

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST.LOUIS
OFFICE OF RESEARCH, ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

UMSL RESEARCH AWARDS

Request for Proposals

Applications Due: 11:00 PM Feb 16, 2024

Purpose

- UMSL Research Award funding is intended to encourage faculty to develop innovative research projects and creative works that will lead to external funding

Eligibility and Guidelines

- Eligible applicants include full-time, benefit eligible faculty
- Non-tenure track faculty and professional staff must hold a terminal degree and have a research component to their appointment
- Faculty with active internal Research Awards are eligible to apply one year **after** submission of their final report
- Faculty previously awarded internal funds must be up to date with reports per award terms and conditions
- Only one application from a faculty member as PI or Co-I is allowed per application cycle
- Any recipient who receives external or internal funding for essentially the same project must return the UMSL Research Award funds to the extent of the overlap

Funding

Award Amount: \$1,000 to \$15,000

Project Period: June 1, 2024-May 31, 2025

- Under certain conditions and with justification, exceptions to these dates may be requested
- Funds must be spent within one year. In limited situations, a 6-month extension may be granted

Graduate Students: Cannot be supported on a research award if they simultaneously hold a Fellowship

Summer Salary: Preference will be given to junior faculty. Generally, tenured faculty will **NOT** be awarded summer salary support

Application Requirements

Formatting: Font size of 11 or larger, 1-inch margins, single-spaced

1). Completed Application Form

- Please make sure that you **obtain signatures before submitting your application.** Incomplete applications will not be reviewed or funded

2). Proposal Summary (Maximum of 300 words, single spaced)

- Provide an overview of the proposed research project or creative work including objectives, significance and expected results. Use clear, lay language written for multi-disciplinary reviewers who may be outside of your discipline
- Avoid jargon

3). Proposal Narrative (Maximum of 5 pages, single-spaced, font size of 11 or larger, pages numbered consecutively)

Please include the following headings and content:

Objectives

- Clearly state the research aims, research questions or objectives of the proposed project

Background and Significance

- Briefly help the reviewers understand the current state of knowledge in the field
- Discuss previous work by you and others
- Identify gaps in the existing research that the proposed research will fill
- For creative works, describe what is novel and creative about the proposed project

Methods/Approach

- Describe the methods or approach you will use to carry out the proposed research or creative work.
- Provide enough detail for reviewers to understand what you propose to do and to evaluate feasibility to carry out the research or creative work in the one-year period
- Discuss any potential challenges and how you will address
- Include a project timeline including start date
- Define roles of all personnel and partners involved including student research assistants

Expected Outcomes

- Discuss how UMSL Research Award funding will advance your research career and what you will be able to accomplish during the project period
- Describe expected outcomes such as preliminary data, manuscripts, grant proposals, book chapters, performances, exhibits, partnerships etc.
- Provide the anticipated number of publications and the names of target journals

External Funding Strategy

- Discuss how the proposed research or creative work will lead to external funding
- Discuss your strategy for obtaining external funding including the specific funding agency and mechanism you plan to apply to and the target application date(s)
- Briefly describe how the proposed UMSL Research Award project aligns with the mission of the identified funding agency

Budget Justification

- Provide a realistic estimate of costs needed to carry out the proposed research. Do not inflate, overbudget or underbudget
- Provide sufficient detail in your justification as to why each requested item is necessary and how cost amounts are determined. For personnel, describe roles. For equipment, software, and other items, provide an explanation for why it is needed, how it will be used, and cost

4). References Cited

- Maximum of two single-spaced pages

5). Biographical Sketch (two-page maximum)

- Provide a two-page biographical sketch/cv that includes Education, Professional Appointments, Evidence of Scholarship (relevant refereed journal articles, book chapters, books, etc.), and Significant Accomplishments, Honors, Awards, and/or Service Contributions

6). Current and Pending Support

Internal Funding:

- List **all current and pending** internal research support
- For each entry, including the following: Title, Funding Source, Role, Amount Requested, Amount awarded, Project Period
- Identify scholarly products resulting from internal awards

External Funding:

- List **all current and pending** external research funding
- For each entry, include the following: Title, Funding Source, Role, Amount Requested, Amount Awarded, Project Period
- Preceded project title with an **asterisk (*)** if this funding was a result of prior internal support

Submit Your Completed Application

Review your application carefully. Once you have completed the application form and obtained signatures, combine all application components into a PDF and send the complete packet to Cynthia Jobe at jobec@umsl.edu no later than **11:00 PM on Feb 16, 2024**.

INCOMPLETE AND UNSIGNED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED OR FUNDED

Review Criteria

Complete applications will be evaluated for merit by the Spring Research Committee of the UMSL Faculty Senate. The committee will provide a ranked list of applications and funding recommendations to the Vice Chancellor for Research based on the quality of the proposals and review scores. The VCR will make awards based on the committee's recommendations and available funds.

Clarity and Persuasiveness (10%)

- The extent to which the proposal is comprehensive to scholars in multiple disciplines, some of whom may not be experts in the applicant's field of study

Significance and Intellectual Merit (30%)

- Significance of the work to the applicant's career and to the field
- The extent to which the research addresses a key gap or need or the extent to which the project is creative or novel

Approach (30%)

- Clearly defined aims or project goals and research methods or creative approach including realistic timeline and project roles
- The extent to which the applicant and team possesses the expertise to accomplish the proposed project
- Expected outcomes

Potential to Lead to External Funding (25%)

- Potential of the work to lead to external funding and improvement of the applicant's position to compete for external funding

Budget (5%)

- The extent to which the applicant justifies proposed costs