Institution: The City College of New York (CCNY)

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Overview

The City University of New York (CUNY), the public university system of NYC and the largest urban public university in the US, reaches a population of nearly 250,000 students across 25 colleges. CUNY is a major driver of social mobility and innovation in the NYC metropolitan area, with total sponsored program expenditures across the system reaching \$542 million in 2023. The City College of New York (CCNY) is the flagship campus of the CUNY system. Established in 1847 by a state-wide referendum as the Free Academy—CCNY is one of the nation's earliest public institutions of higher education and its first municipal college, cementing a long history as an institution with equitable access to education as one of our central missions.

CCNY leads CUNY campuses in funded research efforts and houses 12 research centers and institutes. The Grove School of Engineering and Spitzer School of Architecture are the only 4-year public schools of engineering and architecture in the City of New York. In our science, engineering, and social science programs, more than 300 undergraduates work alongside senior researchers, supported by our Office of Experiential Learning. In the last five years, CCNY research expenditures have increased and total more than \$80 million in FY25 as our on-campus research programs flourish.

Research Capabilities

CCNY research strengths span a diversity of fields from the Humanities & Arts to STEM. We highlight highly developed research clusters at CCNY: Quantum Research, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, Life Sciences, Energy and the Environment, Robotics, and Transportation.

- Quantum Research: Quantum Materials, Quantum Algorithms, Topological Photonics, Spin Qubits, Single Source Photon Sources, Nanophotonics
- *Cybersecurity:* Theoretical Computer Science, Cryptography, Network Security, Blockchain, Intrusion detection, Artificial Intelligence, Microgrids
- Artificial Intelligence: Cloud-Enhanced Open Software Defined Mobile Wireless (COSMOS/COSMIC)
 Testbed, Stochastic Computing-based Host Intrusion Detection, Resilient Cloud Designed Networks
 (RECN), Noise-Aware Low-Cost Low-Power Baseband DSP Hardware using Stochastic Computing
- Life Sciences: Medical & Clinical Sciences, Structural Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology
- **Energy and the Environment:** Battery Technology, Mobile Power Storage, Uninterrupted Power Supply in Extreme Conditions, Grid Storage Applications, Waste to Energy, Climate Research
- *Robotics:* Cyber-Physical Systems, Autonomous Navigation, 3D Simultaneous Localization & Mapping (SLAM), Real-time & Embedded Computing, Assistive Technology, Multi-Agent Systems, Swarm Robotics
- Transportation: Transit-related Research, Infrastructure



Facilities

Core Facilities

Light Microscopy, Electron Microscopy, X-Ray Diffractometry, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), MicroCT and Ultrasound Imaging, Access to NSF-funded CUNY High Performance Computing Center (HPCC)

Research Institutes and Centers

- Benjamin Levich Institute for Physico-Chemical Hydrodynamics
- CUNY Dominican Studies Institute
- CUNY Energy Institute
- CUNY Institute for Macromolecular Assemblies (MMA)
- CUNY Institute for Transportation Systems (CITS)
- CUNY Remote Sensing Earth System Institute (CREST)
- Institute for Ultrafast Spectroscopy and Lasers (IUSL)
- Urban Waste Recovery Research Institute (UW3RI)
- Center for Algorithms and Interactive Scientific Software (CAISS)
- The Documentary Forum: Center for Film, Journalism and Interactive Media
- NSF CREST Center for Interface Design and Engineered Assembly of Low Dimensional Systems (IDEALS)
- The J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures
- The Simon H. Rifkind Center for the Humanities and Arts

Research Infrastructure

In the last year, CCNY has strengthened its capacity to support research by increasing personnel in the Grants and Sponsored Programs office, hiring a new Director of Proposal Development and Associate Provost for Research. These individuals work to build research capacity on campus by developing college-wide initiatives to support successful proposal writing and facilitating large, interdisciplinary efforts to bring center-level funding to the college.

Past Performance

Research expenditures exceeded \$80 million in FY25. Below, we highlight examples of major awards:

Sponsor	Program	Amount
NOAA	NOAA Cooperative Science Center for Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing Technologies-II	\$30 M
NIH	NY Center for Minority Health, Equity and Social Justice	\$15 M
NYC DEP	Research and Development Projects to Optimize Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations	\$12 M
NIH	CCNY-MSKCC Partnership for Cancer Research, Education and Community Outreach	\$6.7 M
DoED	City College Initiative to Promote the Academic Success of STEM Students – Experiential Learning and Career Engagement Initiative (CiPASS-ExLCEI)	\$5 M
DoD	Transcranial Photobiomodulation in Older Adults with Traumatic Brain Injury: Effects on Cerebral Blood Flow and Cognition	\$2.2 M
DoED	The Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative	\$1.5 M

