



**NHBCUAAF™**  
National Historically Black Colleges & University Alumni Associations Foundation

## ***New Opportunities for HBCUs***

***Leveraging HBCUs to Reshape the Federal & Commercial Workforce***

**August 6, 2022**

# ***New Opportunities for our HBCUs***

## **HBCU Partners Act**

This bill addresses the capacity of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to participate in federal programs. Specifically, the bill requires certain agencies to submit annual plans for strengthening the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal programs. Among other things, the plans must establish how the agencies intend to increase the capacity of HBCUs to compete effectively for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements. The agencies must provide technical assistance and information to the White House Initiative on HBCUs to enhance communication with HBCUs concerning their program activities and initiatives as well as applications for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, see [S.461 – 116th Congress \(2019-2020\): HBCU PARTNERS Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)

## **HBCU RISE Act**

This bill directs the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish a pilot program to increase capacity for historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) that are designated as high research activity status to achieve very high research activity status. High research activity status (known as R2 status) and very high research activity status (known as R1 status) are classifications by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. In carrying out the pilot program, DOD must award grants for key areas of scientific research to HBCUs that are classified as high research activity status institutions. DOD may expand the program to other HBCUs beyond those that are classified as high research activity status if DOD determines that the program can support such an expansion, see [S.4018 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): HBCU RISE Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#).

## **DoD HBCU UARC**

The Air Force and the Defense Department have announced a plan to create a 15th university affiliated research center, or UARC. The new center will be the first to be associated with an historically Black college or university and will also be the first UARC associated with the Air Force. Current 14 PWI UARCs receive approximately \$500M per year in contract awards, see [Air Force, DOD Plan to Create First Historically Black Colleges and Universities-led Affiliated Research Center > U.S. Department of Defense > Defense Department News](#).

## **SUMMARY & WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

*Implement a Civic Engagement & Advocacy and Student Engagement, Employment & Mentoring Committee to:*

- 1. Advocate for your HBCU to become Research level 1 (R1) or Level 2 (R2) designated;*
- 2. Advocate for your HBCU to submit a proposal to become a DoD UARC;*
- 3. Contact your Congressional Representatives and demand support for your HBCU; and*
- 4. Advocate for student employment during school and post graduation (work with your Office for Career Development)*

**For advice & counsel, contact Geri Simmons, Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee (CEAC), [gerisimmons@infionline.net](mailto:gerisimmons@infionline.net) or (336) 362-0601 /cell or see The Civic Engagement & Advocacy Committee (CEAC) at [www.ceac.nccualumni.org](http://www.ceac.nccualumni.org) and Richard Smith, Student Engagement & Mentoring Committee (SEEM) at [richard.smith@nccualumni.org](mailto:richard.smith@nccualumni.org) and [www.ceac.nccualumni.org](http://www.ceac.nccualumni.org)**

## Reference listing

**HBCU Partners Act**, see [S.461 – 116th Congress \(2019-2020\):HBCU PARTNES.461 - 116th Congress \(2019-2020\): HBCU PARTNERS Act |Congress.gov |Library of CongressRS Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress.](#)

**HBCU RISE Act**, see [S.4018 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): HBCU RISE Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress.](#)

**DoD HBCU UARC**, see [Air Force, DOD Plan to Create First Historically Black Colleges and Universities-led Affiliated Research Center > U.S. Department of Defense > Defense Department News.](#)

**NCCUAA Civic Engagement & Advocacy Committee (CEAC)**, see [www.ceac.nccualumni.org](http://www.ceac.nccualumni.org) and [www.nhbcuaa.org/2021/09/04/tmcf-nhbcuaaf-voter-registration-partnership/](http://www.nhbcuaa.org/2021/09/04/tmcf-nhbcuaaf-voter-registration-partnership/)

**NCCUAA Student Engagement, Employment & Mentoring (SEEM)**, see [www.ceac.nccualumni.org](http://www.ceac.nccualumni.org) and [www.nhbcuaa.org/2021/09/04/tmcf-nhbcuaaf-voter-registration-partnership/](http://www.nhbcuaa.org/2021/09/04/tmcf-nhbcuaaf-voter-registration-partnership/)

# ***Questions***



# **Contact Information**

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