Several Research Centers of Excellence have been established at NPS under the auspices of the Associate Provost and Dean of Research as per NPSINST 3800.2R. A Research Center is a group of faculty/staff with a significant concentration of expertise in a particular area normally with an emphasis on applications. (Research centers receive no funding from the Navy mission budget; they serve to organize and promote interdisciplinary experts around a common theme.) Every Research Center supports the NPS educational mission and displays a clear benefit to NPS, the Navy and/or DoD.

Defense-Focused Research Centers

- Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Center (ADSC)
- Center for Additive Manufacturing
- Center for Autonomous Vehicle Research (CAVR)
- Center for Cyber Warfare
- Center for Cybersecurity and Cyber Operations (C3O)
- Center for Infrastructure Defense (CID)
- Center for Joint Services Electronic Warfare
- Center for Materials Research (CMR)
- Center for Multi-INT Studies (CMIS)
- Center for Network Innovation and Experimentation (CENETIX)
- Center on Combating Hybrid Threats (CCHT)
- Center on Contemporary Conflict
- Common Operational Research Environment (CORE) Lab
- DOD Information Strategy Research Center
- Littoral Operations Center (LOC)
- Remote Sensing Center (RSC)
- SEED Center for Data Farming (Simulation Experiments & Efficient Designs)
- Spacecraft Research and Design Center (SRDC)
- TurboPropulsion Laboratory
The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) has robust sponsored research and education programs. Per U.S. code, Title 10 — 8541, NPS will “… provide advanced instruction and professional and technical education and research opportunities.” Sponsored programs (research, education, and professional development) are integral to the Naval Postgraduate School mission. The research programs support graduate education by providing militarily relevant thesis topics that address issues from the current needs of the Fleet and Joint Forces to the science and technology required to sustain long-term superiority of the Navy/DoD. Research varies from the fundamental to the applied and covers all levels of classification. Sponsored research includes:

- Basic and Applied Research
- Individual and Interdisciplinary Group Projects
- Fleet Support
- Cooperative Research and Development Agreements

Sponsored education programs include integrated graduate education and research in space systems, total-ship systems engineering, combat systems, systems engineering and homeland security and defense, supplemented by off-campus graduate and certificate programs.

Professional development programs utilize NPS faculty expertise and student experience to support various communities within the Navy and DoD through short courses and web-based services.

In FY20, NPS had total expenditures exceeding $101.4M.
Graduate School of Defense Management

The Graduate School of Defense Management (formerly Graduate School of Business and Public Policy) offers unique residential defense-focused MBA and Master of Science in Management programs, plus master’s degrees in four other DoD-relevant areas. Faculty research is an important component of the school and strives to support military and public policy decision making, problem solving, and policy setting; improve operational and administrative processes, and organizational effectiveness; contribute knowledge to academic disciplines; and advance the mission of graduate education. Faculty research results have been featured in general media, used in Congressional testimony and incorporated in public policy issues.

The research program is fully integrated into the educational process. Curriculum sponsors and other DoD organizations fund faculty research; students participate in these faculty projects and undertake research of their own in their capstone MBA projects, and faculty research results are incorporated into classroom instruction. Topics and issues can be grouped into five broad functional areas: acquisition program and contracting management; budgeting and financial management; operations and logistics management; economics and manpower systems analysis; and management and leadership, strategy and change, and communications.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $9.9m

Graduate School of Operational and Informational Sciences

GSOIS resident and distance learning programs consist of 21 technical curricula that award master of science and Ph.D. degrees across four academic departments (Computer Science, Defense Analysis, Information Science, and Operations Research) and the Cyber Academic Group. Responding to the needs of naval and military customers, graduate education and research focus on important military domains: information science and technology, computer science, artificial intelligence, cyber systems and operations, operations analysis and operational logistics, data science; human-systems integration; and special operations. The emphasis of sponsored research is on the development, integration, and application of mathematical, scientific, and technical skills that contribute to advances and improvement in military systems and operations, and related areas of national defense and security.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $20.4m
Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

GSEAS education leads to the master of science, engineer, and doctor of philosophy degrees awarded by seven technical academic departments (applied math, electrical and computer engineering, mechanical and aerospace engineering, meteorology, physics, oceanography, systems engineering) and three interdisciplinary academic groups (space systems, undersea warfare, and energy). These offer degree programs tailored to the Navy and defense community, while providing technical foundations for student theses interdisciplinary faculty and student research projects. Research centers and unique laboratory facilities (e.g., autonomous vehicle research, spacecraft research and design, remote sensing, rocket propulsion and combustion, electronic warfare & signal processing, ocean acoustics, atmospheric modelling & forecasting, multi-intelligence studies & data science, space-systems research, computer & communication networks, materials research, cyber warfare & cryptanalysis, undersea warfare, advanced sensors, and weapon effects & analysis) add rigor to the resident academic and sponsored programs.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $42.2m

Graduate School of International and Defense Studies

The Graduate School of International and Defense Studies (IDS) specializes in research and graduate education focused on security studies, international relations, regional security and area studies, international political economy and U.S. security policy. Programs identify and address security challenges, develop civilian and military interagency alliances, and strengthen multilateral and bilateral defense cooperation between the U.S. and other nations.

SIGS components include the department of National Security Affairs, Center for Homeland Defense and Security, and the International Graduate Programs Office.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: $9.2m
"NPS is the Navy's applied research university. There are functions that occur here that we can't get anywhere else in the world."

Adm. Michael Gilday  
Chief of Naval Operations

"The winning force will be the one who is faster with more effective decision-making processes that can out-think and out-operate with technology in new ways. It will be the force with the intellectual edge."

Gen. David H. Berger  
Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps