



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI®

**Report of Proposals and Awards
For April
Fiscal Year 2026**

Two Year Comparison

2026 April vs 2025 April

-	Current	Prior	Δ YoY
Funding Dollars	\$1,688,518	\$3,543,927	(\$1,855,409)
Funding Dollars - YTD	\$54,812,193	\$76,485,769	(\$21,673,576)
Funded Projects	7	18	(11)
Funded Projects - YTD	183	257	(74)
Submitted Projects	36	31	5
Submitted Projects - YTD	315	345	(30)

Monthly YTD

-	FY 2025			FY 2026		
	Submitted	Funded	Dollars	Submitted	Funded	Dollars
July	36	26	\$10,132,831	28	19	\$11,582,540
August	39	29	\$8,789,907	37	24	\$7,105,543
September	34	42	\$19,861,274	28	45	\$17,163,018
October	26	31	\$14,745,531	34	23	\$7,335,707
November	40	25	\$2,447,007	27	16	\$2,332,722
December	14	12	\$3,700,599	16	17	\$1,441,174
January	32	20	\$5,779,909	35	8	\$1,231,452
February	40	30	\$4,097,810	29	11	\$1,202,154
March	53	24	\$3,386,974	45	13	\$3,729,365
April	31	18	\$3,543,927	36	7	\$1,688,518
May	57	18	\$6,443,503			
June	52	27	\$4,123,855			
Totals to Date	454	302	\$87,053,127	315	183	\$54,812,193

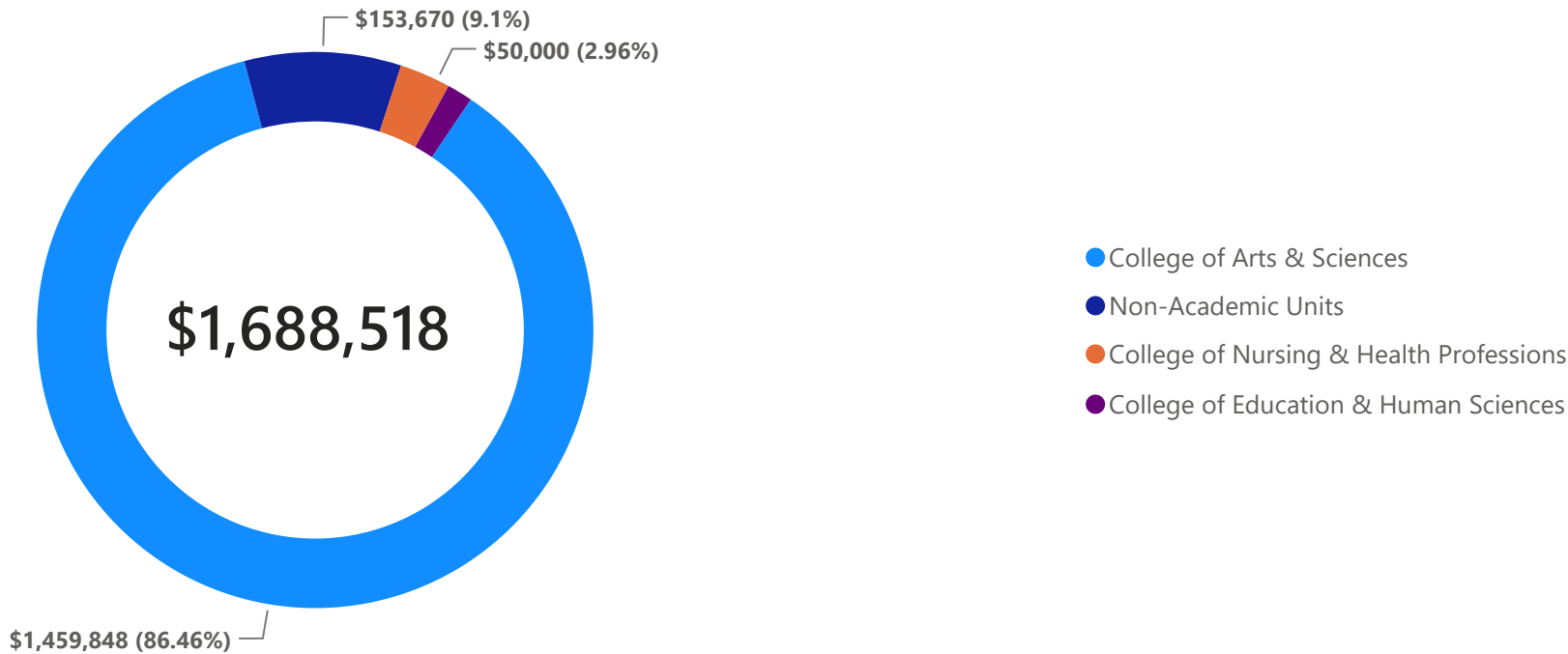
Grants and Awards Received

04/01/2026 - 04/30/2026

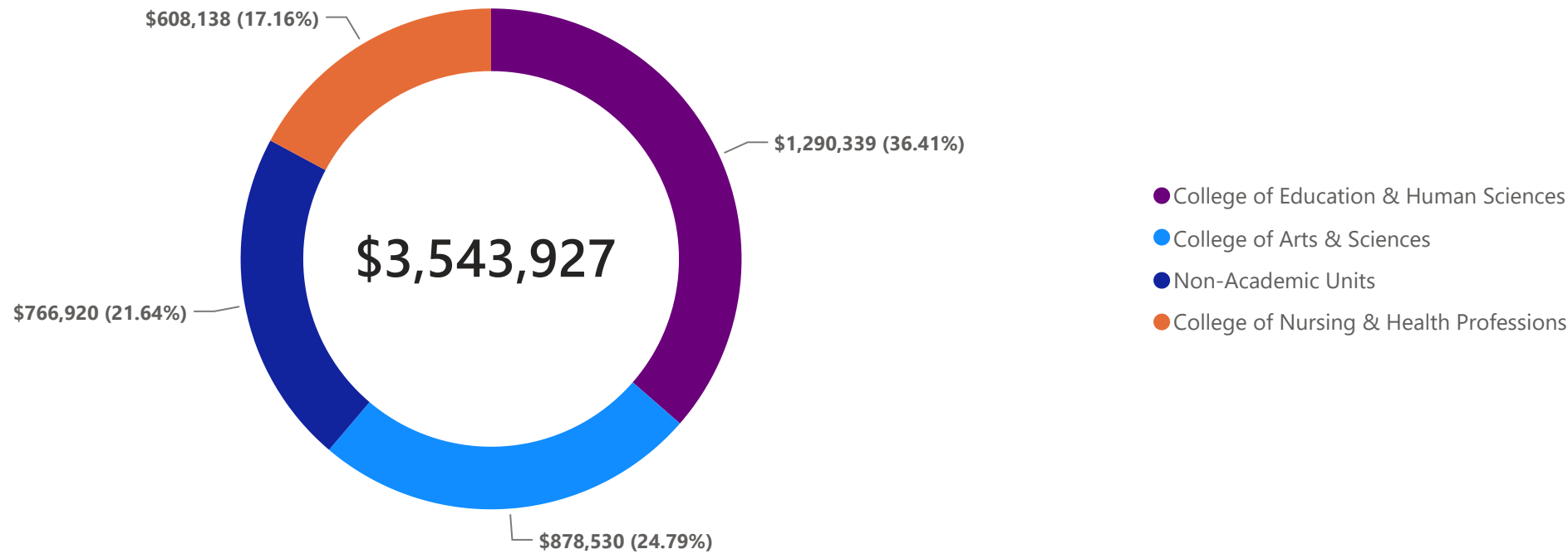
Award #	Total	Project Title	Start Date	End Date	Prime Sponsor	Department	PI	Co-PI
8007818	\$1,244,848	AI-RISE (AI Research & Innovation for Skilled Employment)	2/21/2026	12/31/2030	Mississippi Development Authority	Computing Science & Computer Engineering	Sarah Lee	
8007817	\$153,670	Sport Fish Tag and Release in Mississippi Coastal Waters and the Adjacent Gulf of Mexico	1/1/2026	12/31/2027	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	GCRL Administration	Jill Hendon	
8007734	\$100,000	Diagnosing and Validating Nonlinear Internal Wave Processes in Idealized, Regional, and Global Ocean Simulations	10/1/2025	9/30/2028	U.S. Department of War	Marine Science	Maarten Buijsman	
8006553	\$90,000	Regional Class Research Vessels Program (Phase III)	9/1/2019	7/6/2027	National Science Foundation	School of Ocean Science & Engineering	Leila Hamdan	William Graham
8007821	\$50,000	Regional Patterns of Heart Failure Medication Use and Structural Determinants	4/1/2026	3/31/2027	American Heart Association	Leadership & Advanced Nursing	Lila de Tantillo	
8007152	\$25,000	Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (AWARE) in Mississippi	12/31/2022	9/29/2026	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Psychology	Stephanie Smith	Nora Lindner
8006517	\$25,000	Parallel Research in Oceanography, Numerical Modeling, Ocean Bio-Optics, and Physical Processes	5/1/2020	10/30/2027	U.S. Department of War	Marine Science	Dmitri Netchaev	Mustafa Cambazoglu
Total	\$1,688,518							

