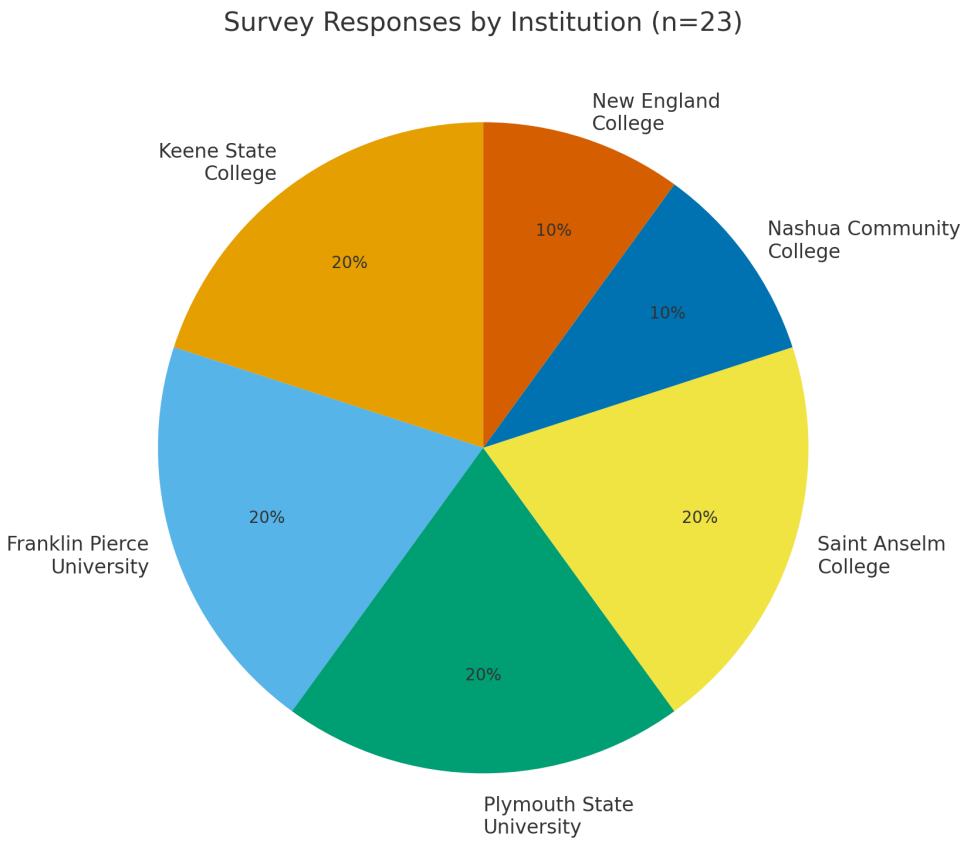
2025 NH-LIFT Research Capacity Survey Results

Who Responded

A total of 23 survey responses were collected across 9 New Hampshire institutions. Respondents were evenly split between participating in NH-INBRE (35%) NH-LIFT (35%) or Both (30%).

87% of respondents were faculty members. 13% were undergraduate students.



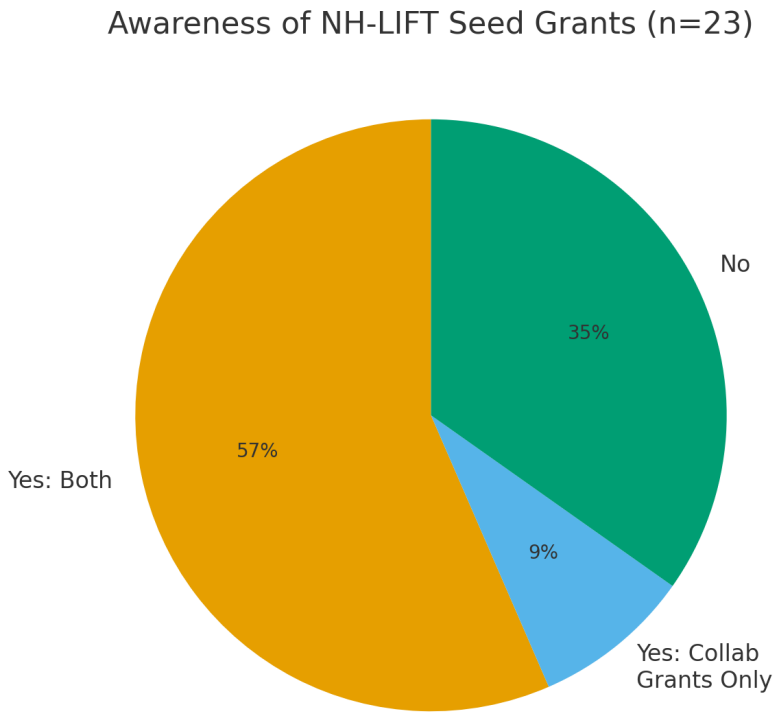
Single-response institutions:
University of New Hampshire - Manchester
Manchester Community College
Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine

