PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND (BoRSF)

OPPORTUNITIES:

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Two Postsecondary Education Goals Framed as Equal:

- Improve the Quality of Higher Education
- Enhance Economic Development in Louisiana

Expenditures Permitted for “Any or All” of the Following:

- Carefully Defined Research Efforts
- Endowment of Chairs for Eminent Scholars
- Enhancement of the Quality of Academic, Research or Agricultural Departments or Units Within a Post-Secondary Institution
- Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students
BoRSF FUNDING PROGRAMS

Endowed Chairs
Recruiting and retaining game-changing faculty – matches private contributions to establish chairs in increments of $1 million

Recruitment of Superior Grad Students
(Endowed Grad Scholarships)
Attracting the highest quality students to Louisiana for research & study in key programs – establishes permanent endowed scholarship funds for superior students in departments with existing or prospective eminence

Research & Development
(Research Competitiveness Industrial Ties/Proof-of-Concept Awards to LA Artists & Scholars)
Building competitiveness & partnerships to contribute to fundamental knowledge and economic development – funds summer research time, student support, travel, supplies, market research studies, and equipment/supplies

Enhancement
(Departmental BoR/SREB Professorship & Two-Yr. Workforce Scholarship Endowments Federal Matching)
Foundational support for academic & research programs/units – funds instructional and research equipment and supplies, curricular redesign efforts, student experiences, visiting speakers, endowment matching, and other academic support activities.
BoRSF OPPORTUNITIES: R&D

- BoRSF supports all academic and workforce disciplines, and many types of activities
  - Approximately $175M invested in grant support via R&D programs over the life of the BoRSF
  - Other BoRSF programs provide equipment, supplies, faculty and student support, with significant impact on research activities
- Grant programs with dedicated support:
  - Research Competitiveness Subprogram (RCS)
  - Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS)
  - Proof-of-Concept/Prototyping (PoC/P)
  - Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS)
Program Goal: Help faculty near competitiveness for federal research dollars overcome barriers and secure federal funding

Eligibility: STEM disciplines, including Social Sciences; faculty not yet competitive for federal research funding or changing research directions (lesser priority)

Funding/Duration: up to $200,000 for three-year research project; up to $20,000 for one-year award with near-term federal promise; match required for equipment requests (25% of total equipment cost in cash)

Project Types: Basic and applied research linked to federal priorities for funding
FY 2021-22 RCS COMPETITION PROFILE

- 92 Proposals Received
  - $4,620,672 requested

- 30 Projects Funded
  - Total Awarded: $1,322,183 (29% of requested)

- Success Rate: 33%
INDUSTRIAL TIES (ITRS)

- **Program Goal**: Build researcher partnerships with business and industry related to LA economic development

- **Eligibility**: Advanced Manufacturing & Materials, Clean Technology & Energy, Coastal & Water Management, Digital Media & Enterprise Software, Life Sciences & Bioengineering, any other area with strong promise for short-term economic impact in LA

- **Funding/Duration**: up to $250,000 for three-year research project; industry partner match required (in-cash or in-kind) and equipment matching provision is the same as RCS

- **Project Types**: Basic or applied research related to industry needs and contributing to economic development
FY 2021-22 ITRS COMPETITION PROFILE

- 26 Proposals Received
  - $2,361,543 requested

- 6 Projects Funded
  - Total Awarded: $480,342 (20% of requested)

- Success Rate: 23%
PROOF-OF-CONCEPT/PROTOYPING (PoC/P)

- **Program Goal**: Support faculty working on commercializing research in the near term

- **Eligibility**: Advanced Manufacturing & Materials, Clean Technology & Energy, Coastal & Water Management, Digital Media & Enterprise Software, Life Sciences & Bioengineering, any other area with strong promise for short-term economic impact in LA

- **Funding/Duration**: up to $40,000 for one year; equipment matching is the same as RCS

- **Project Types**: Proof-of-concept and prototype development with commercialization/tech transfer potential
FY 2021-22 PoC/P COMPETITION PROFILE

- **12 Proposals Received**
  - $473,906 requested

- **3 Projects Funded**
  - Total Awarded: $119,998 (25% of requested)