Grant and Award Totals by College YoY

04/01/2026 - 04/30/2026

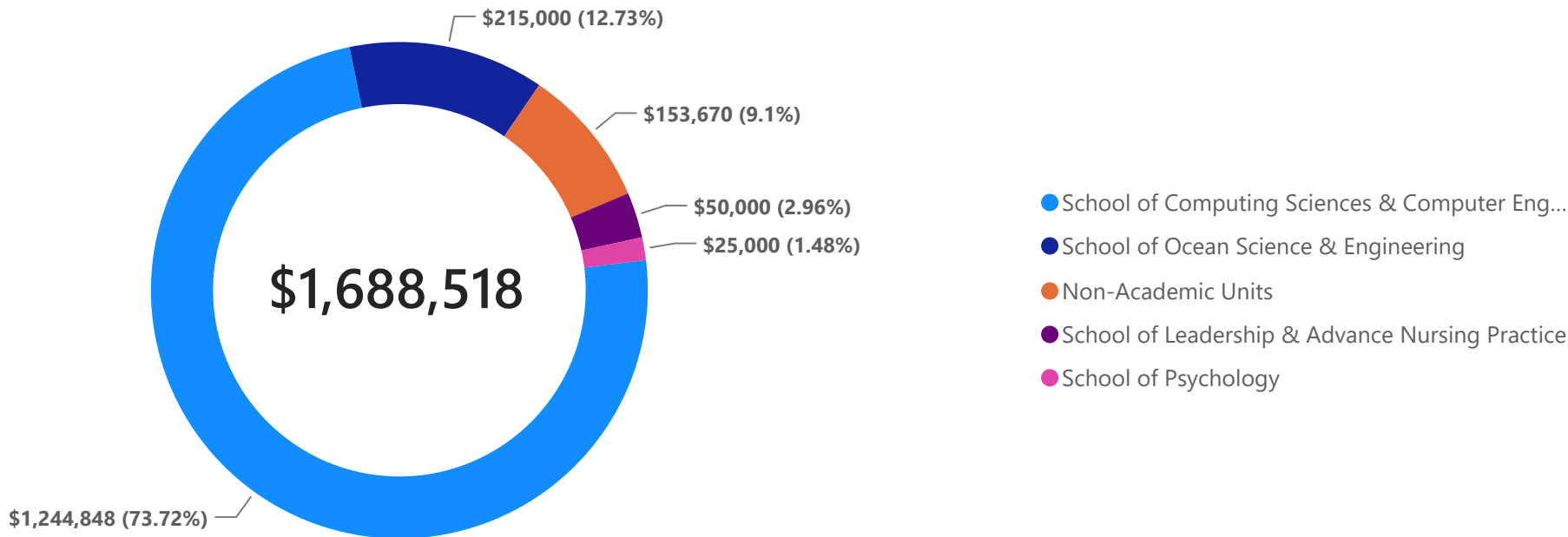


04/01/2025 - 04/30/2025

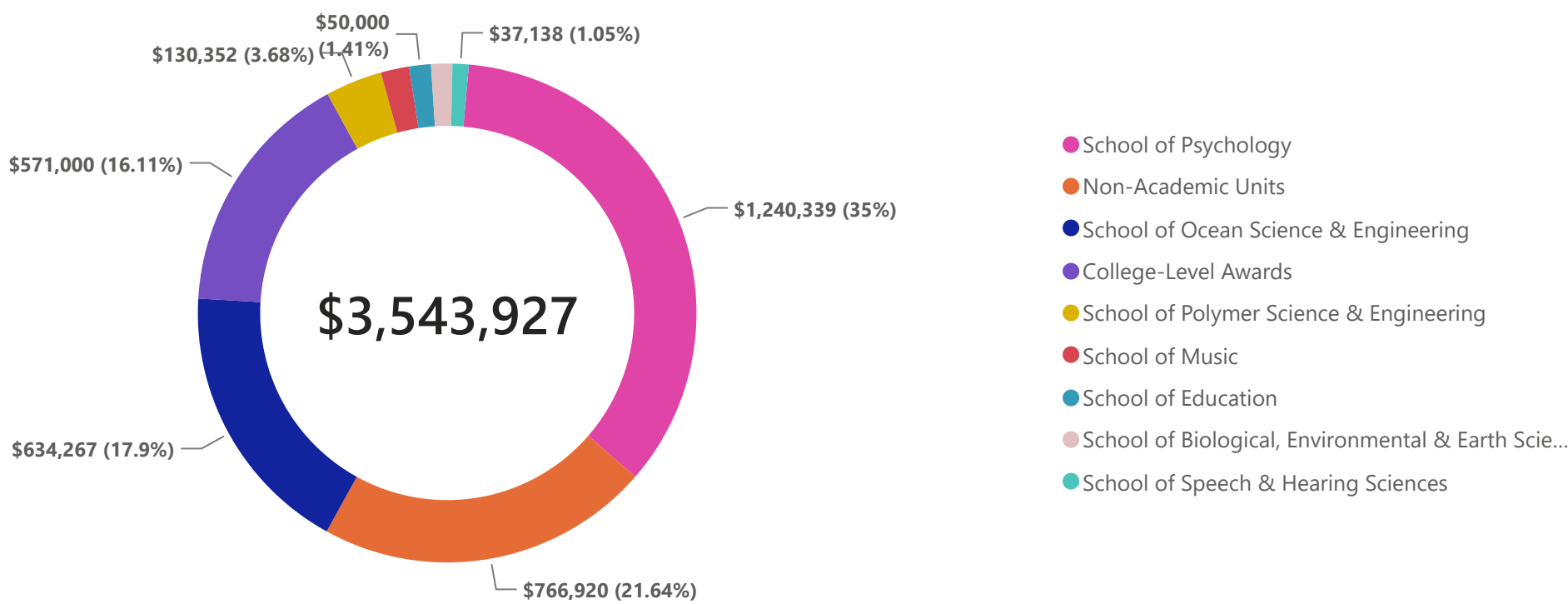


Grant and Award Totals by School YoY

04/01/2026 - 04/30/2026



04/01/2025 - 04/30/2025



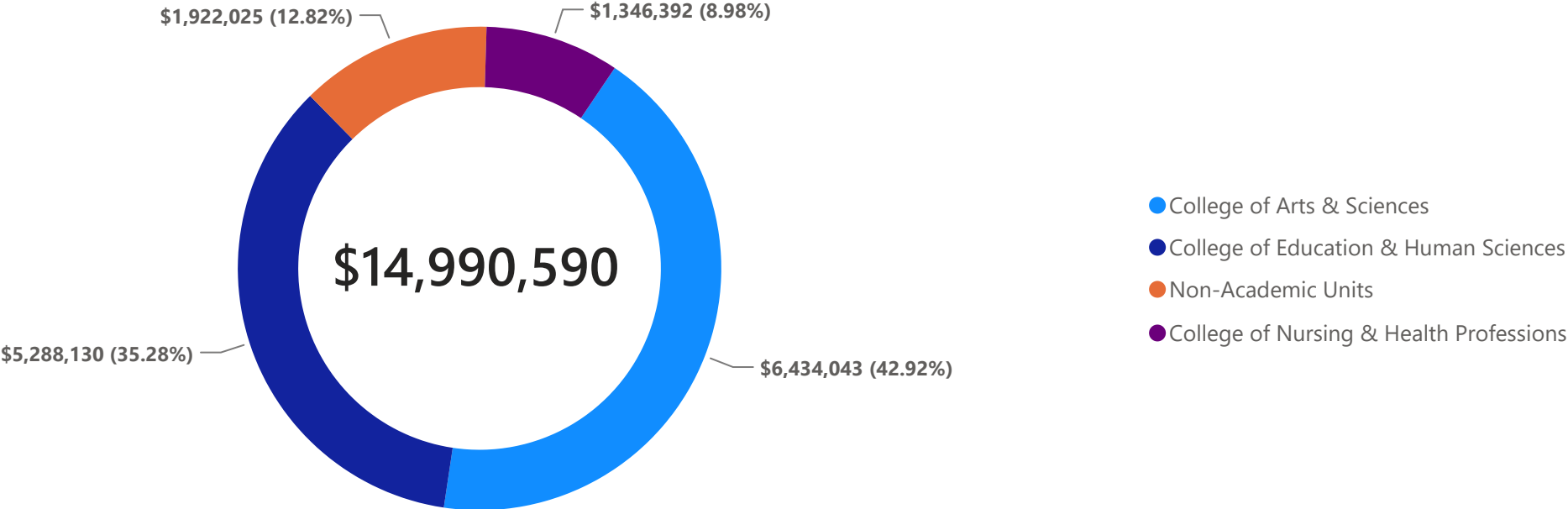
Proposal Activity

04/01/2026 - 04/30/2026

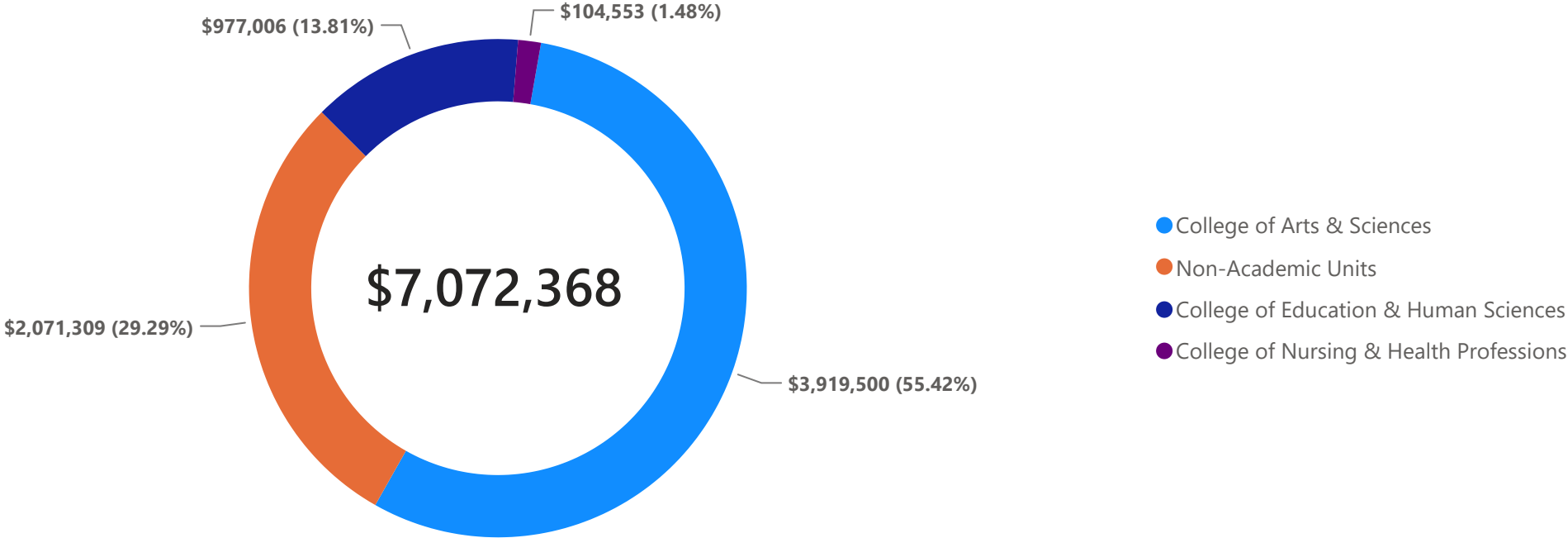
Prime Sponsor	Sponsor	Amount	Title	Submitted Date	Project Start	Project End	PI	CO-PI
U.S. Department of Labor	U.S. Department of Education	\$5,000,000	Focused Skill & Strategy Training for Pathways to Access and Success (FSST-PAS)	4/30/2026	10/1/2026	9/30/2031	Hollie Filce	
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$2,487,325	CyberAI SFS: Eagle CyberAI Scholars	4/1/2026	1/1/2027	12/30/2029	Shahriar Rahimi	Ahmed Sherif, Sarah Lee
Mississippi Department of Education	Mississippi Department of Education	\$1,126,121	CCCD Adequate Education FY27	4/28/2026	8/1/2026	7/31/2027	Sarah Myers	Steven Cloud
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$871,916	Safe-OSE: LDEPTH-IPFS - Interest-Based Hierarchical Architecture for Secure Decentralized Storage	4/27/2026	1/1/2027	12/30/2028	Shahriar Rahimi	Ahmed Sherif, Sarah Lee
U.S. Department of Energy	U.S. Department of Energy	\$633,299	AI-Driven Digital Twin Platform for Continuous Millifluidic Biomanufacturing of Therapeutic Nanoparticles	4/30/2026	7/1/2026	3/31/2027	Shohreh Hemmati	Shahriar Rahimi