Awareness of NH-LIFT Seed Grants

When asked about awareness of NH-LIFT Capacity Building Seed Grants, responses were mixed:

• 56.5% were aware of both Collaboration and Catalyst Projects (13 respondents)

• 8.7% were aware of Collaboration Projects only (2 respondents)
• 34.8% were not aware of these opportunities (8 respondents)



Why Didn't You Apply for a Seed Grant?

Time Constraints / Competing Priorities

- "I was working on other grant submissions. I am looking forward to submitting a Collaboration Project for the next available cycle."
- "I haven't had time this summer but am excited to apply soon!"
- "Haven't had the time or bandwidth yet this year. Also looking for more concrete collaborations/networking (e.g., though this summit) before developing and submitting."
- "I am involved in INBRE and have focused my time and efforts there."

Leadership / Role Conflict

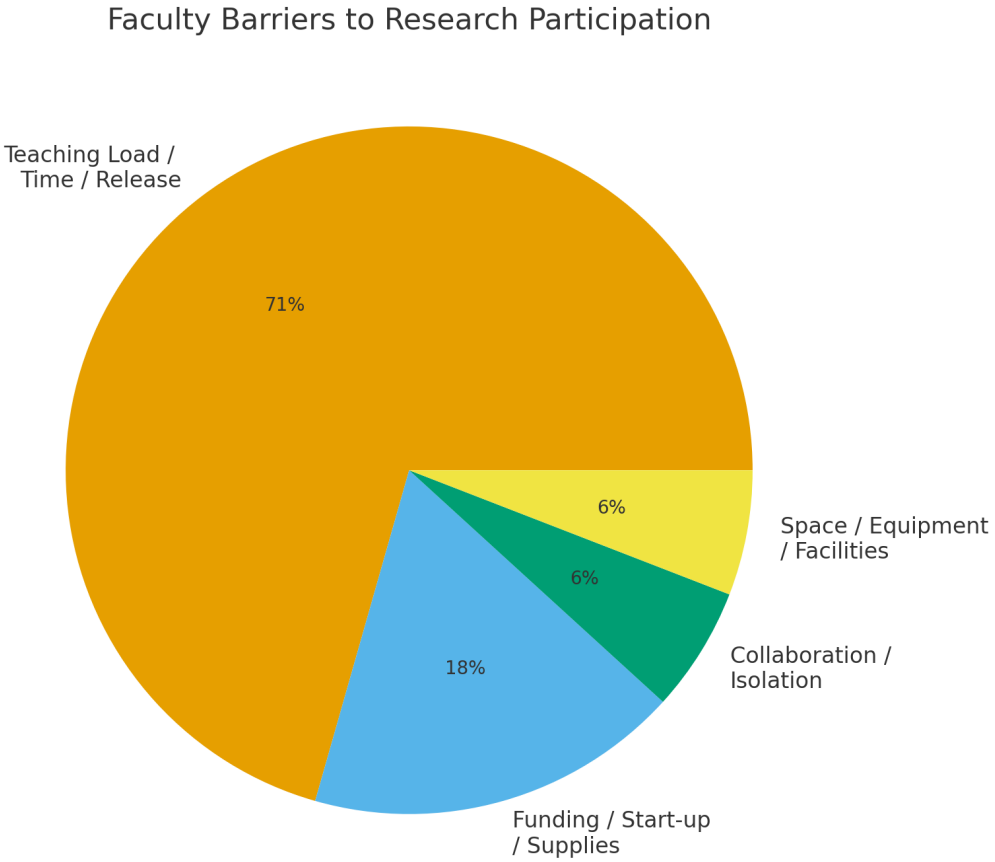
- “Part of LIFT leadership team”
- “I'm on the leadership team ;-)”
- “I am on the leadership team. Maybe I shouldn't be filling out this survey...”

