

Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants

[Up to \$40,000 total for one year]

Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants are intended for new and existing research collaborators across University of Nebraska campuses to generate preliminary data critical to extramural research proposal submission. Collaborators must have confirmed that their topic fits the objectives of an extramural funding agency. These grants should enable teams to:

- 1) Identify knowledge and expertise gaps that must be addressed prior to submission of a competitive application for extramural research funding;
- 2) Generate proof-of-concept or other preliminary data to support grant applications;
- 3) Prepare and submit an application for extramural research funding.

Faculty who have not received extramural research funding (as either a PI or Co-PI) are eligible to serve as the lead PI on either Team Formation and Publication Grants or Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants; however, one of the Co-PIs on the application must be grant-active and willing to serve as a research mentor to the team. In the event one of the PIs has not received extramural research funding, a brief mentoring plan must be included.

Team Seed Grant

[Up to \$150,000 total over two years]

Team Seed Grants are designed to enhance research collaborations among faculty that have previously collaborated (even if modestly so). Team members providing core leadership for the team must have individual records of extramurally funded research as a PI or Co-PI. Addition of new team members to fill gaps in expertise is encouraged. Teams receiving these grants are expected to prepare and submit applications for extramural funding as described in their proposal. Applicants should request seed grant funding proportional to that available from the extramural program from which they will eventually seek support. The purpose of this grant type is to establish a collaborative research team that is actively generating knowledge/preliminary data to enhance competitiveness of the team for extramural funding from a federal funding agency or foundation.

General Eligibility (all grant types) Assistant, Associate, Full Professor and equivalent rank research faculty employed by any University of Nebraska campus are eligible to submit funding applications as the PI and participate as Co-PIs. Assistant, Associate, or Full Professors of Practice that are members of the Graduate Faculty are eligible to serve as Co-PIs. Faculty may serve as the lead PI on a seed grant.



Collaboration Requirements Proposals will not be considered for funding unless meaningful multi-campus and appropriate disciplinary collaborations are documented by one University of Nebraska campus (UNK, UNL, UNMC and UNO) must identify at least one collaborator affiliated with another campus; if appropriate because of unique expertise/resource availability, additional collaborations with researchers at other institutions are allowed. Funding for collaborators outside the University of Nebraska system will not typically be allowed, unless they provide a billable service to the project. Collaborations are to be driven by mutual interest and disciplinary expertise needs.

Retreat A retreat to facilitate multi-campus collaborations will be held on Friday, October 30, 2020 via Zoom. Potential PI/team leaders wishing to be eligible for funding must participate unless special dispensation is granted. Potential team members (PIs/CoPIs) former and current Collaboration Initiative grantees and others looking to participate on research teams are strongly encouraged to attend. Retreat participants also will be expected to formally discuss their potential research projects with other retreat attendees within a small group and be receptive to engaging other collaborators. Discussions will be facilitated by faculty leaders and research administrators.

Deadlines

Retreat Registration

Register by Friday, October 16, 2020.

Submission of Applications:

Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. Central Time on Monday, January 11, 2021, via the <https://nuramp.nebraska.edu> website.

Application Format and Content Applications (including references, tables, and figures) must not exceed the page limits specified for the grant type. Font size must be 12 points or larger and margins must be at least one inch on all four sides. A title or signature page is not required. Proposals will only be accepted when submitted through the <https://nuramp.nebraska.edu> website. Consult the grants or research office on your campus for more information. In addition, by submitting (or administratively approving) an application, each campus certifies that named PIs, CoPIs and the campus itself agrees to waive all rights of access to the identity of any person who may conduct internal or external peer evaluations of their application. Each application shall have the following components:

³ Meaningful collaborations should be evident from the proposal's budget justification and be suitable for the planned contribution of the coPI.

⁴ The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) is part of the UNL campus.



Online text entry for:

- < Application Title
- < Grant Type
- < PI Contact Information
- < CoPI(s)
- < Non-Disclosure Agreement Request
- < Abstract/Summary (not to exceed 300 words)
- < Total Funds Requested
- < Budget
- < Budget Justification
- < (Up to) Five primary aims/goals/objectives
- < Seed Grants Only Contact Information for six potential external reviewers

Project Description and CVs (uploaded as a single PDF document)

[Team Formation and Publication Grants](#) or [Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants](#) Three pages maximum (not including CVs, but including all references, tables, and figures) with the following elements:

- < Research area(s)

[Team Formation and Publication Grants](#)

Describe the research area, questions to be addressed, and how the team intends to interact with potential funding agencies and program leaders to verify that their research question(s) are aligned with specific funding programs.

[Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants](#)

Describe the research area, questions to be addressed, and an eventual extramural funding application (including their significance, innovation, and impact), and how any expertise gaps will be identified and addressed. Also note how the team verified that their



Describe any existing collaborations, how they will be strengthened, and how new Co-PIs will be integrated into the research team. Include a management plan that describes how the PI will manage the project and the research team to ensure timely completion of the proposed studies, impactful and meaningful data acquisition, data sharing, data management, and quality evaluation/accountability. Include a process for making key decisions and managing conflict

- < CVs: Include CVs for each PI/Co-PI. Follow an approved format used by a federal funding agency or foundation (the same format must be used for all CVs).

Budget

Complete the online budget and budget justification forms. Personnel expenses aggregated on the budget form must be justified individually.

- < F&A costs are not allowed.
- < Allowable expenses include support for technicians or undergraduate students and stipends for graduate research assistants (GRAs), publication costs, or equipment. Tuition remission and health insurance for GRAs are allowable expenses. Funds from this program must not be used for construction, renovation, administrative assistance, or release time for teaching.
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as a PI/CoPI in the past three years; co-publishing articles with fewer than 20 co-authors in the past three years (including submitted manuscripts and pending publications); collaborating on projects within the past three years (including current and planned collaborations); having an existing personal/professional/consulting/financial relationship or all thesis or postdoctoral advisees/advisors

General Criteria for Evaluation Applications will first be screened to determine if all RFA guidelines have been met, including (but not limited to) retreat participation, general eligibility, formatting, collaboration requirements, and budget amounts

Team Formation and Publication Grants

Applications that meet stated RFA submission criteria will receive at least four reviews from within the University of Nebraska system. Grant reviewers will be asked to rate applications to determine the potential for the PI/CoPIs to build research teams that will actively seek and ultimately receive extramural funding. Applications will be scored as follows:

- a) Plan to interact with potential funding agencies/foundations (20 points);
- b) Justification of the proposed approach and evidence that the completed work plan will help the PI/CoPIs align their research question(s) with funding agency/foundation priorities (30 points);
- c) Strategy to identify expertise needed to build collaborations, prepare publication(s) and prepare competitive extramural research applications (30 points);
- d) Timetable (15 points); and
- e) Budget adequate to support the work plan (5 points).

Reviewers also will be asked to provide an evaluative summary. Final funding decisions will be made by the Vice Provost and the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Preliminary Data and Application Preparation Grants

Applications that meet stated RFA submission criteria will receive at least four reviews from within the University of Nebraska system. Grant reviewers will be asked to rate applications to determine the potential for the PI/CoPIs to ultimately receive extramural funding. Applications will be scored as follows:

- a) Justification/description of research significance, innovation and impact (5 points);
- b) Evidence of research question(s) in alignment to priorities of an existing extramural funding opportunity (2 points);
- c) Justification of approach/work plan that will enhance an extramural research application (35 points);
- d) Meaningful collaborations/roles/responsibilities defined for PI/CoPIs (5 points);
- e) Budget and facilities adequate to support the plan of work (5 points); and
- f) Realistic and achievable timetable (5 points).

Reviewers also will be asked to provide an evaluative summary. Final funding decisions will be made by the Vice Provost and the Executive Vice President and Provost.



Seed Grants

For those applications that meet the RFA submission criteria, at least two external reviews will be solicited. Reviewers will be asked to evaluate seed grant applications using a 100-point scale as follows

- a) Justification/description of research significance, innovation and impact (50 points);
- b) Evidence of research question(s) alignment to priorities of an existing extramural funding opportunity (20 points);
- c) Justification of approach/work plan that will enhance an extramural research application (35 points);
- d) Meaningful collaborations/roles/responsibilities defined for PI/Cg 0o G [()] TJ E3TJ E G [(re W