U.S. Department of Energy	U.S. Department of Energy	\$550,000	Closed-Loop Materials Discovery for Efficient Processing and Morphology Control of Functional Polymers	4/29/2026	7/1/2026	2/28/2027	Xiaodan Gu	Boran Ma, Derek Patton
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Mississippi State University	\$474,379	Advancing the Breeding Program at the Gulf Oyster Breeding Center to enhance Off-Bottom Eastern Oyster Aquaculture in the northern Gulf of America	4/27/2026	9/1/2026	8/31/2027	Eric Saillant	Megan Gima, Reginald Blaylock
U.S. Department of War	U.S. Army Engineer Research & Development Center	\$350,000	Gulf Blue MTEC: Rapidly Identify and Demonstrate Nearshore Maritime Technologies for Expeditionary Capabilities	4/30/2026	8/3/2026	7/30/2027	Brian Cuevas	Joseph Graben
Simons Foundation	Simons Foundation	\$325,759	Control and implications of changing spatial structure: Novel analysis of a 50-year-long database of patchiness and plant species interactions in a salt marsh experiencing nutrient enrichment and global changes	4/14/2026	4/1/2027	3/31/2030	Wei Wu	
U.S. Department of Energy	University of South Alabama	\$300,000	AI-Driven Design and Discovery of High-Performance MXenes for Advanced Battery Systems	4/24/2026	7/1/2026	3/31/2027	Ahmed Sherif	
U.S. Department of Energy	U.S. Department of Energy	\$300,000	Beyond the Rule of Mixtures: ML-Guided Discovery of Flame-Resistant Biopolymers	4/28/2026	7/1/2026	3/31/2027	Boran Ma	
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$299,977	Predictive Design Rules for Hydrogel Interfaces in Wearable Bioelectronics	4/14/2026	10/1/2026	9/30/2028	Boran Ma	
