

Louisiana Networks of Excellence for Tomorrow

(LA-NEXT)



NSF EPSCoR OIA - 2437963

EPSCoR Collaborations for Optimizing Research Ecosystems (E-CORE)

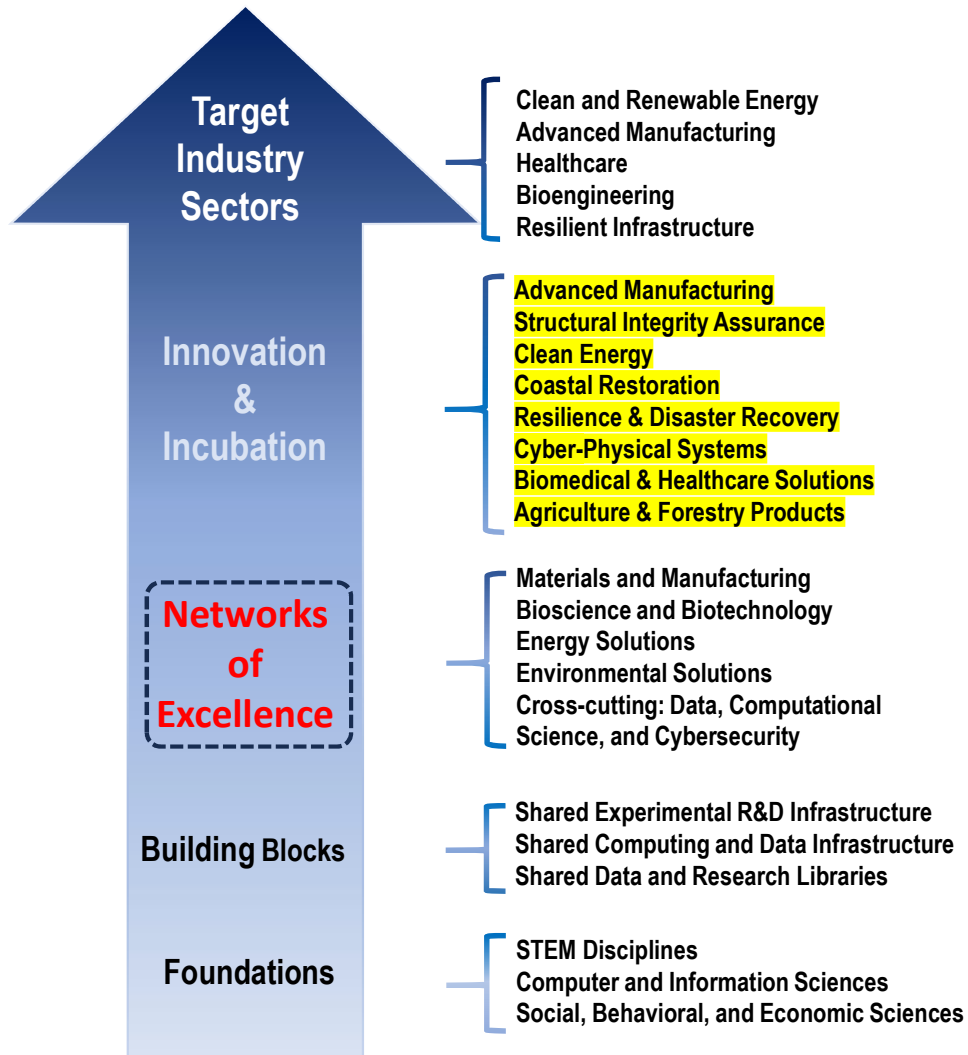


The E-CORE RII Program aims to support EPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions to:

1. Address challenges and opportunities in research infrastructure specific to the current and evolving needs of a jurisdiction's science and technology research ecosystem;
2. Build capacity for jurisdiction-wide investigator expertise into critical masses for sustained, effective, research and education partnerships and funding; and
3. Develop pathways to broaden the participation of institutions and individuals in the jurisdiction's research ecosystem.

FIRST Louisiana 2030

Louisiana's S&T Roadmap



Louisiana Networks of Excellence for Tomorrow (LA-NEXT)

