



The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research

and

The University Research Committee

are pleased to announce for Fall 2018

**The Request for Intramural Research and Creative Endeavors Award Proposals**

**Deadline for Application: October 1, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Award notification will occur not later than November 1, 2018.**

**Grant funding period: November 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019.**

**Note:** Funding for Intramural Grants is dependent upon budget status and availability of funds. The University Research Committee makes this application available in advance of formal approval of funding to allow faculty time to write their proposal and to allow funding of those proposals as soon as funds are allocated.

**Institutional Review Board (Human Subjects Protection) Consideration:** In order to expedite the process, faculty are encouraged to submit IRB applications to college representatives concurrent with Intramural Research and Creative Endeavor Award application submissions.



## **Intramural Awards for Faculty Research and Creative Endeavors Overview**

Purpose: The purpose of the Midwestern State University Intramural Faculty Research and Creative Endeavor Award is to assist faculty members in conducting well-defined and purposeful scholarly activities, including research and creative endeavors that contribute to professional growth and enhance the programs of the University. Activities must pertain to the faculty member's discipline or disciplines in the case of interdisciplinary work, and result in a product that will be disseminated in a professional public venue (exhibition, publication, presentation, etc.).

Eligibility and funding limits: All full-time, ranked faculty at Midwestern State University are eligible to apply. The maximum funding for research activities is \$5,000. Requests for significant equipment required for research or creative production may be included in excess of \$5,000, but should not exceed \$7,500 in total. Types of projects funded include basic and applied research, as well as significant artistic creation, production, or performance. Grant funds may be requested for student wages, purchase of equipment, travel, library resources, appropriate supplies, secretarial or other professional aid, and other items and services (e.g. submission fees, publication page costs, and reprints). Grant money cannot be used to assist in course work toward obtaining an advanced degree (including thesis and dissertation), for taking courses, for general travel experience, or for travel when correspondence, telephone communication, or Internet-based communication would serve. Routine course development and faculty release time will not be funded with MSU Internal Faculty Grant Awards.

University rights: Title to all permanent materials and equipment purchased with MSU funds rests with Midwestern State University. Current MSU policy will prevail to answer questions regarding intellectual property rights for research or creative productions resulting from projects supported by MSU funds. If the grant recipient's official employment at MSU terminates during the award period, the MSU grant terminates on the same day.

Adjudication of Proposals: Complete proposals will be read and ranked by members of the University Research Committee. Incomplete proposals will not be ranked. Evaluation and awards will be made on the basis of intellectual and creative merit, and adherence to application guidelines. Moreover, the clarity and quality of the written text will be important considerations in ranking.

Membership of the University Research Committee: The committee reports to Dr. Kathryn Zuckweiler, Dean of the Graduate School and Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research, who convenes and chairs the sessions. Each College appoints a member to serve as the representative to the committee. Appointments are made at the beginning of the Fall semester.



Office of Sponsored Programs and Research

and

University Research Committee

Fall 2018

Request for Proposals for

## **Intramural Faculty Research and Creative Endeavors Awards**

### **Application Guidelines**

1. **Deadline:** Applications are due in electronic format to the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research (OSPR) via email as an attachment at: [sponsoredprograms@mwsu.edu](mailto:sponsoredprograms@mwsu.edu) not later than October 1, 2018 at 5 P.M.
2. **Format:** PDF or Microsoft Word documents and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets will be accepted. The application must be double-spaced and should use the Times New Roman font (12 point). The Faculty Research/Creative Endeavors Grant Application Narrative shall not exceed 10 pages; however, the bio sketch(es) and the intramural budget spreadsheet are excluded from the page count. Margins should be at least 0.5 inches. **Proposals that do not adhere to the application guidelines will not be considered for funding.** Application guidelines and templates can be downloaded from the [OSPR Fall 2018 Intramural Grant website](#).
3. To aid in the thorough evaluation of your proposal by committee members outside your field please ensure that language within the application is jargon-free and clear to readers.
4. **Two categories of funding are available:** Faculty are eligible to apply for:
  - (a) research/creative endeavor funding (limit \$5,000); or
  - (b) research-related equipment funding (limit \$5,000); or
  - (c) both categories of funding (limit \$7,500).

In this manner, one application will be submitted and the researcher may request funds for research/project-related equipment at the same time as requesting research support.

