

CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENT

These are unusual and, in many ways, unsettling times.

The pandemic's financial toll on the University of Pittsburgh is estimated to exceed \$140 million by June 2021. It is an uncertain landscape, rife with turbulence but buoyed by a welcome bright spot: the Commonwealth's decision last summer to pass 12 months of sustained funding for higher education.

For this, thank you.

Your support has never been more critical. It has enabled us to plan ahead, successfully welcome students back to our campuses and focus on safely advancing our mission during a pandemic. It has also underscored the powerful role that education can play in transforming communities, families and futures throughout the Commonwealth.

Regardless of how many—or how few—challenges our state is facing, the University of Pittsburgh continues to be an exceptional value and proven economic engine. Each year, we contribute an estimated \$4.2 billion to communities throughout Pennsylvania and maintain a network of nearly 38,000 jobs. In that same time span, we educate more than 24,000 new and continuing undergraduates—roughly 70% of whom call Pennsylvania home—and award approximately 9,000 degrees across our five-campus system.

We have long acted as a talent magnet, inviting brilliant minds into the Commonwealth and turning them into residents. One example: 23% of out-of-state students in Class 2020 and Class 2019 remained in Pennsylvania after earning their Pitt degree. These recent graduates joined a community of approximately 180,000 Pitt alumni statewide who are poised to generate nearly \$115 billion in additional income over the course of their careers.

Our research activities inject another \$1.7 billion into the state's economy each year. We also draw substantial funds to Pennsylvania, repeatedly ranking as a top 10 academic institution nationwide in terms of annual research dollars received from the National Institutes of Health. Our capacity to create knowledge—and then transform it for society's gain—has never been more germane to our shared success.

In our labs today, scientists and clinicians are hard at work, developing at least five promising COVID-19 vaccines. Our broader health sciences community is engaged in a full suite of efforts aimed at better understanding COVID-19 transmission and care as well as how we can bring this devastating public health crisis to an earlier end.

Within this extraordinary landscape, our students continue to secure some of academia's highest honors, including Harry S. Truman, Beinecke and Fulbright scholarships. At the same time, faculty members have earned entry into the country's most elite scholarly circles, including the National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences and American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Not surprisingly—and increasingly—external sources are validating Pitt’s commanding rise. In recent years, the University of Pittsburgh has been named:

- one of the most innovative universities in the world (Reuters),
- the top public university in the Northeast (The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education) and
- A top 20 public university in the United States (U.S. News & World Report).

With demand for a world-class Pitt education running strong, we continue to invest in a range of access and affordability initiatives—like our Pitt Success Pell Grant Match program and Panthers Forward—to help ensure that every qualified student who wants to attend Pitt can do so, regardless of their family’s financial circumstances.

These successes, and many more, are yours to share. And, with your sustained support, I am confident that Pitt will continue to produce real results that will benefit Pennsylvanian families today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Gallagher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patrick" being more prominent than the last name "Gallagher".

Patrick Gallagher
Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh