PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Research Support Program is a strategically focused investment strategy that provides seed funding to promote promising and impactful new lines of research for early-stage investigators, faculty needing to strengthen their funding portfolios or faculty pivoting to a new research area. The program emphasizes the growth of interdisciplinary teams to build the foundations of science, overcome scientific and societal challenges, and promote and enhance the quality of life and well-being of individuals, groups, and communities. The RSP places a strong emphasis on building capacity for research efforts with the potential to attract and sustain extramural funding.

This program is intended 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 the RSP supports the university's strategic plan by elevating impactful research, investing in outstanding people who advance the university's mission, and providing an exceptional student experience.

The RSP funding opportunity includes the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines as well as the medical, life, health, and social sciences. 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 it 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 ADRs associated with their colleges for input and guidance.

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

Project Budget Information: Proposers may request up to $25,000 from the OSVPRED with a 1:1 required matching contribution between the OSVPRED and the College(s)/Department(s). For example, if $25,000 is requested from the OSVPRED, a $25,000 match is required for a proposed total project cost of $50,000.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

This program is intended to foster the development and growth of innovative, transformational and sustainable research activities. Priority will be given to -

- Faculty with limited current and cumulative funding or faculty pivoting to a new research area
- Projects with the ability to attract extramural funding for sustained research efforts (*The applicant should be prepared to provide a detailed plan for pursuing an external funding opportunity related to this work.*)
- Faculty working collaboratively in cross-disciplinary projects

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility follows the *University's Statement of Principal Investigator Eligibility.*

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.

Past Awarded PIs
A PI cannot submit an additional proposal while leading 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).

PI is eligible to apply for an RSP grant during the upcoming funding cycle if:

- The PI has not received a CWSIS or RSP grant within the last three years or
- The PI has received a CWSIS or RSP grant within the last three years, but that project will be concluded by the start of the upcoming funding cycle, and
- The PI has submitted one or more grant proposals to an extramural source(s), developed valuable partnerships, and/or has clear evidence of other forms of ROI resulting from the most recent CWSIS or RSP funded project. Past Awardees should be prepared to submit a detailed description of the ROI activities related to the funded project

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

CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPENS   October 30, 2024

The Office of the Senior Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OSVPRED) announces the Fall 2024 call for proposals for the RSP Program.

- **Mandatory, non-binding Letters of Intent (LOI) are due by 4:45 p.m. on November 20, 2024.**

- **Full Proposals are due by 4:45 p.m. on January 15, 2025.**

Full 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 one-and-a-half-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/department.

Click here for RSP information.

For additional assistance, please contact Christine Cline (programmatic assistance; clc0165@auburn.edu, 334-844-5929).

KEY DATES

Letters of Intent (LOI) Requirement Opens & Request for Proposals Window Opens	10-30-24
Mandatory, non-binding LOI Due (no later than 4:45 pm) ***The LOI is for information purposes and is not part of a selection process. You will not receive a response to your LOI. Continue in the process of working on your full proposal.*	11-20-24
Full Proposals Due (no later than 4:45 pm)	1-15-25
Internal Proposal Review	1-17-25 – 2-24-25
Selected Applicants Revision Period ***Applicants will be given a link through InfoReady if selected to Phase Two. PI must fill out & upload revised application (even if no changes were made) to Phase Two by end of Revision Period.*	2-25-25 – 3-7-25
External Review Period	3-10-25 – 4-7-25
ADR Final Review Period	4-8-25 – 4-14-25
OSVPRED will finalize and approve funding decisions; final decisions will be emailed to lead PIs	May 2025