



Water in a Changing Coastal Environment of Delaware

Accomplishments 2003–2022

Research

NSF EPSCoR has catalyzed several sustained research initiatives in Delaware, including the Delaware Environmental Institute (DENIN), the Center for Experimental and Applied Economics (CEAE) and the Center for Science, Ethics and Public Policy (CSEPP) at the University of Delaware and the Center for Integrated Biological and Environmental Research (CIBER) at Delaware State University. The research network includes 263 participants at partnering Delaware institutions, including 22 faculty hired since the program's inception. Faculty and students are involved in research projects that seek to examine the extent to which Delaware's water security is threatened by deteriorating water quality; 2) the effect that deterioration may have on ecosystem health; 3) how we can mitigate effects; 4) and how we can design policies and programs to affect change in water quality. More than 800 journal articles have been published as a result of research directly or indirectly funded by EPSCoR.

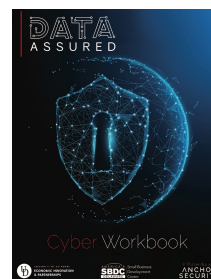


Workforce Development

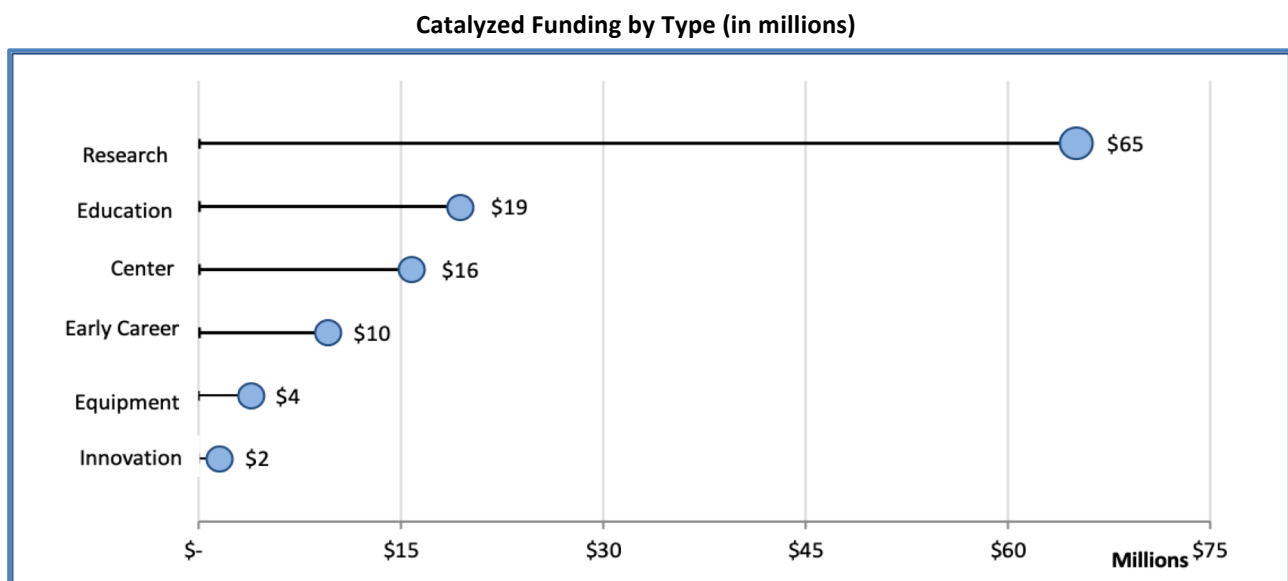
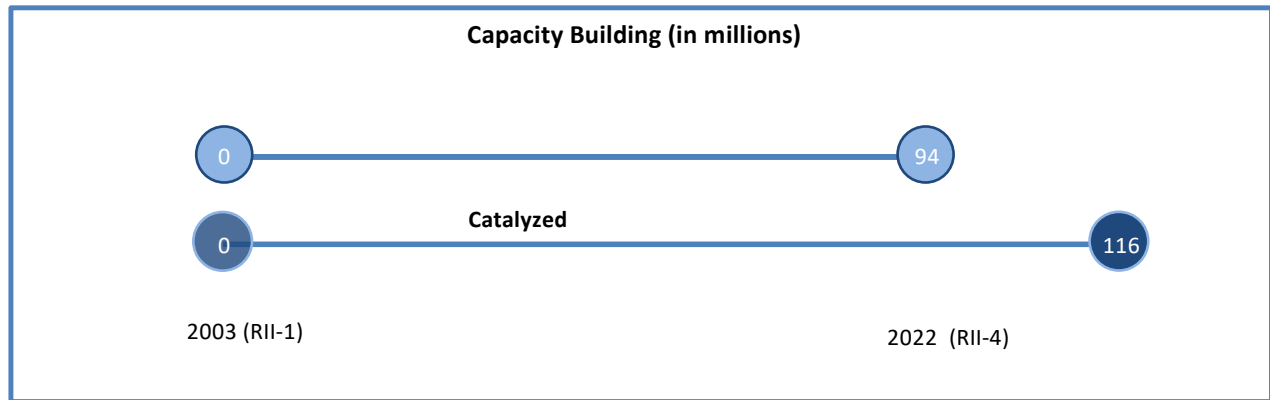
Delaware EPSCoR has funded 436 graduate and under-graduate students in environmental research and helped to develop a new UD graduate program in Water Science and Policy and a new major in GIScience and Environmental Data Analytics. We continue to support the Environmental Fellows graduate program at the University of Delaware. Since 2014, we have invested \$2.7M to support 36 doctoral students who are becoming environmental leaders in academia, government and the private sector. We have hosted, via Delaware Technical Community College's STEM Expos and Science Camps, over 2,500 middle and high school students to experience programs through student-designed activities and build connections toward STEM careers.

Economic Development

NSF EPSCoR catalyzed the creation of the Office of Economic and Innovative Partnerships (OEIP). OEIP, through the Delaware Small Business Development Center's (DSBDC) Data Assured™ Program, is leading a national effort in developing cybersecurity programs for small businesses, including counseling, training, resources, industry-specific training, etc. In addition, across the State, the Spin In® initiative enables undergraduate students to engage in an entrepreneurial, experiential learning program to solve real-life business challenges faced by early stage start-ups. In 2021, the Spin In program received a five-year grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to support the expansion of Spin In to meet the hiring needs of the regional business community. Expansion of the program will support a regional ecosystem and create: 1) Highly skilled regional talent pool with specialized expertise to the region's innovation clusters; 2) A support system for turning discoveries into marketable goods and services; 3) An innovation infrastructure to support innovation and resiliency, such as education and workforce development. The program has engaged in 31 projects with over 175 students, developed 14 new products, and assisted in development of 5 new businesses.



Total Funding to Delaware 2003-2022*



Overall Funding Since 2003: \$210 Million

*as of February 2022

The NSF/NASA EPSCoR programs and the State of Delaware have provided \$94 million in direct EPSCoR funding to Delaware to support capacity building. The support has resulted in an additional \$116 million in funding for 275 awards to the EPSCoR faculty including \$65M for 184 research awards; \$19M for 42 education awards; \$16M for 6 center awards; \$10M for 26 CAREER awards; \$4M for 7 equipment awards; and \$2M for 10 innovation awards.

