DEAN'S RESEARCH INCENTIVE AWARD
Instructions to Applicants

Purpose
The purpose of the **Dean's Research Incentive Award (DRIA)** is to enhance research activity in the Neag School of Education. The program is open to Neag faculty who will use the funds for seed projects that facilitate acquisition of external funding. Successful applications will promote, support, and enhance the research, scholarship, and creative endeavors of Neag faculty with priority given to those showing the greatest promise for future external funding.

To incentivize faculty engagement in interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary efforts, we are accepting only proposals that involve a multi-disciplinary team, with a Neag School principal investigator (PI) serving as the lead. The team may be all Neag faculty but must be multi-disciplinary (e.g., faculty whose work fits in different disciplines or fields). We anticipate funding up to three projects for up to $10,000 each.

PIs may use funds provided by the Dean's Research Incentive Award for expenses associated with the proposed research during the term of the award. Funds must be used to support the implementation of the research solely (e.g., data collection, participant incentives, data entry, transcriptions and/or dedicated project equipment). Funds cannot be used for faculty salary, conference attendance, or travel for other than data collection purposes. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the proposed budget with the Neag Research Office, Grants & Contracts Specialist (daniel.stolzenberg@uconn.edu), before submitting the application.

Eligibility Criteria

All full-time faculty (tenure track, in residence, research, clinical) of the Neag School of Education are eligible to apply. Previous DRIA award recipients are ineligible to apply for two years following their most recent DRIA award completion, and to be eligible, previous award recipients must demonstrate successful use of prior funds, provide evidence of having sought external funding based on their previous project, and establish that the proposed project is uniquely different from the prior project.

Application Procedures and Deadlines

Proposals must be prepared using the application form provided, which has been formatted in 12 pt font with 1-inch margins. The application must be paginated as a single document and submitted electronically as an attachment (.pdf format) to Marci.Lombardo@uconn.edu.
- Application Deadline: **March 14, 2022 (by 5:00 pm)**
- Anticipated Notification of Award: **April 29, 2022**
- Availability of Funds**: May 23, 2022 – May 22, 2023 (12 months)**

The release of funds for awarded projects will be contingent upon securing IRB approval (as appropriate). The Dean's office will retain any unexpended funds as of May 23, 2023.

Applicants are also strongly encouraged to seek funding from the OVPR's Internal Grant program.

DRIA Application Components

Applications must include the following items in the order listed and must not exceed word length and number of pages when specified:

Section I: Project Details

    a) project title;
    b) PI and other collaborators (key personnel);
    c) total amount requested;
    d) project period;
    e) abstract not to exceed 300 words (use word count to verify) and containing a statement of the objectives of the proposed project, methods to be employed, and the significance of the proposed activity;
    f) explanation of how this project is positioned as providing seed funding for the pursuit of external funding. Include the following: the funding agency and the specific program to be targeted. Why are results necessary toward pursuing external funding?

Section II: Proposed Research Narrative (5-page maximum)

Description of the *why* and *what* of the proposed research project should be provided in sufficient detail to enable review. The narrative should include each of the following elements:

    g) **Statement of Need**. What problem is this project attempting to solve, and why is it needed?
    h) **Goals and Objectives**. How do you define the specific aims of this project?
    i) **Project Activities and Outcomes.** What are you proposing to do, what are the expected outcomes, and how will you know if it has been accomplished?
    j) **Project Management.** What is the project timeline and what are the roles and responsibilities of each co-investigators?
    k) **Budget and Corresponding Budget Justification.** How much is needed across broad categories of spending, and why? Use the templates provided by the Office of the Vice-President of Research to guide preparation: https://ovpr.uconn.edu/services/sps/budget-spreadsheets-and-calculators/. Note: A statement to indicate any other funding sources related to this project (completed, current, pending), must be included.
    l) **Key Citations (not included in the 5-page maximum).**
    m) **Two-page biosketches for each PI and Co-PI (not included in the 5-page maximum).** Formatted typical of an NIH or NSF template (maximum 2-pages per PI), with biosketches included for all key personnel.

Review Procedures
A three-member committee of faculty scholars appointed by the Director of the Center for Educational Policy Analysis, Research, and Evaluation (CEPARE), in consultation with the Associated Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs, will review applications for the Dean's Research Incentive Award. The Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs or a designee will serve as Chair of the award selection committee.

Each proposal will be judged based on the quality of the application that is submitted. The committee will provide summary written feedback on proposals to support faculty development and possible resubmission for the next opportunity.

Expectations

- Awardees must agree to provide brief written updates on progress due on September 30, 2022 and February 28, 2023. Failure to provide updates at the times designated will jeopardize continued funding. PIs will also provide a final written report of grant activities within 6 months following the end of the award period. The final report should include findings of the project, impact of the work, publications submitted, and plans for external funding.
- Awardees are expected to apply for external funding and submit publications to peer-reviewed journals following project completion. Copies of publications associated with the project should be sent to the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Affairs. New applications to this competition will not be accepted if these conditions have not been met, even if two years since a last completion has passed (see eligibility criteria above).