



Mississippi Public Universities contribute to economic development by creating and refining the talent pool available, contributing to the body of knowledge and helping to solve business problems, partnering with local and state economic developers to attract new businesses to the state, and helping to improve the health and quality of life of all Mississippians.

In 2016, Mississippi Public Universities awarded 17,102 degrees, including 3,494 in STEM fields. These graduates are well-prepared to enter the workforce and have the skills necessary to help Mississippi businesses compete on a global

scale. It's no secret that businesses and site selectors look carefully at a potential workforce when considering where to locate a new facility. Mississippi Public Universities are providing the graduates needed to support the advancing manufacturing businesses the state is working hard to attract.

Economic Development

Research at Mississippi Public Universities also supports advanced manufacturing. Research Centers & Institutes support needs on a wide variety of topics, including unmanned aircraft, mobile sensor networks, high-performance composite parts and infrasound stations around the world. Universities help businesses succeed by helping them identify ways to be faster, stronger and more effective. Last year, universities worked on 2,443 projects, supported by \$422 million in external funding.

Mississippi Public Universities also provide technical support for businesses large and small by assisting with strategic planning, leadership development, education and training, community analysis and research. Universities work with economic developers and other community partners to generate jobs that will provide Mississippi families with financial stability and a good quality of life.

\$422 MILLION
awarded to universities in
external research funding
=
2,443 PROJECTS

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

**7.7% increase in degrees
conferred during the
last five years**

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

3,494
STEM Graduates

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES