

## Measuring Success

Performance Measures for UTCs funded through SAFETEA-LU (2005-2010):

- Over 2,500 research projects selected for Federal funding using UTC grant money.
- Over 10,000 graduate students and 6,000 undergraduate students participated in UTC-supported research projects.
- Over 10,000 graduate students earned their master's degrees in transportation-related fields.
- Over 1,500 PhD students received their degrees in transportation-related fields.
- Over 9,000 seminars, symposia, and distance-learning courses conducted by UTCs for transportation professionals.



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For additional information about the UTC Program, please visit <http://utc.dot.gov/>.



# University Transportation Centers

Celebrating 25 years of innovation in transportation research and education



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Research and Innovative Technology Administration**

## 25 Years of Excellence

America's investment in transportation research and education through the University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program since 1987 has paid huge dividends. Thousands of graduates supported by the UTC Program are leading, designing, building, managing, and improving our transportation enterprise, and hundreds of transportation research results supported by the UTC Program have been implemented across the United States. The intellectual infrastructure fostered by the UTC Program is a strong national asset that undergirds our ability to anticipate future transportation needs and opportunities, creates innovative transportation solutions, and informs good public policy decision making. The UTC Program's dollar-for-dollar match requirement has leveraged Federal funds and encouraged engagement by State DOTs, corporations, and other partners. The UTC Program has increasingly emphasized coordination and collaboration among universities and their partners in State and municipal governments, K-12 educational institutions, and corporations. America's economy and quality of life have been and continue to be enhanced by the results of the UTC Program.

— Curtis J. Tompkins, PhD  
UTC Program Director, 2007–2011

## Vision

Internationally recognized centers of excellence, fully integrated within institutions of higher learning, that serve as a vital source of leaders who are prepared to meet the Nation's need for safe, efficient, and environmentally sound movement of people and goods.

## Mission

To advance U.S. technology and expertise in the many disciplines comprising transportation through the mechanisms of education, research, and technology transfer at university-based centers of excellence.

## Goals

1. Education: a multidisciplinary program of course work and experiential learning that reinforces the transportation theme of the Center.
2. Human Resources: an increased number of students, faculty, and staff who are attracted to and substantively involved in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of the Center.
3. Diversity: students, faculty, and staff who reflect the growing diversity of the U.S. workforce and are substantively involved in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of the Center.
4. Research Selection: an objective process for selecting and reviewing research that balances multiple objectives of the program.
5. Research Performance: an ongoing program of basic and applied research, the products of which are judged by peers or other experts in the field to advance the body of knowledge in transportation.
6. Technology Transfer: availability of research results to potential users in a form that can be directly implemented, utilized, or otherwise applied.

The Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act establishes a program of University Transportation Centers at institutions of higher learning, with one center competitively chosen to operate in each of the 10 Federal regions.

The UTC Program's mission is primarily transportation research and technology transfer. Funding is authorized at \$40 million over four years. UTCs must match Federal funds dollar for dollar.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) continues the 10 regional competitive UTCs and designates 9 others at named institutions. ISTEA adds education to some UTCs' missions.

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) provides for 10 regional, competitive UTCs and designates up to 23 others at named institutions.

TEA-21 specifies an educational mission, a multimodal focus, and strategic planning management for the UTC Program.

TEA-21 requires 17 of the designated TEA-21 UTCs to compete for continuation funding at only 10 UTCs, reducing the number of UTCs overall but increasing the number selected through competition.

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) expands the UTC Program to 60 centers by continuing the 20 competitive UTCs, and increasing the number of designated centers to 40.

Following a provision of SAFETEA-LU as extended, DOT determines the 60 UTCs to be fully funded and competitively selects 22 UTCs.



## Universities That Received UTC Grants, 1987-2012

University of Akron  
 University of Alabama–Birmingham  
 University of Alabama–Tuscaloosa  
 University of Alaska  
 University of Arkansas  
 Assumption College  
 University of California–Berkeley  
 University of California–Davis  
 California State University–San Bernardino  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 University of Central Florida  
 The City College of New York of the City University of New York  
 Cleveland State University  
 George Mason University  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Denver  
 University of Detroit Mercy  
 University of Florida

Georgia Institute of Technology  
 Hampton University  
 University of Idaho  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
 Iowa State University  
 Jackson State University  
 Kansas State University  
 Louisiana State University  
 Marshall University  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Massachusetts  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 University of Memphis  
 University of Michigan  
 Michigan Technological University  
 University of Minnesota  
 Mississippi State University  
 Missouri University of Science and Technology  
 Montana State University  
 Morgan State University  
 University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
 University of Nevada–Las Vegas  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology  
 North Carolina A&T State University

North Carolina State University  
 North Dakota State University  
 Northwestern University  
 Oklahoma State University  
 The Pennsylvania State University  
 Portland State University  
 Purdue University  
 University of Rhode Island  
 Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey  
 San José State University  
 South Carolina State University  
 University of South Florida  
 University of Southern California/  
 California State University–Long Beach  
 University of Tennessee  
 Texas A&M University  
 University of Toledo  
 Utah State University  
 University of Vermont  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wisconsin–Madison  
 Youngstown State University

## Students of the Year

RITA recognizes the outstanding achievements of UTC students at an annual awards ceremony during Transportation Research Board Week. Each UTC selects one transportation student to receive a \$1,000 stipend. Selection is based on technical merit and research, academic performance, and leadership.

## Where Are They Now?

A number of UTC graduates now currently serve as elected officials, State DOT directors and deputy directors, Federal DOT managers, CEOs and Vice Presidents of engineering consulting firms, UTC directors and deputy directors, university department heads, professors, researchers, and a regional director of an international airline corporation.