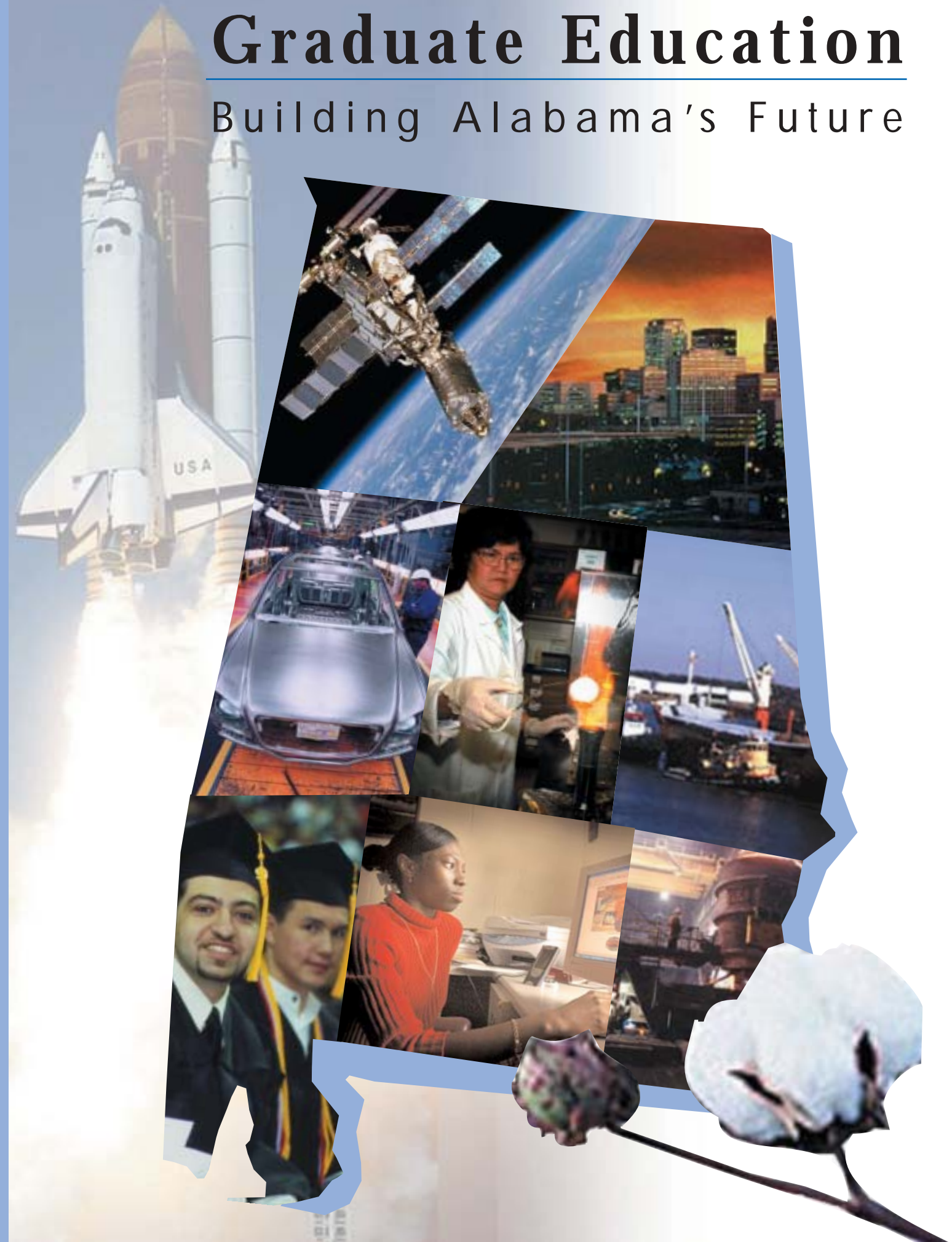


Graduate Education

Building Alabama's Future



www.ache.state.al.us

Alabama Benefits from Strong Graduate Education Programs



- ❖ They provide a foundation for occupations in government, business, education, health care delivery, and public service.
- ❖ They increase the marketability of Alabama's workforce.
- ❖ They help business and industry gain competitive advantage through availability and expertise of advanced degree holders.
- ❖ They attract businesses to our state.
- ❖ They enhance Alabama's visibility in the nation and throughout the world.

Graduate Education in Alabama

- ❖ Graduate programs provide the inspiration and labor that have helped Alabama rank 7th in the nation per capita in federal research and development funds.
- ❖ The State of Alabama offers more than 500 graduate degree programs in more than 200 different fields.
- ❖ More than 25,000 students are enrolled in Alabama's graduate programs.



- ❖ Five out of six Alabama graduate students lived in Alabama before enrolling in graduate school.
- ❖ Twenty Alabama universities award more than 8,000 graduate degrees annually.
- ❖ Fields of graduate study range from agriculture to space technology and from teacher education to business.
- ❖ One out of 20 Alabamians holds a graduate or professional degree.