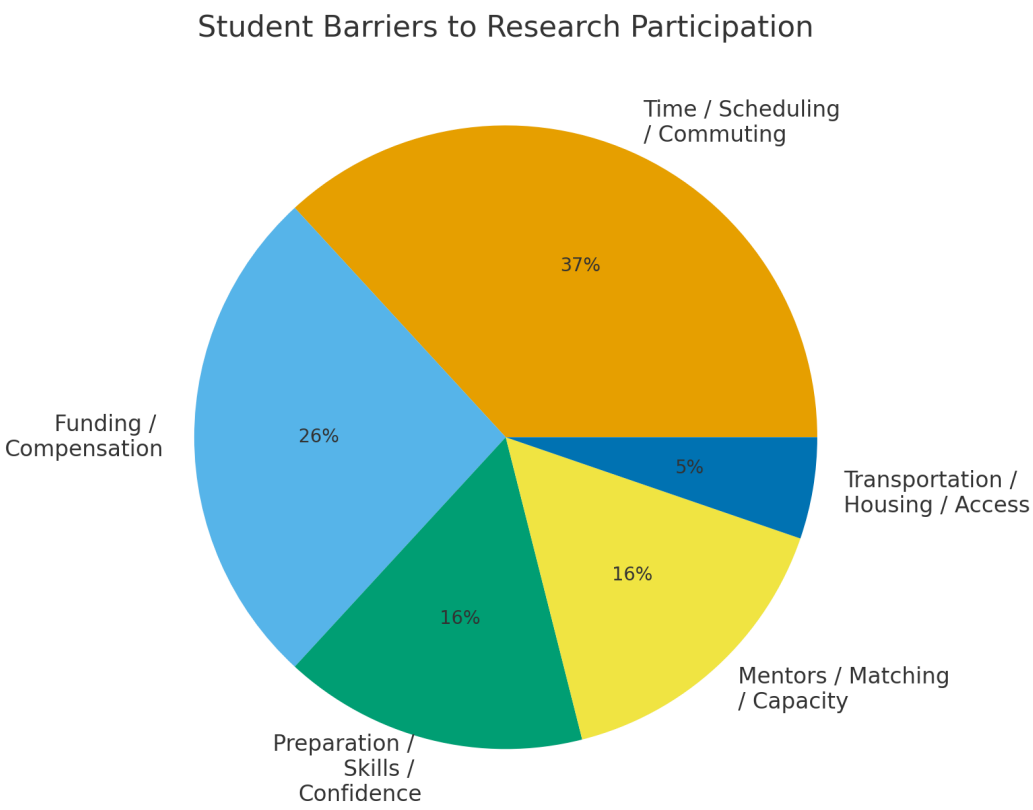
Fit / Scope / Preference

- “Not a great fit at this time.”
- “I am more interested in seeking funds to carry out research with a collaborator, rather than using funds to set up or foster a collaboration.”
- “My research program is established, I would prefer that early career scientists and those at the undergrad focused institutions get these opportunities.”

Awareness / Communication Gaps

- “I only heard about these opportunities yesterday (8/19).”
- “No clear ideas”
- “Found out at the 2025 conference.”


Faculty Barriers to Research Participation
Teaching Load / Time / Release
71%
Space / Equipment / Facilities
6%
Collaboration / Isolation
6%
Funding / Start-up / Supplies
18%



Most Needed Support

• Funding for supplies, travel, and seed projects (6 mentions).

