

UUP

The Ohio Urban University Program

The State's Economic Development Resource About the UUP



What is the Ohio Urban University Program (UUP)?

Created by the Ohio General Assembly and the (then) Ohio Board of Regents in 1979, the Ohio Urban University Program (UUP) is the oldest statewide inter-university program in the United States. The UUP was established as a demonstration program to provide an effective means of linking the resources of Ohio's urban universities with the revitalization efforts of its urban communities. The funding created a model Urban Center at Cleveland State University's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs and a statewide program drawing on the skills and resources of eight universities. The UUP is a national model for linking the skills and resources of the state's urban universities to the challenges confronted by Ohio's cities.

Which urban universities comprise the UUP?

The program, developed at and led by Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs, encompasses in its support the eight university research centers in the state. These university research centers, in addition to Cleveland State, are the University of Akron, the University of Cincinnati, Kent State University, The Ohio State University, the University of Toledo, Wright State University, and Youngstown State University.

What was the UUP established to do?

The UUP was created to conduct research, provide quality education and training activities, and offer technical assistance through projects aimed at addressing urban issues and concerns. The resources of the eight urban universities are applied to help identify challenges and facilitate solutions facing the state of Ohio and its cities.

Where does UUP funding come from?

The UUP has historically been funded through an allocation in the University System of Ohio (formerly Ohio Board of Regents) budget. **One of the main successes of the UUP is that for every dollar of UUP support, an additional \$2.25 is attracted to support programmatic research and activities.** Historically, UUP funds have been expanded by the eight universities at a rate of 2 to 1 through the financial support of local governments, private foundations, state and federal agencies, and private industry.

How does the UUP work for Ohio?

Ohio's urban universities are a critical economic development resource for the State of Ohio. Through its State Initiative, the UUP focuses on mobilizing its resources in support of State efforts to confront the significant economic challenges confronting all levels of government in Ohio — state, regional and local. The research products of the UUP have addressed some of the State's most significant issues—Business Tax Reform, Tax Code Restructuring, Program Development and Evaluation, Economic Development Strategy, and Land Reuse and Redevelopment. The eight urban universities of the UUP have developed a base of knowledge and expertise in economic development, public policy, public management, and fiscal policy that is recognized and valued nationally, as well as statewide.

The Facts

- The Levin College of Urban Affairs and the UUP are the State's foremost urban public policy and economic development resource.
- Without continued state funding of the UUP, the Levin College is in danger of losing its capacity to respond to State needs in the areas of economic development, public management and community development.
- The UUP has been cut 37 percent between 2000 and 2009. In FY2009, the UUP budget line was \$5.2 million, down from \$8.2 million in FY2000.
- In response to past budget cuts, the Levin College has cut \$1.5 million in operating costs including more than 20 employee positions.

The Ask

We are requesting that the UUP be funded at \$3.5 million, a one-third reduction from its FY2009 amount, and the removal of all non-UUP related line items from the UUP budget line. This will support the Levin College and the other seven urban university research centers across the state.

The Ohio UUP is a program of the University System of Ohio and the Ohio General Assembly.

For more information:

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