Graduate Programs Contribute to the State's Workforce

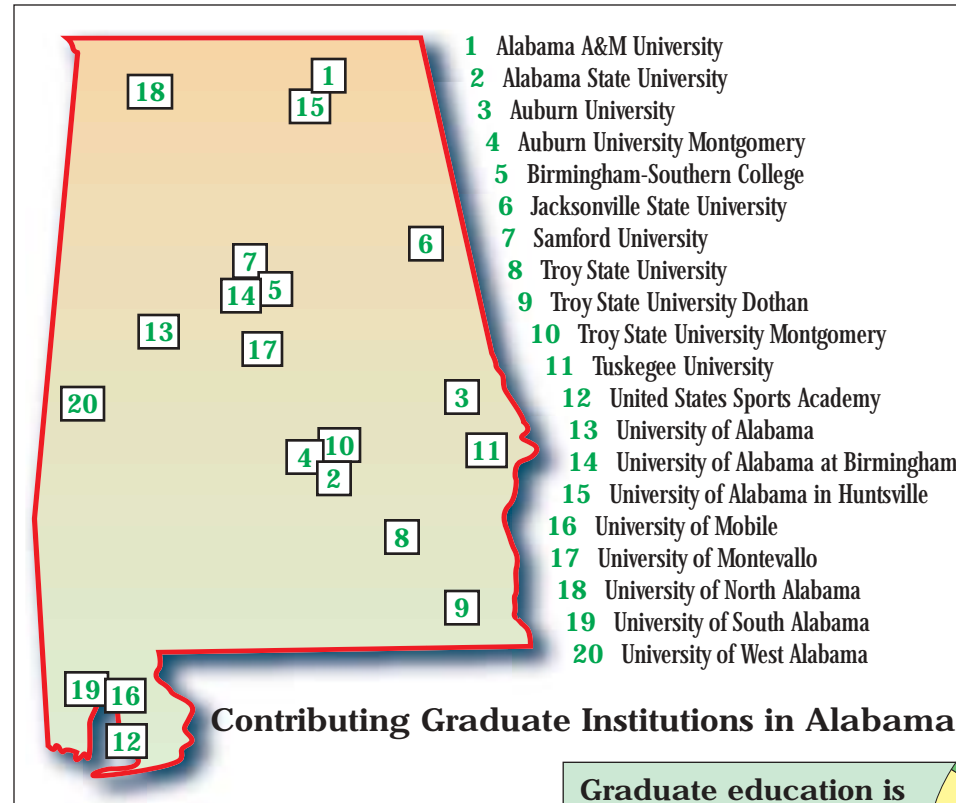
- ❖ Graduate degree holders provide a highly skilled workforce, which strengthens Alabama's global economic position.



- ❖ Collaborative research and development efforts with graduate programs grow Alabama's industries, businesses, and commercial sectors.
- ❖ Employees with graduate degrees make a company more marketable.
- ❖ Four out of five graduates of advanced degree programs in Alabama now work in Alabama.
- ❖ Of organizations recently surveyed, 84 percent report they are highly satisfied with the level of cooperation between their organizations and graduate programs in Alabama.



Graduate Programs Contribute to Education within Alabama



- ❖ Strong graduate programs allow Alabama's universities to...
 - ...attract top faculty and scholars who, in turn, set standards of excellence.
 - ...enrich the learning environment for all students.
 - ...increase the value of all degrees granted.
- ❖ Graduate research into instructional techniques and methods enhances the quality of K-12 classroom instruction in Alabama.
- ❖ The majority of K-12 teachers in Alabama hold graduate degrees.
- ❖ Teachers with graduate degrees earn on average \$5,000 more than those without.
- ❖ The advanced experience these teachers possess enables them to inspire students about future career paths.

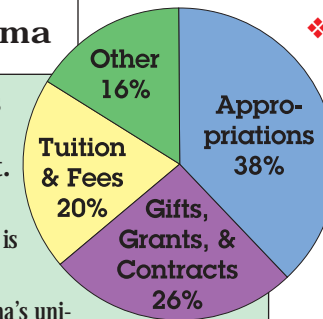


Graduate Programs Contribute to the Quality of Life

- ❖ Music, theatre and other fine arts
- ❖ Public health in urban and rural communities
- ❖ Environmental safeguarding and development
- ❖ Community service

Graduate education is a great return on Alabama's investment.

- ❖ Only 38 percent of the costs of graduate education in Alabama is borne by State appropriations.
- ❖ Graduate programs help Alabama's universities generate more than \$400 million annually in external support for research programs.
- ❖ This external support supplements appropriations from the state, enhancing the quality of education for all students.



Graduate Programs Benefit the Economy

- ❖ Graduate students in Alabama...
 - ...generate \$34 million annually in funds from tuition.
 - ...donate many hours of community service worth millions of dollars through internships and work-study programs.

- ❖ Graduates from advanced degree programs have increased earning power and contribute billions of dollars annually to the state's economy as well as hundreds of millions of dollars in state taxes.

Conclusions

- ❖ Graduate education plays a vital role in the way of life of Alabama's citizens.
- ❖ Graduate degree programs are a key part of the state's overall educational structure.
- ❖ Graduate education is pivotal in enhancing the competitive edge of Alabama's businesses and in attracting new businesses to the state.
- ❖ Graduate programs produce a handsome return on state monies invested in them.
- ❖ Alabamians who hold advanced degrees are very likely to secure professional employment within Alabama and make economic and cultural contributions to Alabama.

