



Louisiana & National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research



FY20 Total Funding: **\$1,243,592**

Number of Institutions Funded: **2 (Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center; Tulane University of Louisiana)**

Number of Grants Awarded: **3**

Number of Congressional Districts with NIDCR Grants: **2**

Improving Louisiana's Oral Health through NIDCR Funding:

- Researchers at the Louisiana State University (LSU) are developing innovative dental materials to restore teeth affected by decay. This new material contains fluoride and antimicrobial agents to fight the number one cause of composite tooth restoration failure – the development of new decay at the tooth-restoration interface. In addition, researchers are working to make sure the new material possesses strong mechanical properties to ensure both the lifespan of the restoration and the aesthetic appeal to the patient improving the overall quality of dental restorations.
- Highly active antiretroviral therapy dramatically reduces HIV replication below clinical detection limits, but residual virus can persist in a latent state resulting in a lifelong infection. At Tulane University, researchers are investigating novel HIV treatment regimens to target dormant HIV-infected cells and seeking to understand how HIV infection affects the oral cavity. The long-term goal of this project is to develop a cure for HIV infection.

