



---

Unrestricted funds allow MIT the flexibility to seize opportunities quickly, address unanticipated challenges, and respond to the Institute's most pressing core needs.

## Supporting MIT's Mission Through Unrestricted Giving

MIT faculty and students are expanding the boundaries of knowledge through discovery-driven research that points the way to progress; reimagining the way we teach and learn; and engineering an innovation system to get breakthroughs to market faster and deliver real change. To sustain this creative brilliance, we must attract the most talented people and provide them with the resources they need to realize their potential. Unrestricted funds are the essential fuel that helps to power MIT's investments in new ideas that will lead to game-changing discoveries, inventions, and solutions.

### MEETING CRUCIAL NEEDS, PROMOTING BIG IDEAS

Unrestricted gifts are critical to supporting nearly every facet of MIT's mission, whether it is launching an initiative to tackle complex problems in the environment, recruiting and retaining faculty in a competitive landscape, sustaining our commitment to need-blind undergraduate admissions and the financial support it implies, or developing a digital curriculum that can be shared on a global scale. Promoting transformative research and creative problem solving across a wide range of disciplines requires a substantial commitment of resources. Thanks to unrestricted gifts from alumni and friends, MIT faculty and students are free to pursue the paths that lead to new frontiers.

Above: Unrestricted funds support the MIT community in all its dimensions, providing a resource for the Institute to seize opportunities and renew the physical environment.

## FUELING MIT'S FUTURE

Unrestricted gifts seed our future and are vital to the mission of MIT. They provide a flexible resource that enables the Institute to seize new opportunities, evolve the physical environment, and develop out-of-the-box ideas.

### Seizing New Opportunities

Unrestricted gifts mean that MIT can respond readily to cutting-edge challenges, from creating technologies to reinvent education for learners everywhere, for example, to convening the brightest minds in engineering, urban planning, policy, and the physical and social sciences to devise scalable solutions to pressing environmental issues.

### Supporting Core Values

To its undergraduates, MIT makes a promise indispensable to its character and values: need-blind admissions and need-based financial aid. As the nation struggles with issues of college affordability and student debt, MIT stands firm in its commitment to ensuring that every undergraduate who has earned admission can enroll, regardless of family financial circumstances. Today, MIT relies on unrestricted funds to cover 25 percent—or more than \$20 million annually—of the scholarships and financial aid that allow our students to succeed.

### Investing in High-Risk Research When Few Others Will

From e-ink to the Human Genome Project to the detection of dark matter, MIT's innovations and explorations make an indelible difference. But big, daring ideas are often too risky to qualify for backing from traditional sources. Unrestricted resources give us the power to help them take flight.

### Advancing the Entire Enterprise

To keep pace with the dynamism of MIT, our physical infrastructure is in constant flux. Unrestricted gifts aid its renewal and evolution, based on a continuously refreshed understanding of the Institute's academic, research, and community priorities. Such gifts have been a vital resource for initiating the earliest elements of the Main Group renewal and other equally significant campus projects.

“Our faculty and students contribute to the world in extraordinary ways. Thanks to unrestricted funds, we are able to take advantage of emerging educational and research opportunities that push the boundaries of science and engineering and advance the frontiers of knowledge.”

Israel Ruiz SM '01  
Executive Vice President and  
Treasurer