OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Research Initiative for Summer Engagement (RISE)
Senior Campuses

Request for Proposals
Announcement Release Date: September 25, 2019
Application Receipt Date: December 19, 2019
Award Announcement Date: February 21, 2020

Purpose:
The Office of the Vice President for Research created RISE to assist Senior Campus faculty in enhancing their research and scholarly activities, as well as providing an opportunity for them to explore new areas of research/scholarship.

Eligibility: Eligible applicants include full-time faculty from all disciplines at our Senior Campuses. This program will not support research that is funded by a current ASPIRE grant. Faculty who are funded by ASPIRE or any other grants need to justify how this application is different, ensuring that there is no project overlap. Faculty who received a RISE grant in 2019 may apply again this funding cycle; however, they must have a final report from the 2019 RISE award on file to be eligible to receive funding (a progress report for the 2019 RISE would need to be included with the application if the final report is not complete). Faculty may resubmit a revised proposal that was not funded from the 2019 RISE funding cycle; If so, they should clearly indicate that it is a revised proposal and should include an introduction (maximum: one page) responding to reviewer comments. The reviewers' critiques must be attached to the proposal. This introduction will not be included in the narrative page limit. In addition, the revised applications should highlight the changes made in the research narrative. *Resubmitted revised proposals lacking the introduction page will not be reviewed*. Faculty may submit a revised RISE application only one time.

Faculty previously awarded an ASPIRE or RISE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research must have completed a final report as per the award terms and conditions to be eligible for a RISE award.

Funds Available: Projects may be funded up to **$6,000**. Senior campus Chancellors will provide matching funds for each award. If the total request is for $6000, it is anticipated that the Office of the VPR will provide $3000 and the matching $3000 will be provided by the Senior campus Chancellors. An applicant may request a project period beginning May 16, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020. With adequate justification, exceptions to these dates may be made. However, please note that if requesting summer salary, it must be for a time period in the summer when the faculty member is not teaching. Funds will be forfeited if the faculty member agrees to teach during the time they wish to receive summer salary support from the RISE program. The number of awards will be contingent on the number and quality of funding applications received and approved as well as the amount requested and allocated per application.

Budget Information: Budgets should be presented in general categories and require detailed explanation (see application process below). Although the Review Committee intends to fund projects as closely as possible to the requested amount, it reserves the right to alter the amount depending on the number of proposals received and funds available.

Allowable Costs

- Summer salary and fringe benefits for the PI (faculty salary support for summer compensation must comply with university policy HR 1.81); please note that if requesting summer salary; *it must be for a time period in the summer when the faculty member is not teaching*.
- Project supplies and costs (provide detail in budget justification)
- Travel related to the project or presentation at professional society meetings (justification must be provided). Applicants may only make one travel request - either travel essential for project OR travel to present at a professional society meeting.
- Support for student assistants.

Unallowable Costs

- Food
- Costs in connection with student or faculty degree requirements

Application Procedure: All applications should be submitted through USCERA before 5:00 pm on the deadline date (December 19, 2019).

1. Title page
   a. Title of proposal
   b. Amount of money requested
   c. Name, title, department, campus, and phone number of the principal investigator

2. Page Formatting
   a. Standard, single column format for the text (pages must print to 8.5" x 11")
   b. Line spacing (single-spaced)
   c. Font Size: 11 point Arial (except for mathematical formulas, equations or special characters)
   d. Margins: 0.5 inch, in all directions

3. A three page proposal that provides:
   a. A brief discussion of the background and significance of the proposed idea, including its relation to the present state of knowledge in the field;
   b. A detailed narrative of the project that includes the objectives, significance of the research, the research task and expected accomplishments during the course of the project, and the expected outcome of the project;
   c. A discussion of external scholarship that will result from RISE funding, whether publications, book chapters, presentations, or grant submissions. RISE grants are intended to fund projects that will reach an audience external to the USC system.
   d. Timeline with expected accomplishments during the grant.

4. Attach the following supporting documentation to the end of the proposal:
   a. Bibliography (should be included as appropriate, but will not be counted in the proposal's page limitation);
   b. Maximum two-page cv/biographical sketch of the principal investigator that includes:
      1. Education
      2. Professional experience
      3. Evidence of scholarship (most significant refereed journal articles, books, book chapters, etc.)
      4. Significant accomplishments and contributions
      5. Other information as appropriate
   c. A detailed budget on the form provided on the RISE Program web site and budget justification for total project costs consistent with the list of allowable costs shown above.

d. If you have had ASPIRE or RISE funding from the VPR's office (including current ASPIRE or RISE funding), you must attach an appendix that includes the titles and funding amounts of these awards, along with a description of the impact of the awards on your research and scholarly activity.
e. Appendices are allowed if relevant (e.g. letters of support, letters from publishers, etc.); however, do not use appendices to circumvent page limits.
f. Current and pending support form (found on the RISE program website). Please include this RISE application as a pending submission.

It is preferred that proposals be submitted as a single PDF; however, faculty now also may upload the narrative; budget; and supporting documents separately into USCERA in the categories provided. PDFs are strongly preferred.

Post Award Requirements:
Faculty must submit a final report to the Office of the Vice President of Research 30 days after the project end date as outlined in the project award notifications.

Review Process:
Applications that are complete and responsive to this announcement will be evaluated for merit by a committee primarily of Senior campus faculty members. The committee will make recommendations to the Office of Research based on the quality of the proposals in accordance with the following review criteria:

A. Scholarly Merit:
- Does the proposal provide a compelling argument for the scholarship proposed?
- Does the proposed project represent a significant contribution to the field of study?
- Is there a probability of publication or other public dissemination?

B. Nature of Proposal:

- Does the proposal provide a clear statement of overall project objectives?
- Is the proposed methodology appropriate and realistic?
- Does the proposal provide a sound justification with clear and specific budget information?
- What is the likelihood the project goals will be met during the proposed timeline? Is a clear timeline presented?
- Is the requested budget appropriate to accomplish the aims proposed?

Questions about submission? Contact: Beth Herron, Research and Grant Development Office, bherron@mailbox.sc.edu, (803) 777-2885. For additional questions about RISE, contact Dr. Melissa Pilgrim at mpilgrim@uscupstate.edu; 864-503-5781.