**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

*The Research Support Program is a strategically focused investment strategy that promotes promising and impactful new lines of research as well as the growth of collaborative and/or interdisciplinary teams to build the foundations of science, to overcome scientific and societal challenges and to promote and enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of individuals, groups, and communities.*

This program is intended to be an annual cycle funding program to foster the development and growth of innovative and transformational research activities. The RSP builds on faculty expertise, stimulates interdisciplinary collaborations, and strengthens seed research activities. Research activities supported by the RSP will enhance the visibility and recognition of Auburn University as well as have a strong potential to attract extramural funding for sustained research efforts. Investing in RSP supports the University’s strategic plan by elevating scholarly impact, investing in outstanding people who advance the university’s mission, and providing an elevated Auburn experience for our students.

The RSP funding opportunity includes the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines as well as the medical, life, health, and social sciences. However, collaborative roles with creative work and social impact scholarship disciplines are also strongly encouraged. Teams developing these types of submissions should determine whether the proposal fits more with RSP or with CWSIS and submit to the best fitting program area.  Interdisciplinary research proposals submitted to the RSP may have funding/resource needs outside of typical RSP proposals.  Collaborative teams should consult with the ADR’s associated with their colleges/schools for input and guidance.

\* With this background it is important to note that The OVPRED will fund external reviews for up to five (5) proposals from each constituent school or college that participates in the intramural award programs (i.e., across RSP and CWSIS combined). In addition, the OVPRED will fund ten (10) proposals from both the CWSIS Program and the RSP Program in toto, not per program.

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY**

Eligibility follows the [*University's Statement of Principal Investigator Eligibility.*](https://cws.auburn.edu/shared/files?id=159&filename=eligibility.pdf)

Each eligible faculty member may serve as a PI on only one grant (CWSIS or RSP) per year but can serve as a co-I on an unlimited number of grants. The submission of additional proposals from a PI is not allowed while they lead an ongoing CWSIS or RSP project (e.g., if a PI is leading a two-year RSP grant, they cannot apply for another CWSIS or RSP grant in the second year of the existing grant, even if all other requirements are met).

A PI is eligible to apply for an RSP or CWSIS Grant during the upcoming funding cycle if:

* + the PI has not received an RSP or CWSIS grant within the last three years or
  + the PI has received an RSP or CWSIS grant within the last three years, but that project will be concluded by the start of the upcoming funding cycle, and they have submitted one or more grant proposals to an extramural source(s).

Exceptions or modifications to PI eligibility for a specific project will be determined by reviewing ADRs.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OVPRED) announces the Fall 2021 call for proposals for the RSP Pilot 2 Program. **Proposals are due by 4:45 p.m. on January 10, 2022.** Proposals will undergo a thorough internal evaluation conducted by ADRs and their faculty review teams. Applicants recommended to proceed to the external review phase will have a 1.5-week revision period before proposals are forwarded to the external reviewers.

Funding for all RSP grants is for a two-year period. Successful awards are contingent upon a 1:1 required match from the college/school/department.

**Click here for** [**RS**](https://cws.auburn.edu/ovpr/pm/RSP/home)**P information.**

For additional assistance, please contact Dr. Bob Holm (programmatic assistance; [rzh0021@auburn.edu](mailto:rzh0021@auburn.edu), 4-5877).

**KEY DATES**

Oct. 6, 2021 Request for Proposals Window Opens

Dec. 1, 2021 PIs email a notification of intent to apply to their ADR

Jan. 10, 2022 Proposals Due (no later than 4:45 pm)

Jan. 13, 2022 – Feb. 14, 2022 Proposal Review

Feb. 17, 2022 – Feb. 28, 2022 Selected Applicants Revision Period

March 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022 External Review Period

April 1, 2022 – April 8, 2022 ADR Final Review Period

Late April 2022 OVPRED will finalize and approve funding decisions; final decisions will be emailed to lead PIs