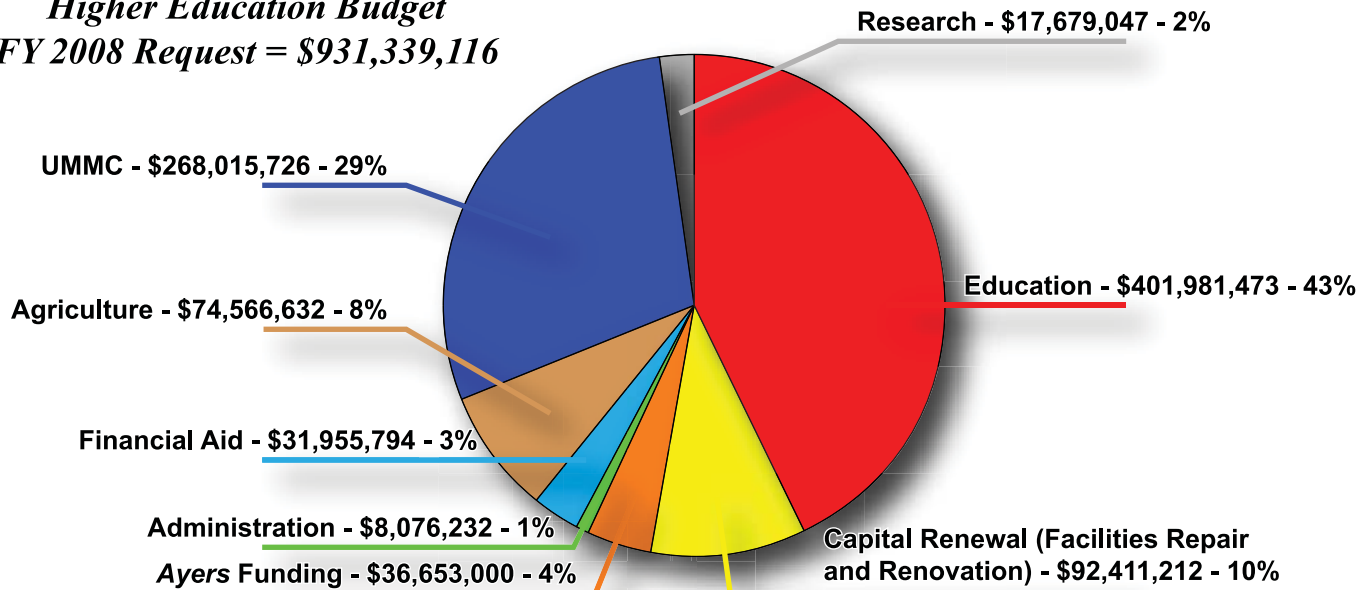


## Who benefits from the higher education budget in Mississippi?

**Higher Education Budget**  
**FY 2008 Request = \$931,339,116**



NOTE: The estimated cost in General Funds for a 5% salary increase is \$51,658,275. This is not included in the \$931,339,116 FY 2008 funding request.

- **Students**, of course, gain the most direct benefit from Mississippi's higher education budget. Higher ed dollars—spent on such critical needs as financial aid and high-quality faculty and facilities—give them tools to succeed in the workplace and in the world.

- **Taxpayers** in Mississippi benefit, too, since those students go out to earn higher wages and pay more sales and income taxes. Better-educated persons also represent less of a drain on the state's resources, since they are less likely to be unemployed, unhealthy, or in the corrections or welfare systems.

- Mississippi's **businesses** gain by having more educated, more skilled employees, and by having access to programs like the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems, Small Business Development Centers, and others which assist business owners.

- **Our poorest citizens** benefit by having access to quality medical care through the University hospital system.

- **Farmers and the rural population** are aided by the higher education budget through agricultural programs and other assistance which make them more productive and better able to compete in national and global markets.