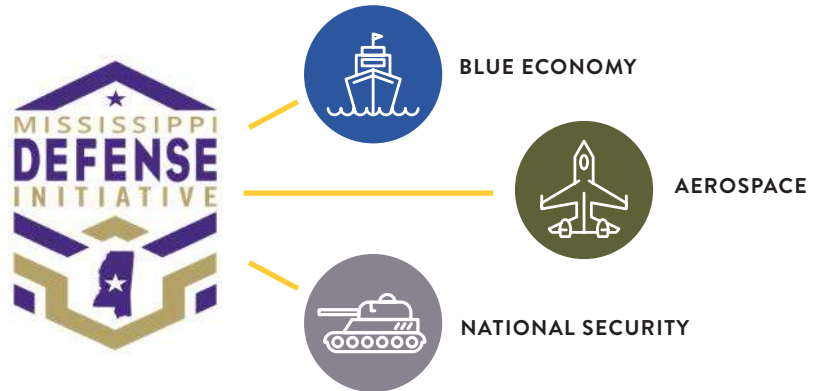


MISSISSIPPI DEFENSE INITIATIVE OEA GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

Mississippi Defense Initiative (MDI) derived from a United States Department of Defense's (DoD) Office of Economic Adjustment Industry Resilience (IR) grant. MDI works to make Mississippi's defense sector more resilient, competitive, and diversified by improving job opportunities, the local tax base, wealth creation, and quality-of-life.

MDI's mission is to **strengthen Mississippi's defense and national security assets** as an **economic driver** for the state.

MISSISSIPPI'S KEY COMPETITIVE DEFENSE INDUSTRY SECTORS



MDI FOCUSES ON:



**RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT**



**DEFENSE-RELATED TRANSPORTATION
INFRASTRUCTURE**



EDUCATION



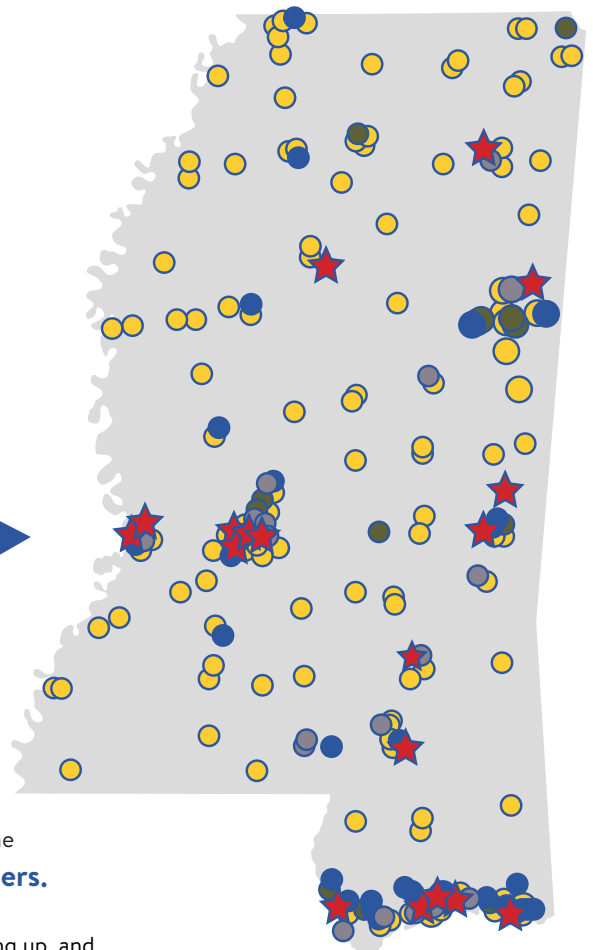
DEFENSE-FOCUSED COMPANIES

-  BLUE ECONOMY
-  AEROSPACE
-  NATIONAL SECURITY
-  SERVICE PROVIDERS
-  MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

MDI NETWORK INCLUDES

115+

MISSISSIPPI COMPANIES
AND NUMEROUS ASSISTANCE
PROVIDERS



\$187,500 in direct assistance to **15 companies** through the **MDI GAP Fund program** in the form of **Innovation Vouchers**.



- **\$42,000** in additional assistance for rapid prototyping, scaling up, and research through MS Polymer Institute and USM VPR office
- **\$45,000** toward mentoring services for companies to further commercial potential of early-stage "dual-use" (military/civilian technologies or innovations)



**FACILITATED
STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR THE STATE
OF MISSISSIPPI**



**PROVIDED
SUPPORT
FOR OCEAN
TASK FORCE**



65 REPORTS COMPILED,

consisting of **industry sector analysis, highest and best use case study, and economic analysis** that assisted network partners in showcasing Mississippi's ever-growing and expanding defense economy.



CYBER SECURITY WORK

- Partnered with MSU CCI to build a free Cyber Security Tool, **NIST Controls Awareness Training (NCAT)** for companies
- Introduced the tool to **over 50 Mississippi companies**
- Working to build out a **world class cyber security program** at USM

MDI works closely with the Mississippi Installation Commanders Council (ICC) and the Mississippi Governor's Office of Military Affairs to strengthen Mississippi's competitiveness.



NEW INITIATIVES



LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



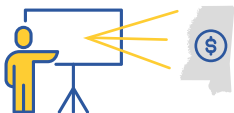
QUALITY-OF-LIFE ISSUES



EXPANSION AND UPGRADE OF FACILITIES

MDI ASSISTED AND FUNDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF 3 NEW COURSES:

- 1 Economic Development for Military Communities
- 2 Developing Solutions for Defense (DS4D)
- 3 U.S. Navy Unmanned Maritime Systems Certification



MDI's network partners have **hosted 122 events** to support the partner efforts to **strengthen collaborations.**



MDI promotes the use of the **nation's newest strategic port, the Port of Gulfport**, as an **economic driver** for the Mississippi Gulf Coast and state as a whole.

MISSISSIPPI DEFENSE INITIATIVE NETWORK CONSISTS OF:

- Defense-focused Companies
- Non-profit and Business Assistance Organizations
- Local Military Communities
- Military Units and Facilities
- Mississippi Universities and Colleges
- Mississippi State Government Entities
- Local and Regional Economic Development Organizations



MSDEFENSE.NET