B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Loans</td>
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<td>$495.82</td>
<td>$486.68</td>
<td>$482.72</td>
<td>$457.21</td>
<td>$462.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
<td>$247.28</td>
<td>$247.48</td>
<td>$254.31</td>
<td>$257.36</td>
<td>$257.57</td>
<td>$260.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2017, Institutional Grant Aid made up 71% of a student’s total financial aid.

2017 AAU GRADUATION RATE

- 65% in 4 years
- 80% in 5 years
- 83% in 6 years for Pell Grant Recipients

2017 NATIONAL GRADUATION RATE

- 42% in 4 years
- 58% in 5 years
- 62% in 6 years for Pell Grant Recipients

STUDENT DEBT

- 10 AAU seniors with debt
- 10 non-AAU seniors with debt

In 2017, 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

- 2.8% AAU Universities
- 7.0% Non-Profit Universities
- 14.3% For-Profit Universities