Vision

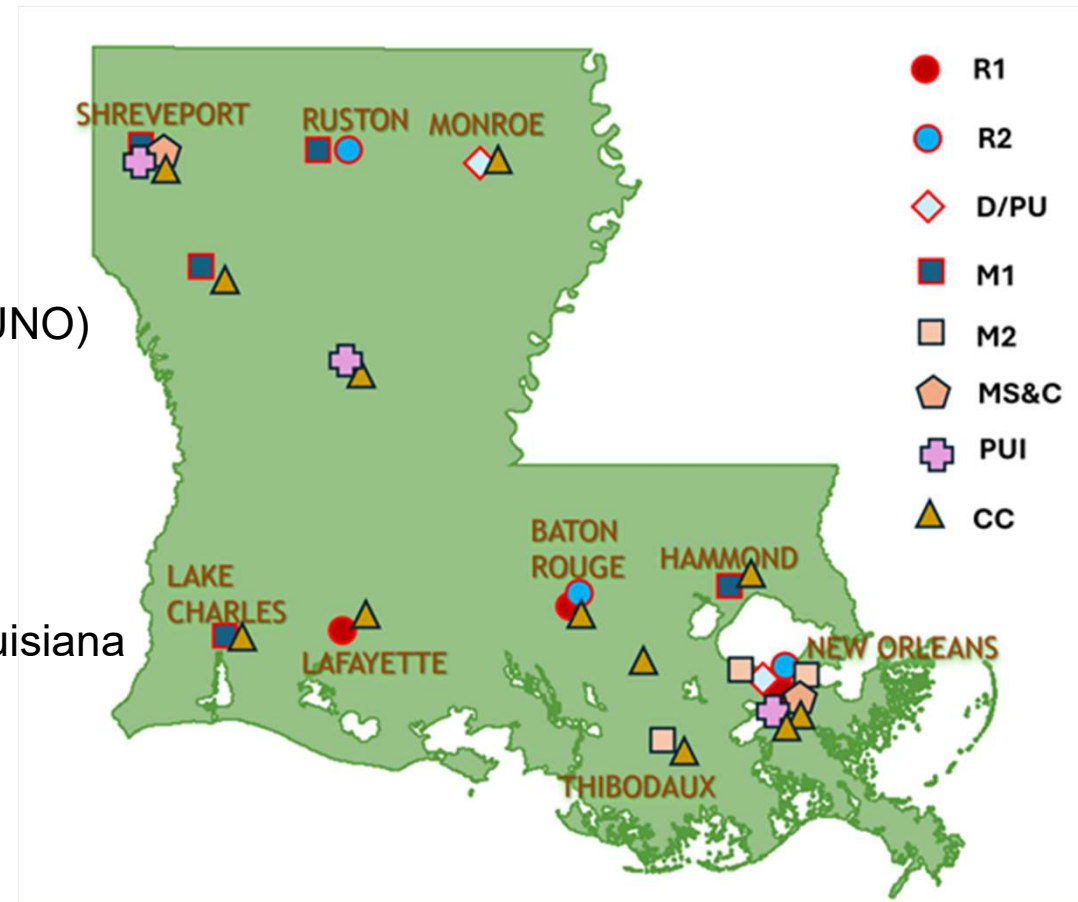
Coordinate, build, and sustain strong networks of collaboration, communication, and partnership among Louisiana's various institutions to transform the STEM R&D enterprise of the State.

Mission

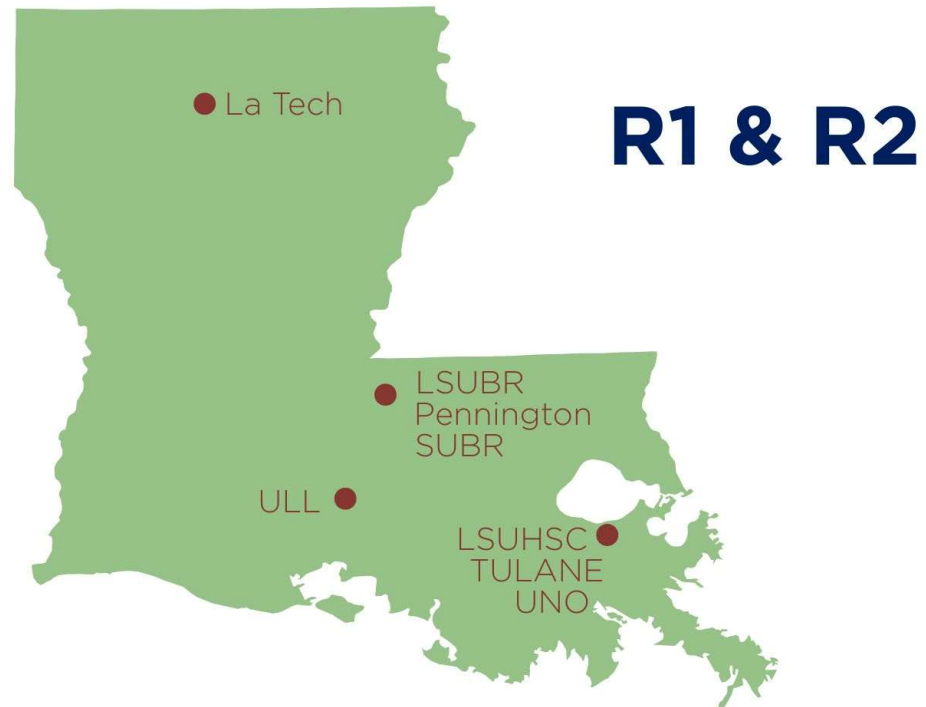
LA-NEXT will drive a transformation of the R&D ecosystem through coordination, facilitation, and capacity building in strategic areas identified by the FIRST Louisiana 2030 plan.