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$295,852	EPSCoR Research Fellows: NSF: A Weakly Supervised Label Engine for Pedestrian Infrastructure: Synthesizing Training Data via Domain Knowledge Injection	4/14/2026	5/31/2026	5/31/2028	Yuanyuan Zhang	
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$258,424	EPSCoR Research Fellow: NSF – Reactive Phenolic Engineering for Templated Graphitization and Accelerated Densification in Carbon–Carbon Composites	4/14/2026	1/15/2027	1/14/2029	Olivia McNair	
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$199,363	Automated Discovery of Controlled Radical Polymerization Approaches for Olefin-Containing Copolymers	4/14/2026	1/12/2027	1/15/2029	Kaden Stevens	
Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps)	Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services	\$185,279	USM Public Health Planning Grant	4/7/2026	9/1/2026	7/31/2027	Vickie Reed	
U.S. Department of Agriculture	National Institute of Food & Agriculture	\$176,417	Defining the mechanisms of host immunity to Nosema ceranae in Honey Bees	4/16/2026	1/1/2027	12/31/2029	Michael Oeth	Shahid Karim
U.S. Department of Agriculture	National Institute of Food & Agriculture	\$176,417	Understanding Mechanistic Roles of microRNAs in Honey Bee Antiviral immunity	4/16/2026	1/1/2027	12/31/2029	Nazifa Tasnia	Shahid Karim
National Institute of Food & Agriculture	University of Maryland	\$168,495	From sensors to systems: teaching AI through smart shellfish aquaculture in k-12 classrooms	4/13/2026	9/1/2026	8/31/2031	Megan Gima	Heather King
