

2017 - 2018
Auburn University Intramural Grants Program (IGP)
Guidance

I. The purpose of the program:

The Intramural Grants Program (IGP) is a comprehensive and coordinated competitive grant program that is committed to the advancement of knowledge through basic and applied research, to the enrichment of society through creative initiatives, to promoting faculty research in all disciplines, and recognizing that scholarly activity can take different forms across disciplines. It is designed to support faculty in becoming competitive in securing external funding and sponsorship. Supported projects are expected to result in appropriate scholarly products that will increase the national and international recognition of the awardees, their programs, and the university.

IGP funding is to be viewed as a source of funds to help faculty remain engaged in their disciplines and to contribute new knowledge through programs of scholarship. Funding from the program is intended to provide additional internal resources to help faculty pursue a broader array of professional activities, including the initiation, stimulation or partial funding of a research project. Funding is not intended to be an ongoing source of funding for faculty research and scholarship projects.

Fundamentally, we begin with a premise or assumption that scholarship is work that advances knowledge. Scholarly activity could involve the collection of original data (through interviews, surveys or other methods); the production of new knowledge, or involve undertaking empirical or theoretical investigation; the analysis of data; reviewing, analyzing, and/or translating/interpreting original texts or objects of art or antiquity; creation of an original work, or innovative applications of design and technology. While final products might vary, in the broadest sense a proposal for funding needs to be clear to reviewers both within and outside the discipline. Keep in mind the following as you write your proposal:

- **Craft a statement of significance/impact:** Is there a creative opportunity or a gap in the literature, or an unanswered research question. Frame the topic to convey its importance, or urgency and its impact.
- **Describe your approach to the work:** Describe how you are qualified to conduct the work and why your approach is appropriate. If your work involves travel, explain why it is critical to your endeavor.
- **Discuss the outcomes of the work:** Aspires to and demonstrates action toward a peer reviewed or juried product appropriate to the field - for example: a published article, book chapter, or book; a conference presentation and article; a performance and/or recording of the presented work; a finished result of creative work and gallery, museum or professional presentation.

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- Applicants should keep in mind that members of the Review Committee represent a variety of disciplines from across the university. Therefore, applicants must write their proposals without excessive jargon and in a style that is clear to reviewers who are not experts in the specified area.

The IGP focuses on enhancing the reputation of Auburn University and leveraging extramural funding. It is composed of four types of grants: the Seed Grant, the Cyber Research Grant*, the Innovative Research Grant, and the Good to Great Grant.

II. Principal Investigator Terminology:

Auburn University encourages multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborations and places accountability and responsibility for the research project on the Principal Investigator (PI).

To avoid confusion of terminology, the IGP uses the term PI strictly for the leading principal investigator, i.e., the first name on the grant application. All other investigators on an application will be regarded as co-investigators (co-Is). The term co-PI will not be used for the IGP, with the exception of an extreme situation in which two applicants on one proposal share absolutely equal responsibilities. In this case, the term co-PI can be used to describe both investigators; both co-PIs will be subject to the PI eligibility criteria and must provide a description of how joint administration of the project will work.

The PI must meet the following general eligibility criteria as well as criteria specific to each of the IGP grant categories. These requirements do not apply to co-Is.

For all grant categories: PI eligibility follows the institutional requirements set forth in the University's Statement of Principal Investigator Eligibility. Each eligible applicant may submit two applications in a year providing one is an application for a "Good to Great" grant.

III. Grant Categories:

Seed Grant

Innovative Research Grant

Cyber Research Grant*

"Good to Great" Grant

* New this year offered with additional funding in conjunction with the IGP.