REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)
2021-2022 FACULTY RESEARCH INCENTIVE AWARD PROGRAM

Application Deadline: Saturday, July 31, 2021, 5:00 p.m. Pacific time

WRPI is requesting applications for funding for the 2021-2022 academic year. The purpose of the WRPI Faculty Research Incentive Award Program is to provide funding for CSU faculty members to develop and submit full proposals to external funding agencies and organizations for water-related research and educational projects.

Applications to develop full proposals on any fundable topic are eligible, provided they seek to advance knowledge of California’s water-related issues and the processes that affect them. In accepting an award, a Principal Investigator (PI) commits to develop and submit a full proposal for external funding through their host campus research office. The due date is July 31, 2021.

ELIGIBILITY
All CSU assistant, associate and full professors are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to assistant and associate professors.

SUPPORT PROVIDED
WRPI anticipates making multiple awards for the 2021-2022 academic year, contingent upon continued funding. This document serves as the RFA for Spring and Fall 2021 semesters. Funding is provided based on the system-wide Minimum Annual Rate for Assistant Professor/Lecturer B. Currently, this rate is $2,018 per semester weighted teaching unit (WTU) and $1,346 per quarter WTU. Benefits are not included. Funds will be transferred to the award recipient’s College through a Cash Posting Order (CPO) and managed by the respective Dean. Office Awards are not subject to campus indirect costs (facilities and administrative fees1) or any other type of fees from any source.

Each individual PI applicant may request funding for assigned time, overload, summer pay, or paid student interns equivalent to one course (nominally up to 4 semester WTUs or 6 quarter WTUs). Collaborators may request funding for different academic terms in the 2021-2022 academic year if it is demonstrated that each PI will do the proposed work during the respective semesters/quarters.

1 Provisional Guidance on Allowability of Indirect (F&A) Costs on CSU Internal Grant Proposals: Grants issued from CSU lottery funds, student fees (including State University fees) or other legislatively appropriated funds, as a result of a competition within the CSU, shall not be subject to indirect/F&A costs. Indirect cost will not be allowed as a grant-funded expense in proposals submitted in response to RFPs from programs that receive the majority of their support from student/university fee revenue or lottery funds. However, the F&A foregone at the campus/auxiliary’s federally negotiated off-campus rate may be shown as cost match on the proposal. This amount may also be used by the auxiliary or enterprise fund as an offset to the university’s cost allocation plan, in accordance with EO 753/1000.
and that a proposal for external funding is submitted within twelve (12) months of the start of the award.

**REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS**

Recipients of awards are to use their funding to develop full proposals to external funding agencies or organizations that will seek to advance knowledge of California’s water-related issues and the processes that affect them. Proposals may cover a wide variety of topics related to water that are aligned with the WRPI mission; infrastructure (including electronic) or equipment that would help WRPI realize its goals; enhanced faculty professional development; and/or enhanced student learning.

Recipients must submit full proposals to external funding sources within twelve (12) months of the beginning of the academic term in which the assigned time is received. Submission of letters of intent, preliminary proposals, and pre-proposals will not fulfill this requirement. *Recipients will not be eligible to apply for WRPI funding again until this requirement is met.* As a condition of award, recipients agree to provide a brief progress report of their related activities within 12 months of award. Recipients also agree to notify WRPI of any awards resulting from the Faculty Research Incentive Award.

- Individual applicants may only submit one request for funding in response to this RFA.
- Recipients may not receive more than one award per academic year.
- Awards will not be given to individuals to write or complete manuscripts.
- Assigned time, summer pay, overburden, and/or paid student interns, if awarded, MUST be utilized during the 2021-2022 academic year. Awards cannot be deferred.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Applications are to be submitted via the Qualtrics link provided [http://csusb.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0Nx5HpgdigmVNwG](http://csusb.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0Nx5HpgdigmVNwG). Applicants must also upload the signature sheet signed by any additional PIs, their Chair(s), and Dean(s). **Applications are due by 5:00pm Pacific time July 31, 2021.** Applications received after the deadline will be considered only if funding is still available.

Successful applications will clearly demonstrate understanding and support of the WRPI mission, goals, and objectives. The external sponsor to whom the full proposal will be directed must be identified and detail provided on the specific program to be targeted, the projected submission date, and evidence of sponsor interest in the research/educational project proposed.

The application must be signed electronically by the primary PI. The signature page pdf must be completed by the primary PI, printed, and signed by Department Chair and Dean, as well as additional PIs. The primary PI will upload the signed signature pdf as part of the Qualtrics application.

**Application Format:** The application is an online Qualtrics form, including the following elements:
1) Basic Application Information
Title, targeted funding agency information, the contact and status information for each PI, assigned time/summer pay/overburden/paid student intern request (number of WTUs requested; note if these are semester or quarter units).

2) Signature Sheet
Summary of application with contact information and authorized signature of each PI’s Dean and Chair. Each PI must also sign this sheet. If a PI is not requesting WRPI funding, that PI should still complete the information and include a CV, but authorized campus officials’ signatures are not needed. Signed forms must be scanned and uploaded as part of the Qualtrics application.

3) Narrative (Please follow word count maximum):
Describe the proposed activity for which the assigned time funding is requested. A strong application will clearly indicate the significance of the project and how submission of a full proposal will be facilitated by the WRPI award. Note that these elements comprise the evaluation criteria (point value provided in parentheses). The overall qualifications of the applicants will also be considered.

- **Intellectual Merit and Need (30 points, 300 words):** Within the context of previous work on this topic, describe the purpose of, need for, and originality of the proposed activity and how it fulfills the mandate of WRPI. Indicate whether this project breaks new ground or is part of continuing activity. Clarify the nature of each participant’s contribution to the project, making clear how the collaboration, if applicable, will increase the scope or significance of the proposed project and its contribution to the discipline.

- **Multiple CSU Campus and Department Collaborations (25 points, 200 words):** Explain how the proposed work will strengthen WRPI and collaboration among CSU campuses, if applicable. Collaborative applications involving faculty from multiple CSU campuses that promote interdisciplinary, integrative research and/or educational initiatives and that include regional and disciplinary diversity are preferred. Projects including collaboration with University of California campuses will also be scored favorably. If the application is from a single CSU, interdisciplinary projects utilizing multiple departments are encouraged. A maximum of only 20 points will be allowed if there is no collaboration with another CSU campus.

- **Potential for Student Involvement in Research (15 points, 200 words):** Describe the nature and extent of involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the project.

- **Justification for Use of Funding (10 points, 100 words):** Provide an explanation of why the assigned time, summer pay, overburden, or student employee is necessary for the development of the full proposal. Include a brief work plan describing the specific activities in which the PI or PIs will engage. Include timelines and justify the feasibility of meeting designated goals within the prescribed timelines.

- **Targeted Funding Agency (10 points, 100 words):** Describe the likelihood of funding of proposed project based on focus of agency and past funding of similar projects.

4) CVs/ Qualifications of the Applicants (10 points): A 2-page (maximum) curriculum vitae (CV) must be included for each PI. CVs should include appropriate research and education histories covering at least the last three years.

The maximum possible for any single application is 100 points.

**SUBMISSION DETAILS:**
Submission Deadline: Saturday, July 31, 2021, 5:00 p.m. Pacific time.
Applications received after the deadline will be considered only if funding is still available. Notifications of awards will be made by August 31, 2021.

For further information contact:

Miranda Moore
Program Administrative Coordinator
Miranda.moore@csusb.edu