Pine Grove	Pine Grove	\$127,815	Pine Grove Externship 2026-2027	4/22/2026	8/1/2026	7/31/2027	Emily Yowell	Freddie Pastrana Rivera
U.S. Department of War	National Security Agency	\$89,998	Integration of Cryptography for IoT Cybersecurity 2026 GenCyber Residential Student Camp	4/10/2026	6/1/2026	12/1/2027	Ahmed Sherif	Sarah Lee, Terry Cullum, Todd Kilbourne
Spencer Foundation	Spencer Foundation	\$59,750	A Peculiar Education: How Slavery Still Drives Academic Inequality in the South Today	4/7/2026	12/15/2026	12/31/2028	Matthew Ward	Karen Kozlowski
Pearl River Valley Opportunity, Inc.	Pearl River Valley Opportunity, Inc.	\$56,626	PVRO School Psychology Externship 2026-27	4/30/2026	8/1/2026	7/31/2027	Zachary LaBrot	Brad Dufrene, Margaret Powell
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$55,000	NSF-AFRL Intern	4/13/2026	5/15/2026	5/14/2027	Jeffrey Wiggins	
Forrest County Agriculture High School	Forrest County Agriculture High School	\$54,626	FCAHS Psychology Externship 2026-27	4/30/2026	8/1/2026	7/31/2027	Emily DeFouw	Freddie Pastrana Rivera, Kourtney Kromminga
National Science Foundation	National Science Foundation	\$53,499	Real-Time BOD Monitoring and Predictive Management System for Clam Processing Facilities	4/20/2026	7/1/2026	6/30/2027	Eric Powell	
U.S. Department of War	Naval Sea Systems Command	\$52,391	Environmental DNA analysis for Smalltooth Sawfish and Green Sea Turtle	4/10/2026	4/20/2026	9/30/2026	Nicole Phillips	
U.S. Department of War	The Johns Hopkins University	\$52,387	Ship Detection Upgrades for USM HF Radar Sites	4/30/2026	5/20/2026	1/20/2027	Stephan Howden	
