

# FAST FACTS FOR POLICYMAKERS

## EDUCATION RESEARCH AND THE UO

The UO **College of Education** is one of the nation’s highest ranked programs, boasting a decades-long record of national and international research and development in special education, counseling psychology, educational leadership, and school psychology.

Its research culture is unique and highly influential because faculty have a long tradition of translating research into effective models, methods, and measures that improve the lives of Oregonians and students and families all around the country.

**97%**

CHILDREN IN OREGON IMPACTED BY UO COLLEGE OF ED RESEARCH TOOLS

**29,000**

SCHOOLS IN U.S. USING UO COLLEGE OF ED RESEARCH TOOLS

**NO. 3**

SPECIAL EDUCATION GRADUATE PROGRAM IN THE U.S.

**NO. 8**

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AMONG PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

**43**

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION PRODUCTS CURRENTLY ON THE MARKET

### UO’S APPROACH TO EDUCATION RESEARCH

The College of Education (COE) is home to 14 research and outreach units. Our faculty members in these units have a reputation for innovative work in school reform, assessment, school-wide discipline and behavior management, positive

youth development, family interventions, special education, early intervention, and culturally responsive educational practices. These programs help children and families of all ages—from infants and toddlers to adolescents and young adults. The work UO

researchers do is making a difference in Oregon, across the country, and around the world.

The College of Education researchers are top grantees of Institute of Education Sciences and other Department of Education funding entities.

From all federal research funding agencies, in 2023, **45** principal investigators in the COE secured **\$63 million** in new sponsored research funding and received **94** active research awards.



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The UO **Educational and Community Supports** unit in the College of Education is the lead institution for the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), a national technical assistance center that started as an outgrowth of research done at the UO in the 1980s and established through reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1997. PBIS is the longest-running of its kind in the U.S. and serves more than 27,000 schools across the country.

In 2023 PBIS received \$21 million from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs and

the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education to continue its longstanding mission of supporting schools and building positive and affirming learning environments.

By establishing predictable routines, positive reinforcement for desired behavior, and instructional responses to unwanted behavior, educators can improve school climate and help more students learn alongside their peers instead of being removed from the classroom.

For example, teachers can work with students to set rules around respectful behavior at school. Having clear, shared

expectations, made with buy-in from kids, can make students more invested in their success. Those kinds of schoolwide approaches can decrease the use of punitive discipline strategies, like suspension or removing students from class.

The strategies promoted by the center are backed by years of educational research. The center supports schools in a variety of ways: via free resources available on the website, monthly webinars, an annual conference, and targeted support to state-level leadership teams working to implement the systems in schools.

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## EDUCATION RESEARCH AND THE UO

### SUPPORTING STUDENTS AT RISK FOR DISABILITIES POST-PANDEMIC



**STORMSHAK**

Mental health and behavior problems are at epidemic proportions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These adverse effects have been more pronounced for students with or at risk for disabilities who were already behind academically or struggling with behavioral problems before COVID-19. Mental health and behavior problems have also been exacerbated by lack of available resources in communities, including limited providers and long waitlists for access to services.

With support from a \$3 million IES grant, Beth Stormshak, UO Philip H. Knight Chair and professor of Counseling Psychology and Human Services, and her team are studying the efficacy of the **Family Check-Up (FCU)**, an online, school-based, ecological approach to family intervention and risk reduction on the behavior, academic performance, and absenteeism of middle school



students with or at risk for disability using digital health technology. The team will target key mechanisms linked to long-term mental health problems for children, including family relationships, child self-regulation, and parenting skills.

The research team is conducting this research in partnership with the North Clackamas School District, which serves students and families in Milwaukie, Happy Valley, and other parts of Clackamas County, and Springfield School District, serving students in Lane County, Oregon. School-based providers will receive training and support in the model at the end of the project in order to sustain the model in schools after the grant ends.

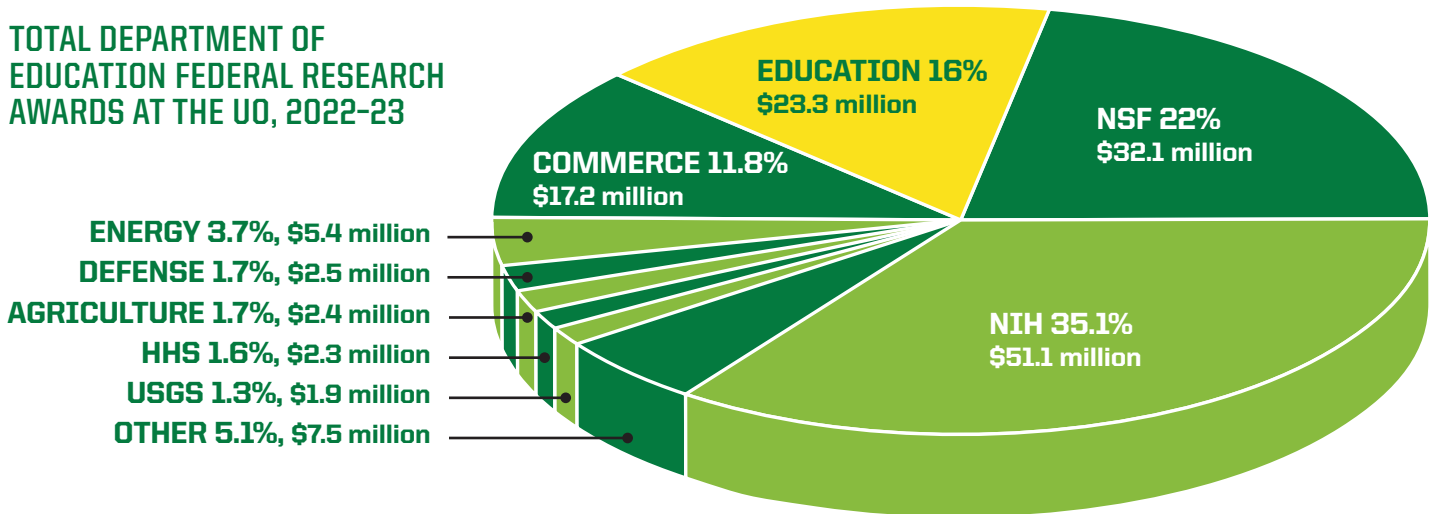


This study, which began in 2022 and ends December of 2025, involves 300 youth and families who are enrolled in the clinical trial. Those randomly assigned to receive the digital health intervention will have access to the web-based application and support from trained coaches to improve skill development.

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RESEARCH AWARDS AT THE UO, 2022-23

## \$23.3 Million

TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FEDERAL RESEARCH AWARDS AT THE UO, 2022-23



## THE UO'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION SCIENCES

Established in 2002, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) has regularly tapped UO education researchers for their expertise in understanding effective interventions, assessments, and evaluations. Nationally, UO ranks second among all universities in number of grants and contracts received from IES and first in the dollar amount of awards received from National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) grants and contracts.

## IES AND OVERALL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS TO UO RESEARCHERS

	DATE	COUNT	DOLLARS
IES awards.....	2014-23.....	38.....	\$71.5 million
IES awards.....	2004-23.....	71.....	\$148.1 million
All US Department of Education awards and subawards.....	2004-23.....	446.....	\$555.2 million

SOURCE: UO OFFICE OF THE VP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

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