



PVAMU EARNS NATIONAL ACCLAIM FOR IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT EFFORTS

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities names Prairie View A&M University as one of its 85 Innovation & Economic Prosperity Universities.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (Nov. 20, 2023) — In recognition of its strong commitment to economic engagement, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities designated Prairie View A&M University as an Innovation & Economic Prosperity University. The national designation acknowledges public research universities working with public and private sector partners in their states and regions to support economic development.

“We’re honored and proud to be recognized by APLU as an Innovation & Economic Prosperity University. Innovation and service are at the heart of our mission as a land-grant university, and this award reflects Prairie View A&M’s commitment to building, transforming, and sustaining the communities that surround us. The critical and collaborative work of our faculty and students provides meaningful contributions to our region, state, nation, and the world. The IEP designation recognizes our University for being a change maker, dedicated to increasing access to education, making important discoveries, developing the workforce, and enhancing the quality of life for all,” said Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande, president of PVAMU.

PVAMU’s commitment to continuous learning and community engagement is evidenced through numerous collaborative programs and initiatives established by the University’s Research and Innovation Division. They reflect PVAMU’s core values of providing equal educational opportunities, embracing and expanding diversity, fostering leadership, ensuring relevance, and promoting social responsibility. Within just five years, these efforts have resulted in the University obtaining over \$100 million in research expenditures and achieving the prestigious R2 Carnegie Classification.

Other accomplishments and impactful projects include:

- PVAMU’s selection by the U.S. Department of Transportation to lead a University Transportation Center focused on enhancing the durability and extending the life of the nation’s infrastructure. PVAMU is the first HBCU to lead a national-tier UTC.
- The Air Panther NextGen Network project, which expands broadband networks, supports K-12 technology and improves professional and workforce development initiatives. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration awarded PVAMU a \$3-million grant as part of the NTIA’s Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program.

Data analysis also revealed that:

- PVAMU’s economic impact exceeds \$765 million annually in Texas, supporting 5,300 full-time jobs in the state. (This includes a broader economic impact in the Greater Houston metropolitan area.)
- PVAMU has conferred over 80,000 academic degrees in its history – awarding nearly 6,000 in the last five years (over 2,400 are graduate degrees). Degrees awarded in the 2018-2019 academic year alone facilitated more than \$4 billion in lifetime earnings for degree recipients.
- University enrollment now exceeds 9,000, with learners joining from throughout the U.S. and many other countries.

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APLU is a research, policy, and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. With a membership of more than 250 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems, and affiliated organizations, APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research, and expanding engagement. Annually, member campuses enroll 5.0 million undergraduates and 1.3 million graduate students, award 1.3 million degrees, employ 1.3 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$49.5 billion in university-based research.

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, founded in 1876, is the second oldest public institution of higher education in the state of Texas and the third largest Historically Black College/University (HBCU) in the nation. Designated as an "institution of the first class" in the Texas Constitution, the enrollment exceeds 9,000 students and over 80,000 graduates. PVAMU offers academic programs through its ten colleges and schools, boasting degree options leading to bachelor's and doctoral-level degrees. A Carnegie-classified high-research (R2) University and a member of The Texas A&M University System, PVAMU is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research and service. For more information, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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