

## **FY21 Non-Federal Research Funding Overview**

Iowa State received \$76.3 million in research funding from non-federal sources in FY21, which is \$9.4 million, or 14%, more than the \$67 million in non-federal funding received in FY20. This is the second-highest amount of non-federal research funding the university has received over the past five fiscal years.

Three key areas contributed most to the strong performance in non-federal research funding in FY21: Higher Education, Industry/Corporate and Nonprofit organizations.

Iowa State continues to be viewed as a strong research partner by its peers in higher education. The \$16.4 million in funding from academic research partners that Iowa State received in FY21 is the highest total in the past five fiscal years. The \$21.3 million Iowa State received from industry and corporate sponsors in FY21 is \$2 million, or 10.3%, more than the \$19.3 million in FY20. And the \$12.5 million in research funding from non-profit organizations in FY21 is \$4.5 million, or 55.6% more than FY20.

Here are a few of the notable Iowa State research projects that received funding from non-federal sponsors in the 2021 fiscal year:

- Sotirios Archontoulis, associate professor in Agronomy, received initial funding totaling \$343,389 on a four year-project with an estimated total award of \$2 million from the [Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research](#) (FFAR). Archontoulis and his team are exploring using a GEM (Genotype by Environment by Management) framework to identify optimum combinations of plant genotypes and management practices to help accelerate genetic gains in corn while also enhancing production sustainability.
- Wind power is a sustainable energy source that is critical to the ongoing economic development of the state of Iowa. Shan Hu, Mechanical Engineering associate professor, and Xianglan Bai, Mechanical Engineering assistant professor, received separate awards from the [Iowa Economic Development Authority](#) (IEDA) to support their wind energy-focused research efforts. Hu's work is focused on developing an innovative electrolyzer and fuel cell combination to store both wind and solar electricity. Bai is working with Chemical and Biological Engineering professor, Eric Cochran, to develop a novel biobased, nanoengineered polymer composite that can be used to manufacture strong, ultra-durable and recyclable wind turbine blades that could lower energy costs and lessen the burden of disposing these blades at the end of their useful lives.
- The Office of the Vice President for Research received a one-time grant of \$750,000 from [BioConnect Iowa](#). This infusion of funding was critical in helping Iowa State advance its strategy of developing innovation ecosystems around three of the four Iowa-advantaged [Bioscience platforms](#): Biobased Products, Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics and Digital and Precision Agriculture. The funds supported research seed grants and enabled ISU to fill [chief technology officer](#) openings for the Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics and Digital and Precision Agriculture platforms.