SCHOOL of APPLIED SCIENCES RESEARCH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The School of Applied Sciences Research and Community Engagement Investment Program (SAS-RCEI) provides seed funding to develop competitive applications aimed at externally funded grants. The SAS-RCEI supports development of original research at the University of Mississippi.

ELIGIBILITY

All tenured and tenure-track faculty with appointments in the School of Applied Sciences may apply for RCEI funding. Eligible faculty may submit one application in any given review cycle.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Project budgets may not exceed $10,000. An overall project budget detailing expenses and activities is required. To remain in compliance with institutional finance policies, investigators should work with the School Research and Community Engagement Office for budget development. Projects will not involve subcontracts or budget transfers between academic units or institutions.

Allowable Expenses

- Summer salary for Principal Investigator*
- Research supplies and animal maintenance
- Equipment costing less than $2,500 (equipment costing over $2,500 requires equal cost-sharing with the Department)
- Participant stipends
- Technical assistance
- Travel directly related to the conductance of the project
- Publication costs** (publication fees shall not exceed up to 5% of the total grant budget with a total maximum coverage not to exceed $500 from this program)
- Special fees (photography, etc.) directly related to this application

Non-permitted Expenses

- Consultation fees
- Secretarial/administrative personnel
- Tuition
- Travel to scientific or professional meetings
- Honoraria/travel expenses for visiting lecturers
- Salary/stipend support of students, residents/fellows, postdoctoral fellows, mentors, investigators other than the PI
- Construction and building maintenance
- Major alterations
- Purchasing and binding of periodicals and books
- Office and laboratory furniture
- Office equipment and supplies
- Rental of office and laboratory space
- Recruiting and relocation expenses
- Scientific society dues and membership fees

* Summer salary for up to one course release (0.083% of 9-month salary) is allowed for the PI. Summer salary may not be used in combination with summer release time from start-up funding or release time from another funding mechanism.

** Publication costs, including open access fees, are subject to review of targeted journal(s). Publication costs are expected to be shared between this funding mechanism, the PI's academic department, PI's start-up and/or individual research account funds.

PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS

The project period will be from June to June across fiscal years. Funding will begin June 1st and end May 31st. All funds must be expended within the project period they are awarded. No-cost extensions are not permitted.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

The primary investigator should identify the specific announcement from the external funding agency (e.g., NIH, HRSA, NSF, CDC/P, NIJ, NEA, foundation, etc.) to which an application will be submitted at the completion of the SAS-RCEI award. Please note that the lay abstract provided in the application form may be used by SAS to publicize the RCEI program. As such, the abstract should not contain any information that would publicly disclose any intellectual property that may result from the project.

The primary project investigator is responsible for obtaining all applicable approvals concurrent to or prior to proposal submission, including academic, budgetary and research compliance reviews, for the project. IRB/IACUC/IBC approvals are not required prior to application submission; however, approval must occur prior to release of funds.

PIs should submit the entire application as one file to the School of Applied Sciences Research and Community Engagement Office through the **InfoReady Review Portal**. Submission will initiate electronic proposal routing that will allow for academic (chair and dean) and administrative reviews/approvals. The deadline for proposal submission is 11:59PM on March 16, 2020.

REVIEW PROCESS

The principle investigator will be responsible for identifying at least two potential external peer reviewers. The RCEI committee, made up of representatives from units within the School, may select external reviewer(s) from the PI's list and/or from their own list. External reviewer(s) will provide scientific merit review, assess the potential of the project to attract external funding, and make a recommendation for SAS-RCEI funding. External reviews will be compiled with those from the RCEI committee and a weighting system that favors tenure track faculty and those not having received the funds in prior years will be used to make the final funding decisions.

RESUBMISSION

Resubmissions are allowed by invitation only and specified in the outcome letter containing the funding decision. Resubmissions must include responses to the issues and comments raised by the reviewers in the form of a letter addressed to the School of Applied Sciences Office of Research and Community Engagement. The letter must also summarize any substantial additions, deletions or changes to the application.

AWARD CONDITIONS

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Project grants will be administered through the School of Applied Sciences Office of Research and Community Engagement in collaboration with the University of Mississippi's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs to ensure that the research is conducted in compliance with all applicable federal, state, local and institutional regulations.

IP AND TECH TRANSFER

For funds to be released on awarded projects, investigators must notify and work with the Technology Commercialization office to identify and protect any award-related intellectual property. This may include, but is not limited to, obtaining MTA's and collaborative research agreements.

PROGRESS & FINAL REPORTS

Reporting includes a six-month progress report and a final report. The six-month progress report should detail the progress of the project. The final report should include a summary of research results; extramural funding applications planned, submitted or funded; manuscripts published, submitted, or in preparation; and presentations at professional meetings. The final report must be submitted no later than 60 days after the latest project expiration date. Awardees may present their work at School-wide faculty meetings.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXTERNAL FUNDING

Awardees are required to submit a research proposal to an external funding agency within 12 months of the completion date of the collaborative project. Awardees are expected to work closely with the School of Applied Sciences Office of Research and Community Engagement to develop a timeline and gain the assistance needed to prepare the external application. Failure to comply may render the investigators ineligible for future funding through this program.

DUPLICATE FUNDING

If duplicate funding is awarded for the approved research during the SAS-RCEI project period, all remaining funds in the SAS-RCEI grant must be relinquished immediately.

SUBSEQUENT PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Awardees are required to communicate any subsequent publications to the School of Applied Sciences Office of Research and Community Engagement within 3 months of the publication. Publications include manuscripts, abstracts, presentations, grants and others.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Any published work supported in whole or in part by the SAS-RCEI program should acknowledge such support in the resulting publication. Other publicity related to the project should also carry acknowledgement.

A sample acknowledgement is: "This project was supported in whole or in part by funds from the School of Applied Sciences Research and Community Engagement Investment Program at The University of Mississippi."