Spencer Foundation	Spencer Foundation	\$49,679	iCoLab: Understanding Collaborative Problem-Solving Among AEC Students in Peer and AI Collaboration Modes Within Simulation-Based Learning	4/15/2026	9/1/2026	8/31/2028	Yuan Sun	
U.S. Department of the Interior	Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries & Parks	\$39,080	Conservation genetics of the Florida Harvester Ant (Pogonomyrmex badius)	4/23/2026	1/1/2027	12/31/2027	Kaitlin Baudier	Brian Kreiser
American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation	American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation	\$34,992	Beyond Survival: Auditory and Vestibular Health in Breast Cancer Survivors	4/21/2026	12/1/2026	11/30/2027	Sangamanatha Ankmnal Veeranna	Kimberly Ward
Walthall County School District	Walthall County School District	\$29,063	Walthall School Psychology Externship 2026-27	4/30/2026	8/1/2026	7/31/2027	Emily DeFouw	Kourtney Kromminga
American Psychological Foundation	American Psychological Foundation	\$20,000	Therapist Choice and Initial Engagement Expectations: A Discrete Choice Experiment of Client Preferences	4/2/2026	8/1/2026	5/31/2027	Thomas Lipscomb	
Library of Congress	Middle Tennessee State University	\$18,814	Voices for the Vote: Poetry, Posters, and Civic Change	4/17/2026	6/1/2026	9/15/2026	Robin Atwood	Hannah Doleac
U.S. Department of War	Naval Research Laboratory	\$10,510	Facility and Equipment Use	4/29/2026	5/1/2026	10/30/2027	Dmitri Netchaev	
		\$14,990,590						

