

Providing the tools and information required to proactively respond to our Nation's border issues

The National Center for Border Security and Immigration, led by the University of Arizona in Tucson and the University of Texas at El Paso, is developing technologies, tools and advanced methods to balance immigration and trade with effective border security, as well as assess threats and vulnerabilities, improve surveillance and screening, analyze immigration trends, and enhance policy and law enforcement efforts.

RESEARCH LEAD

The University of Arizona



EDUCATION LEAD

The University of Texas at El Paso



Research Objectives

BORDERS is a consortium of 14 premier institutions dedicated to the development of innovative technologies, proficient processes, and effective policies that will help protect our Nation's borders, foster international trade, and enhance long-term understanding of immigration determinants and dynamics.

Our Mission and Importance

BORDERS' focus is to provide government agencies and stakeholders with scientifically-informed knowledge to expedite the development of innovative, practical, and cost-effective solutions to meet the ever-changing operational demands at the northern and southern borders. We are developing, testing and evaluating prototypes in both the laboratory and in the field to inform future design and implementation. In this way, BORDERS provides real, measurable improvements from a practical standpoint, as well as scientific validity from a critical perspective.

Education Objectives

Through a robust education curriculum, the Center will develop the future scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians, to create processes and technology that will meet the emerging challenge of homeland security in a global context. Integrated with the research program is a strong educational component that will convert NCBSI research lessons learned into educational products for current homeland security professionals as well as future academics; fostering involvement of other Minority Serving Institutions (MSI). To accomplish this, the Center, among other things, will:

- Conduct an educational needs assessment of Department of Homeland Security and its sub-organizations
- Deliver a comprehensive integrated homeland security degree program for current and future Department of Homeland Security employees
- Employ a multi disciplinary, systems approach, involving engineers and physical, behavioral and social scientists

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BORDERS Partner Institutions

The University of Arizona [LEAD]
Arizona State University
Migration Policy Institute
New Mexico State University
New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology
Pennsylvania State University
RAND Corporation
RTI International
San Diego State University
University of California - Irvine
University of Minnesota
University of Texas—Pan American
University of Washington
West Virginia University



NCBSI Partner Institutions

The University of Texas at El Paso [LEAD]
Duke University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
North Dakota State University
Prairie View A&M University
RTI International
Texas A&M University
Texas A&M University - Kingsville
University of Connecticut
University of Texas at San Antonio
University of Washington
Wayne State University
Wiley College

BORDERS RESEARCH AREAS

Our research focuses on 7 inter-related areas:

- Detection: Humans and Vehicles
- Networks: Interoperability, Reliability and C3
- Fusion: Tools and Approaches
- Risk: Mitigation, Assessment and Alignment
- Population: Methods, Metrics and Estimates
- Immigration: Economics and Policies
- Governance: Law Enforcement and International Cooperation

BORDERS is engaged in both visionary and user-inspired research. The Center will serve as a systems integrator, using lessons learned from multiple disciplines, to help define optimal approaches and speed the implementation of innovative solutions to complex border problems in the form of new technologies and policy recommendations.

NCBSI RESEARCH PROJECTS

Our research focuses on 5 topics:

- Surveillance and Tracking Technologies
- Procedures at Border Crossing Ports of Entry
- Operational Analysis
- Screening, Scanning and Inspection Processes
- Command, Control and Communication

Education Program

- K-12
- DHS Scholars Academy at UTEP
- Certificate/Degree Programs
- Customer Education Needs Assessment