University of Kentucky research continues to have significant growth in sponsored grants and contracts. Since 2014, awarded dollars have a compound growth rate of 7% per year.

The majority of UK’s external funding came from federal sources (59.8%). State funding was 21.8% and industry contracts were 6.1% of the total awards received by the university.

UK’s biomedical research enterprise is heavily supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), 60.3% of all federal awards. NIH grants to UK increased by 5.5% from 2017 to 2018.

The top three NIH institutes supporting UK biomedical research were the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS).