



Provost Scholarship Development Award
Fall 2023

PURPOSE

- To provide monetary support for research and scholarship development.
- Funds are intended to:
 - Generate preliminary data or activity that leads to external funding or expand the scope of a currently funded project.
 - Enhance the competitiveness for resubmission proposals considered highly meritorious but previously unfunded.
 - Support junior faculty and established investigators in the pursuit of new research or creative scholarly inquiry.
 - Support cross-disciplinary teams of faculty in their efforts to prepare competitive proposals for multi-investigator grants.
 - Positively impact teaching or student learning.

ELIGIBILITY

Principal investigators must be tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, or staff. Non-tenure track faculty (fixed-term, adjunct, and/or visiting professors) are eligible to serve as a co-principal investigator with a tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, or staff member as the lead principal investigator.

AWARD TYPES AND AMOUNTS

Large Grants: 1-2 awards anticipated for amounts up to \$10,000 and up to \$15,000 for multi-disciplinary proposals.

Small Grants: 2-3 awards anticipated for amounts up to \$5,000 and up to \$8,000 for multi-disciplinary proposals.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grants: 1 award anticipated for an amount up to \$5,000 to support research or projects that benefit diverse scholars or populations.

KEY DATES

Application Deadline: October 1, 2023 at 11:59 pm
Announcement of Awards: November 19, 2023
Award Period: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

REVIEW PROCESS

Members of the Research Council will serve as the primary reviewers of proposals with a panel review facilitated by the Office of Research Administration. Proposals will be discussed and scored using the criteria below. The overall score for the proposal will be the average of all reviewer scores. The overall proposal scores and award recommendations will be tabulated by the panel and submitted to the Dean of the Graduate School and Research. Preference will be given to applicants who have not received either the Provost's Internal Funding Support Grant or Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award in the previous three years.

Projects that include research requiring compliance committee approvals (IRB, IACUC, IBC) will be required to obtain approvals if awarded. Protocol must be approved before funds are released.



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APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Cover page with title, following the format attached.
2. 2-page biographical sketch or resume for each key person. *Templates are available upon request.*
3. Project Narrative – maximum of 3 pages, single-spaced, minimum 10-point font
 - a. Briefly describe the proposed project in the following order:
 - i. Results from prior support – If applicable, describe results from internally supported research activities. Include the source, amount, and date of funding. Also indicate if this is a new line of research or if this is related to prior supported research.
 - ii. Purpose – Brief project description.
 - iii. Significance – How is this research/project significant in the field.
 - iv. Plan of Activities – Research/project plan that includes a timeline for the 2-month project period. The timeline must account for compliance committee approval if the research/project requires IRB, IACUC, and/or IBC approval.
 - v. Expected Outcomes.
 - vi. Impact on teaching or student learning at WCU.
 - vii. Impact on specific funding opportunities or how this funding will help expand the scope of a currently funded project. Include specific examples of targeted external opportunities or agencies and their deadlines.
 - b. A bibliography is not required but may be included. Bibliography does not count against the 3-page limit.
4. Budget – using the attached template.
 - a. Budget period: 12 months. No extensions will be granted.
 - b. Personnel expenses are limited to non-faculty temporary/part-time employees or summer salary and fringe for 9-month faculty.
5. Documentation of approval from Department Head/Unit Director.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A report of expenditures, activity, and outcomes will be required at the end of each semester. Recipients will be asked to share the results of their award via an interview with the Office of Research Administration that will be shared through campus media.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION PACKAGE AS ONE PDF DOCUMENT TO:

https://wcu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6LKqdC85Nugojli

QUESTIONS?

For any questions or for more information, please contact:

Office of Research Administration

Kloo Hansen, Director

kchansen@wcu.edu

828-227-2010



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SCORING CRITERIA

Scoring will be based upon the following five criteria:

1. Significance of the research/project: How important is the project and how will others in the field find it important?
2. Quality of research/project plan: Are the researchers/coordinators using appropriate methods? Is a detailed plan presented for conducting the project, performing the study, collecting and analyzing data, and interpreting results? Are any components missing?
3. Expected outcomes and direct impact on WCU: Describe the expected results of the research or project and how the outcome will directly enhance WCU. Will students be educated in the process of completing this project? Will faculty and/or students present results at conferences or performances? Will journal articles be written? Is funding appropriate in the budget to support these activities?
4. Impact on acquiring / enhancing external funding: Will the research or project provide preliminary data or outcomes needed to be competitive in the pursuit of external funding? What specific funding source(s) is targeted? If external funds are obtained, what impact will this have on WCU (indirect benefit)?
5. Qualifications of the investigators, partnerships, and facilities: Are the key personnel qualified to perform the proposed research or project? Are additional collaborators needed? Are appropriate facilities and laboratory equipment available to complete the work?