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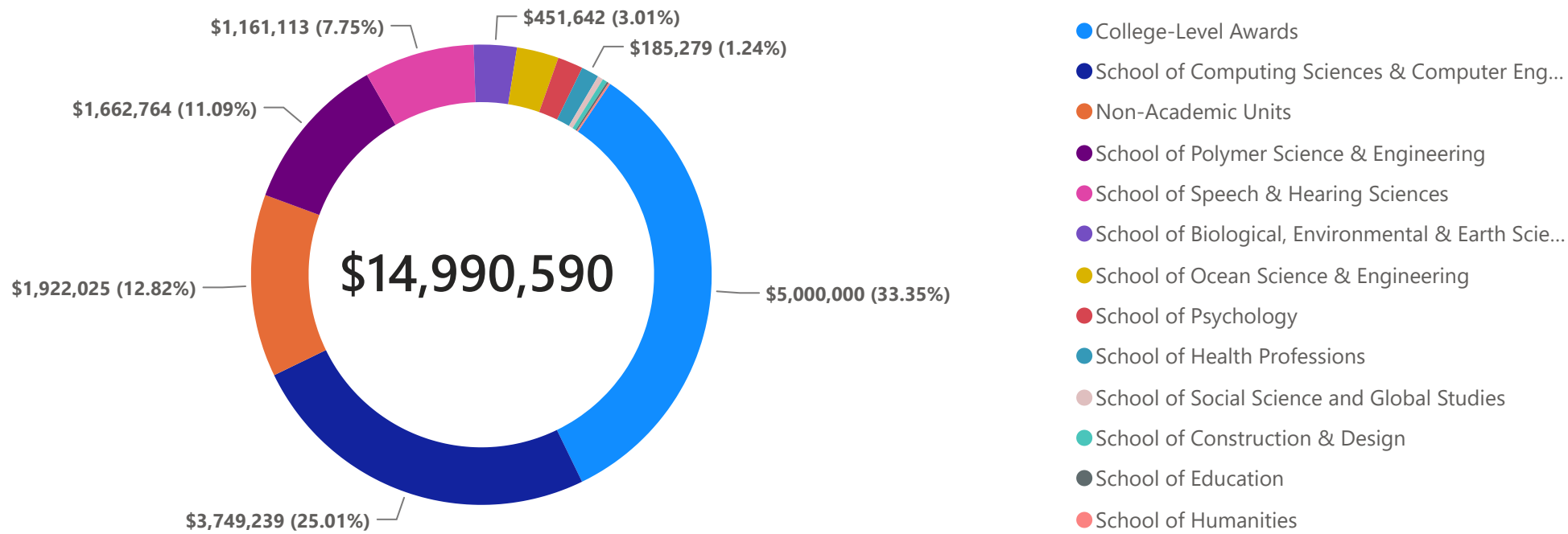


04/01/2025 - 04/30/2025



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04/01/2026 - 04/30/2026



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