5. **Funding Priorities:** Internal grant funds are intended to support faculty early in their research trajectory, to leverage prospects for external funding, to foster innovation, and to support institutional goals. In all cases, applicant will **identify MSU Strategic Goals** that align with the elements of the research proposal. Although all research proposals will be considered, priority will be given to (a) early career applicants, (b) applicants who will leverage this funding to seek future external funding, (c) applicants seeking funding for an interdisciplinary project, and/or (d) faculty with more than five years of service at MSU initiating a new line of research. **Faculty members who seek to meet one or more of the funding priorities must make a strong case for such in their applications.**
- a. **Senior Faculty:** Faculty with more than five years of service at Midwestern State University that propose to initiate a new line of research or creative endeavor.
  - b. **Early career applicants:** Faculty within the first five years of a tenure-track appointment at Midwestern State University and who articulate the role this funding will play in their growth as a faculty member.
  - c. **Leveraging of Award:** Faculty who state an intention to leverage internal funds by conducting research to strengthen future applications for external funding. Individuals seeking this funding priority will describe plans for seeking external funding and identify potential funding sources.
  - d. **Interdisciplinary applicants:** Faculty co-investigators who propose innovative projects collaborating with two or more disciplines across departments and/or colleges.
6. Faculty may apply for funding of (a) research/creative endeavor funds, which would fund supplies, student wages, travel, and/or expected publication costs, or (b) research-related equipment funds, defined as equipment, software, or online databases with a cost of \$500 or greater necessary to conduct research. (Note: For clarification on research-related equipment, see Fiscal Regulations and Procedures Policy number 5-21 Higher Education Assistance Fund (HEAF). These guidelines will be used for determining eligibility of equipment). Please identify these different categories on the project summary. **When purchasing equipment above \$500, include quotes for the equipment/software/databases with the project application.** Faculty may not apply for release time.
7. Research is expected to be completed by August 31, 2019. With committee approval and notification of acceptance to present, awardees may have the opportunity to extend the time frame for presentation of research findings/creative endeavor presentations through **January 31, 2020.** Requests for extension may not be submitted before May 1, 2019.
8. A **Final Report** of the research/creative endeavor is due in the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research not later than September 30, 2019. The report is to be submitted

electronically to [sponsoredprograms@mwsu.edu](mailto:sponsoredprograms@mwsu.edu). A template for the report is available here: [OSPR Fall 2018 Intramural Awards website](#).

9. Award Frequency: The following are guidelines for the frequency of intramural grant awards:
  - a. To be considered for intramural grants, each faculty principal investigator must submit an application for an Intramural Research and Creative Endeavors Award to the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research by the deadline specified in the call for proposals. It is the principal investigator's responsibility to ensure that the application is complete and submitted by the deadline.
  - b. Intramural Research and Creative Endeavor Awards provide seed money for faculty initiating a new line of research or creative endeavor (new topic or extension of existing stream of inquiry). Faculty may be funded for up to two awards on substantially similar projects, however the second application must clearly describe the unique aspects that differentiate the second application from the first. Applications that do not clearly differentiate the projects and/or represent a third or subsequent request for a similar project will not be considered for funding.
  - c. **Faculty may be funded for up to two awards in a rolling five-year window representing the most recent five years.** Faculty who use an intramural grant as seed money to produce a major output or obtain significant external funding will have their five-year clock reset and are eligible to apply for intramural grants in the year following the major output or receipt of external funding.
  - d. Faculty who accept an Intramural Research and Creative Endeavor Award must submit a **final report** to the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research by the deadline stated in the award letter. Faculty who do not submit a final report by the deadline will not be eligible to apply for new funding until the award cycle following submission of the final report.



### **Description of Application Packet Materials Required**

1. Project summary sheet (see form on the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research website) that includes an abstract;
2. Bio sketch for primary investigator, and any co-investigators if applicable, to include (limit all bio sketches to two pages):
  - a. Education
  - b. Academic rank
  - c. Academic Experience (include years in each position)
  - d. Peer-reviewed publications relevant to the subject of the grant application
  - e. Peer-reviewed presentations relevant to the subject of the grant application
  - f. Funded projects and grants
3. Purpose/aims of the research/creative endeavor;
4. Research question(s) and/or hypothesis(es) and/or creative endeavor outcome: State the research question(s) and/or hypothesis(es) to be examined through this project or describe the outcome anticipated from a creative endeavor;
5. Justification of the importance of the project, including (i) alignment with MSU goals (available here: [MSU Strategic Plan](#)) and (ii) support for the faculty member's research trajectory;
6. Funding priorities: If applying for funding priorities outlined in Item Four of the grant guidelines, describe applicability of these guidelines; up to two categories may be invoked. Please provide rationale as to why your proposal should be given priority. If not applying for a funding priority, leave this section of the proposal empty;
7. Literature review with substantive citations/references in MLA, APA, or other discipline-specific format;
8. Research design and methodology: Clearly describe the design and methodology to be used in the research/creative endeavor;
9. Protection of human subjects/animals (if applicable to the project): Clearly describe methods for protection of human subjects or animals and state plans for attaining IRB or IACUC approval if required.

10. Budget justification: The budget information must be entered into the required intramural budget spreadsheet template, which can be found here: [OSPR Fall 2018 Intramural Awards website](#). In the proposal narrative, clearly explain all budget expenditures, and include quotes for equipment greater than \$500, as an appendix to the application (quotes from vendors and the budget spreadsheet are not counted in page limit). Differentiate between (i) the research budget and/or (ii) the research equipment budget. Use State of Texas travel rates available at: [State Travel Rates](#);
11. Timeline for the project, by month, with completion of the project not later than August 31, 2019.
12. Specific plans for dissemination of the findings of the project, including the Spring 2019 or Spring 2020 Celebration of Scholarship; and
13. Description of other university funding and how it relates to the project described in this application.
14. **Signatures from the dean and department chair** indicating their knowledge of and support for the proposed project.
15. **Language within the application must be jargon-free and clear to readers outside your field.**