- **Success Rate: 25%**
AWARDS TO LA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS)

- **Program Goal:** Near-term completion of major scholarly and artistic works likely to have a significant impact on the field of study or general public

- **Eligibility:** Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences

- **Funding/Duration:** up to $50,000 for one-year project

- **Project Types:** Scholarly monographs, major journal articles (primarily social sciences), gallery exhibitions, performances, recordings, catalogues, etc.
FY 2021-22 ATLAS COMPETITION PROFILE

- 50 Proposals Received
  - $2,128,102 requested

- 9 Projects Funded
  - Total Awarded: $395,550 (19% of requested)

- Success Rate: 18%
BoRSF COMPETITIVE PROCESS

1. Requests for Proposals publicly released: guidelines for submission, criteria for review, and scoring rubrics
   - July

2. Q&A Period: Webinar, Staff/Campus/PI sessions, individual questions

3. Proposal Submission

4. External Reviews: All out-of-state readers with relevant expertise and no conflicts of interest
   - January

5. Consultant reports: Assessment of proposals and funding recommendations

6. Report publication/Board action

7. Contracting (successful projects) and debriefing (unsuccessful projects)
   - May/June
DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

- **RCS, ITRS, PoC/P:**
  - Notice of Intent (mandatory): September 12
  - Full Proposal: November 7

- **ATLAS:**
  - Notice of Intent (mandatory): October 10
  - Full Proposal: November 21
SUCCEEDING IN BoRSF COMPETITIONS
APPROACHING A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE PROCESS

- Persistence – Apply early and often, learn from experience, listen to reviewer comments even when you disagree

- Awareness – Know what opportunities are out there, how competitive they are, what kinds of projects work; ask questions to program managers

- Obedience – Follow the rules

- Empathy – Understand what every party to the transaction wants and needs
BALANCE AMONG THE ELEMENTS

- Stakeholder Needs/Benefits
- Campus/Dept. Priorities/Opportunities
- Funding Agency Priorities/Objectives
THREE COMPONENTS OF A GOOD PROPOSAL & WORK PLAN

- **Before Funding:**
  - Align your Idea
    - Department/unit strategic priorities
    - Campus role, scope, mission & priorities
    - Funding source goals
  - Document the Need for and Value of the Work

- **During the Project:** Document work completed and impact and what success will look like

- **After the Project:** Define importance of/plans for completion, sustainability (concrete, realistic, detailed plans)
WRITING FOR EXTERNAL REVIEWERS

- Awareness of program goal, program guidelines, & scoring rubric
- Strong arguments rooted in the purposes, goals, & objectives of the funding
- Explanations of specific campus/dept./professional contexts
- Alignment with campus and department/unit role, scope, mission, & strategic priorities
- A plan for completion at a high level of quality and/or a clear, concrete sustainability plan (when appropriate)
- All significant data with appropriate context to show need, impact, and long-term value of the investment
WINNING THE COMPETITIONS

- Show clear and meaningful alignment with the RFP and campus/unit priorities

- Emphasize need, impact, quality, and sustainability (if appropriate)

- Anticipate questions, concerns, and challenges
POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- Contract between BoR and campus/system
- Compliance with reviewer stipulations and match rate required
- Detailed budget and budget justification
- BoRSF payments in advance; multi-year projects have retainage
- Annual and final project and financial reports
- Major changes (project, budget, personnel) generally require BoR approval (specified in contract)
RFPs, POLICIES & MORE INFORMATION (RFPs for FY 2022-23 released early July)

https://web.laregents.org

https://web.laregents.org/programs

https://web.laregents.org/downloads_page/rfps-policies-forms

If you have questions:

- All Grant Programs: Bryan Jones (bryan.jones@laregents.edu)
- General Questions and Requests for Proposal Copies: Ticket System (rsi@laregents.edu) or Carrie Robison (carrie.robison@laregents.edu)
- Regents Phone: (225) 342-4253
Q&A LISTS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Q&As (updated throughout the question period, ending Oct. 15):

https://web.laregents.org/downloads_page/frequently-asked-question/

Technical Issues with LOGAN Access, Forms, Uploads, etc.:

rsi@laregents.edu