October 5, 2023

OVPRI Seed Funding Programs

Support for research, scholarship and creative projects

Note: This webinar is being recorded

Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation

AGENDA

- Overview and goals of OVPRI internal award programs
- Eligibility, allowable costs, and application components
- Recommendations for success
- Review and selection process
- Other opportunities

FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD (FRA)

- **Amount:** Up to $10,000

- **Time Period:** Up to 12 months

- **Purpose:** Support for scholarship, creative projects, and research to faculty who do not have a significant externally funded research award. Funds may be used for:
  - Book projects, journal articles, performances, or creative works
  - To obtain pilot data, demonstrate feasibility, or develop a prototype
  - Travel to conduct fieldwork or research at an archive or special collection

- **Review Criteria:** Significance & Contribution, Concepts & Methods, Work Plan/Budget Justification, Competencies, Skills, Access and Support/CV, Final Products and Dissemination

- **Deadline:** January 14, 2023, by 11:59 p.m.

❖ Priority will be given to projects where funding is significant to project launch or continuation.

UO FOUNDATION TRUSTEE EXCELLENCE GRANT (Trustee Grant)

- **Amount:** Up to $50,000 (2 per year)

- **Time Period:** Up to 24 months

- **Purpose:** To advance exceptional research, scholarship, or creative work that translates to significant impact. Projects may result in:
  - Contributions to field of scholarship
  - Discovery of new knowledge
  - Meaningful connections and partnerships with communities

- **Review Criteria:** Significance & Contribution, Concepts & Methods, Work Plan/Budget Justification, Competencies, Skills, Access and Support/CV, Final Products and Dissemination

- **Deadline:** March 31, 2024, by 11:59 p.m.

❖ Student participation is highly encouraged.

OVPRI RESEARCH SEED GRANTS (RSG)

- **Amounts:** Up to $25,000 for *Track 1* (single faculty) and $50,000 for *Track 2* (multiple faculty)

- **Time Period:** Up to 12 months for *Track 1* and 12-24 months for *Track 2*

- **Purpose:** To acquire preliminary data and develop a competitive proposal for significant external funding. Projects must have:
    - Clear justification for need
    - Strong return on investment
    - Outcomes appropriate for discipline

- **Review Criteria:** Research Project, Research Approach, Researchers / Team, External Funding Strategy, Timeline and Budget

- **Deadline:** January 14, 2024, by 11:59 p.m.

❖ One external proposal must be submitted within six months of project end date.

OVPRI STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND (SIF)

- **Amounts:** Up to $85,000 for *Track 1* (planning or immediate opportunity) and $250,000 for *Track 2* (opportunistic investment).

- **Time Period:** ≤ 12 months for *Track 1* and 24-36 months for *Track 2*

- **Purpose:** To position research teams to secure a major, center-scale grant or a series of investments (federal, state, philanthropic) in a strategic research area.
  - *Track 1*: New center grant funding opportunity or planning and preparation for Track 2 proposal
  - *Track 2*: Multi-year proposal development and project execution for a research center proposal

- **Review Criteria:** Research Project, Research Approach, Researchers/Team, External Funding Strategy, Timeline and Budget

- **Deadline:** Rolling

❖ Pre-consultation with RDS required prior to submission

❖ Faculty must articulate proposal development and submission milestones in their application.

Eligible Principal Investigators

- All tenure-track faculty

- Career research faculty: *research associate, research professor, research scientist, research engineer, principal research scientist, or librarian* who have at least .50+ FTE appointments. *FRA applicants must have over .75 FTE appointments.*

- Ineligible applicants:
  - Past awardees within the past three award cycles
  - Emeritus, retired, courtesy, visiting, instructor, and pro-tem faculty
  - Postdoctoral scholars
  - Any past OVPRI awardees who have not submitted a final report

- ❖ Applications accepted from faculty from all disciplines.

- ❖ Only one PI or Co-PI per application cycle per program. However, one may serve as a collaborator or team member on additional proposals.

Allowable Costs

- Travel, Equipment, Materials and Supplies, Contractual Services, Facility Use

- Salary for career research faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and/or technical personnel under the supervision of the PI.
  - Only include Graduate Employee (GE) salary and Other Payroll Expenses (OPE) in the budget. The OVPRI will cover GE tuition, insurance, and fees at the College of Arts and Sciences rates.

- Faculty summer stipend and/or course release (as per departmental policies and guidelines).*The FRA program does not allow course releases.*

- ❖ Unallowable costs: replacing salary, construction/renovation, curriculum or career development, and dissertation costs.

- ❖ Matching funds are encouraged for OVPRI SIF Awards.

Application

- Online application form
- Common proposal documents (requirements vary per program)
  - Abstract
  - Proposal Narrative
  - References Cited
  - Curriculum Vitae
  - Current and Pending Support
  - Budget Justification
  - Budget
  - **Unit Head Approval Form (unit heads must approve your budget)**
- Optional demographic survey

- ❖ Formatting: single-spaced text, Times New Roman font in 11-point or larger, and 1" margins.
- ❖ Combine documents into a PDF for upload.

Recommendations for Success

- Consult with Research Development Services (RDS)
  - Required for SIF
  - RDS staff will provide feedback on drafts prior to submission
- Plan your long-term research goals and identify opportunities that match your goals
- Edit and refine over multiple iterations with peer and mentor feedback
- Engage with your department head well in advance of deadline
- Serve on review panels for UO internal award programs and external funders

Review & Selection Process

- Review committee appointed (OVPRI, Faculty Senate, etc.)
- Applications first reviewed for compliance by Research Development Services (RDS)
- 2-3 reviewers assigned to each proposal
- Scored using review criteria published in RFP
- Weighted average calculated (based on RFP)
- Variance in scores among reviewers identified
- Review committee meeting (typically NIH style)
- Recommendations made to VPRI, who makes final funding decisions
- Reviewer feedback shared with all applicants
  - RDS available for consult after decisions

Other Opportunities

- Nearly all schools and colleges facilitate internal awards programs
- Most listed in Pivot funding opportunities database

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