State's Higher Education Enterprise

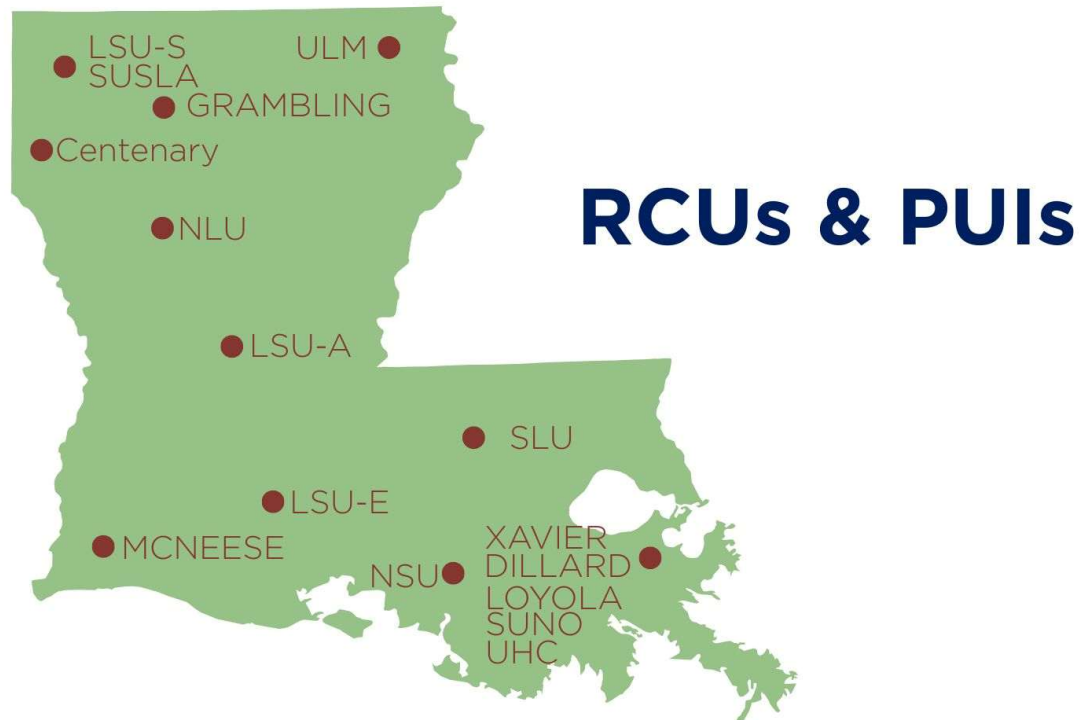
- 3 Carnegie R1 institutions (LSU, Tulane, and ULL)
- 3 R2 institutions (Louisiana Tech, Southern, and UNO)
- 2 Doctoral/professional (D/PU) universities
- 8 Masters institutions (5 M1 and 3 M2)
- 2 Medical Schools and Centers (MS&C)
- 3 Primarily undergraduate institutions (PUI)
- 12 community colleges (CC) that belong to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.



Eligibility (Mentor Institutions)



Eligibility (Mentee institutions)



Initiating Growth through Networks and Interdisciplinary Teamwork (IGNITE)

GOALS

- Increase the involvement of Research Colleges and Universities (RCU) and Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUI) faculty in STEM research
- Establish research collaboration networks between RCUs and PUIs with R1 and R2 institutions in the State
- Continued collaborations that lead to external funding and products
- Increased access to shared research instrumentation and facilities in Louisiana

Initiating Growth through Networks and Interdisciplinary Teamwork (IGNITE)

STRATEGY

- Strengthen the mentoring mechanisms for new faculty at all types of institutions.
- Establish mechanisms to integrate D/PU, M1, M2, and PUI faculty into the R&D enterprise.

Eligibility

MENTEE (Principal Investigator)

- Must be a faculty member at an institution classified as a Carnegie Research College and University (RCU) or Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI)
- Award up to \$10,000

MENTOR

- Must be tenured or tenure-track
- Award up to \$5,000

Eligible Disciplines

STATE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PRIORITY AREAS

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture & Forestry
- Biomedical
- Cybersecurity
- Coastal Restoration
- Energy
- Resilience & Disaster Recovery
- Structural Integrity Assurance

<https://rsi.laregents.edu/program-evaluations-2/state-st-plan/>

Allowable Expenses

MENTEE (Principal Investigator from: RCU and PUI institutions)

- Salary
- Student support
- Materials and Supplies
- Travel
- Publication costs

MENTOR (R1 and R2 institutions)

- Materials and Supplies
- Travel

Next Steps...

LA-NEXT COLLABORATION ENHANCEMENT (LANCE)

- Available in year 2 of LA-NEXT
- Intended to strengthen existing collaborations, such as those built through IGNITE
- Awards anticipated to be in the \$30-40K range

Roadmap from IGNITE to LANCE



IGNITE proposals are due on October 27, 2025, by 4:30 pm Central Time

<https://rsi.laregents.edu/la-epscor-2/epscor-programs/la-next-funding-opportunities/>