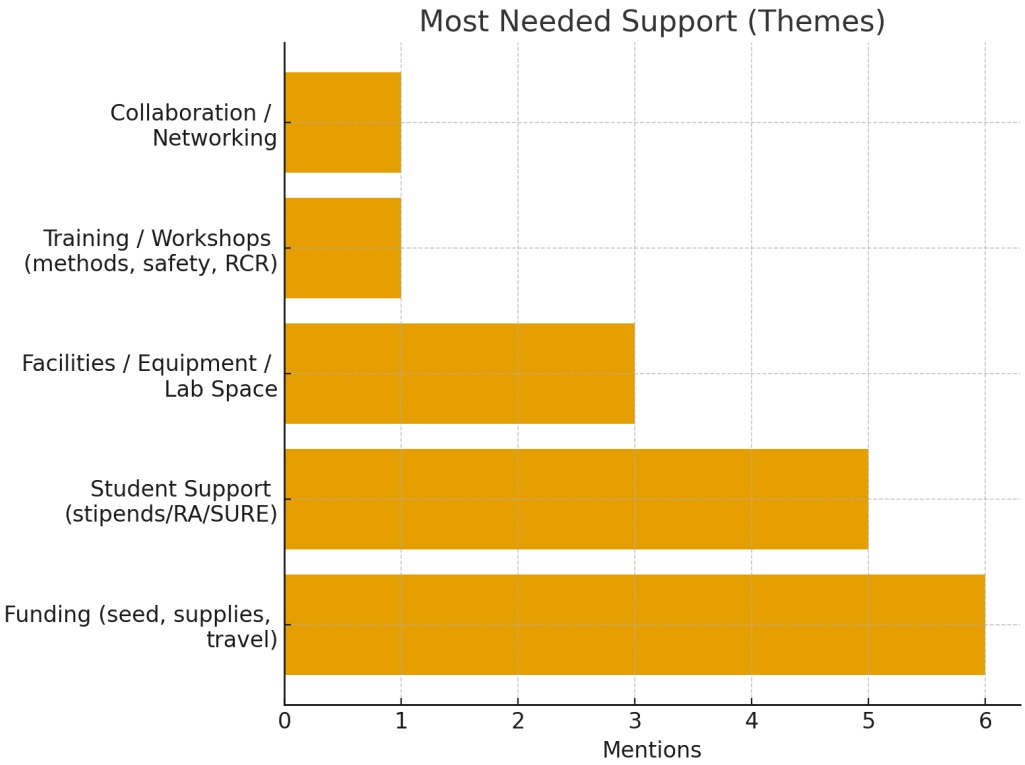
• Student stipends and RA support (5 mentions).

• Access to equipment/lab space (3 mentions).

Representative quotes:

“Travel + supplies to get this off the ground.”

“Student stipends are key — otherwise they can’t afford to participate.”



Safety & Success in Research

Enablers:

• Supportive, inclusive culture where researchers feel valued (8 mentions).

• Training and onboarding (RCR/CITI) (3 mentions).

• Proper equipment and facilities (3 mentions).

Barriers:

• Insufficient training/experience. (2 mentions)

• Culture/communication issues (1 mention)

• Equipment/PPE limitations. (1 mention)

Leadership Takeaways

1. Faculty time/teaching load is the #1 barrier — course release or buyout could have the greatest impact. (12 mentions)

2. Student stipends/compensation are essential for participation, especially for commuter students. (5 mentions)

3. Culture matters: belonging and inclusion are just as critical as equipment or training. (8 mentions)

4. Networking works: faculty highly value structured events connecting them across institutions. (21 respondents attended luncheon)

5. Communication gaps exist: 7 respondents "not sure" about RCR access; plus 2 mentions requesting a central hub.

Appendix: Comments Regarding Networking Lunch

- "Yes, it was good to talk with people and learn about the resources available at each institution."
- "Yes, good networking with other schools."
- "Yes, great to hear about available resources."
- "Yes."
- "Yes - made a lot of collaborative friends."
- "Yes good conversations, interesting presentations and more good food!"
- "Yes, even though I forgot to prepare a slide it was great to hear from others."
- "Yes. I made multiple connections with potential collaborators or for future use of instrumentation."
- "Yes, it was great to meet other researchers in person."
- "Yes, but I wish that we had heard from more faculty about their ongoing research. I should have presented a slide in my own work, but I did not."
- "Meeting new people."
- "Yes - but random assigned seating would increase networking."

- "Yes as the quick talks were great. But I didn't get to chat with many people in the room as everyone was buddied and working with people they knew. Would have loved to meet more people."

- "Yes, networking in casual circumstances is always valuable."

- "Yes, although it seemed to be trying to do two things, neither of which was it able to do as effectively as if it was just trying to do one of them. Part of this seemed to be about core resources and infrastructure awareness, while another part was about what other researchers are doing in the state."

- "Yes in general. The short presentations took up too much time…needed more time to chat and meet each other."

- "I was able to meet various people from different fields. There was a lot of skilled professors as well as young aspiring students like me."

- "First real in depth introduction to NH Lift."

- "I would have liked to learn more about INBRE and maybe talk about collaboration possibilities."

- "Yes, nice to see what the network had to offer."