

# **INFORMATION FOR FACULTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT**

**2024 – 2025**



**Faculty Research & Development Committee**

<http://facultysenate.cofc.edu/committees/research-and-development/index.php>

***FACULTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES***

***Programs of Support, Application Procedures and Evaluation Criteria***

**Introduction**

The Faculty Research and Development Committee is a committee of the College faculty charged with the responsibility to support and encourage faculty research and development at the College. The committee supports a wide range of professional activities that will benefit the College and the professional development of the faculty member. However, the committee identifies as a priority the support of faculty in their initial years at the College. The committee recognizes that research and faculty development vary from discipline to discipline. Although this program is open to all faculty members, preference is given to tenure-track/tenured faculty. Individuals and groups are welcome to apply for projects including research, professional non-degree training, interdisciplinary learning, and work with professionals outside the College. Proposals leading to external funding and proposals with interdisciplinary dimensions are also encouraged. (See the Faculty By-Laws, Article V. Section 12, for the description of the Faculty Research and Development Committee.)

**Support Available through the Faculty Research and Development Committee**

The College provides grants-in-time (release from teaching one course) and/or financial support for faculty research, professional advancement and development projects. All grants are awarded on the basis of proposals submitted to the committee. Three rounds of grants are awarded – corresponding to projects conducted during the spring semester, projects between spring commencement and fall registration, and for projects during the fall semester of the following academic year, respectively. Grants may not exceed \$5,000 per project and grant recipients may not receive more than \$5,000 in Faculty R & D funds within any 24-month period. The awards timetable follows.

<u>Application Deadline</u>	<u>Funding Period</u>	<u>Final Report Due</u>
10/15/24	January 1 – May 15, 2025	June 30, 2025
01/14/25	May 16 – August 15, 2025	September 30, 2025
04/01/25	August 16 – December 31, 2025	February 15, 2026

Recipients of grants-in-time may not teach an overload during the same funding period. A grant-in-time is awarded by the committee to the applicant’s department and covers adjunct replacement costs during the applicant’s release time (one course). No awards will be made to supplement salary during the academic year or during sabbaticals.

### **Supported Proposal Types**

Proposals for Faculty Research and Development Grants up to \$5,000 may be submitted for Faculty Research, Faculty Development, or Faculty Professional Support, as described below.

***Faculty Research***— To help establish, maintain, and support scholarly and creative activities and research projects.

***Faculty Development***— To assist faculty in improving their professional skills or in developing new areas of expertise. Types of activities include but are not limited to attending and/or developing short courses, workshops, colloquia, ACE Fellowships, etc.

***Faculty Professional Support*** — To assist faculty in the dissemination of scholarly or creative work. Types of activities include but are not limited to: final preparation of manuscripts already accepted for publication; page costs for journal articles; shipping costs for art works in juried exhibitions. Normally, Faculty Professional Support covers non-travel expenses. Requests for supplementary travel expenses for participation in professional meetings should be directed to your own department.

### **Additional Considerations**

***Starter Grants*** – The first grant or grants awarded to tenure-track faculty at the College of Charleston with total sum value not exceeding \$5,000 are classified as Starter Grants. The committee identifies as a priority the support of tenure-track faculty at the College to establish a program of research, scholarship or creative production.

***Teacher-Scholar Grants*** – The purpose of Teacher-Scholar Grants is to assist faculty with research or creative projects that directly or indirectly help enrich the intellectual lives of students. Types of activities include but are not limited to collaborative research as well as traditional scholarly activities that result in enhanced student learning in the classroom, lab, studio, or field.

***Continuous Study Award*** – Note that both the Faculty Research and Faculty Development Proposal Types can be supported through a continuous study award for full-time work on a research or development project conducted during a continuous five-week period when not under contract to the College. Normally this period would be during the summer months. The dates for projects must be specified in the proposal. The recipient of a continuous study award may not accept supplementary employment during the term of the award, nor may the award be used to supplement sabbatical salaries during the fall or spring semesters. The award is included in the recipient's College of Charleston paycheck(s) during the study period and is taxable income.

## ***Other Types of Faculty Support Available at the College of Charleston***

### **Academic Departments**

All academic departments have research, development, and supplementary travel funds. Departmental policies vary on the use of these funds. Faculty with needs for support in any of these areas should consult first with their department chairs.

### **LCWA Strategic Plan Initiatives and Faculty Research Grants**

The School of Languages, Cultures & World Affairs offers several grant programs to support faculty and School projects. These grants are available to LCWA School faculty and to faculty across the College who work closely with LCWA School faculty in the LCWA interdisciplinary programs. More information and grant application forms can be found at <https://lcwa.cofc.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/faculty-grants/index.php>.

### **External Support**

Faculty members may wish to discuss with the appropriate academic dean, the Foundation, or the Director of the Office of Research and Grants Administration, the possibilities of generating public or private funds to support faculty development. Should a faculty member wish to pursue support in these areas, applications should be directed to the appropriate office(s) rather than to the Faculty Research and Development Committee.

### **Student – Faculty Research Awards**

The Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities (URCA) program offers support for undergraduate student research, creative activities and travel to conferences to disseminate research work. Although these are primarily student support grants and awards, their purpose is to expand the opportunities for undergraduate students and faculty to work collaboratively on projects. The URCA programs include the Research Presentation Grant (RPG), the Major Academic Year Support (MAYS) award, and the Summer Undergraduate Research with Faculty (SURF) award. Program information, award guidelines and deadlines may be found on the URCA website at <http://urca.cofc.edu/>.

## ***Application Procedures***

### **Eligibility**

All members of the College faculty, as defined in the Faculty By-Laws, are eligible to apply for Faculty Research and Development Grants. Preference is given to tenure-track/tenured faculty. Members of the Faculty Research and Development Committee are not eligible to apply to the Committee for grants from funds under its jurisdiction.

Committee members needing funding during their term of service remain eligible for other internal funding from department, school, and college

research funds and grants. In exceptional circumstances, they may apply directly to the Provost for support of their research and/or professional development. Application for this exceptional funding should be made in accordance with deadlines for normal application to the Faculty Research and Development Committee, and proposals should adhere to all guidelines for that funding.



### **Application Deadlines**

The applications are to be submitted **electronically** to the Co-Chair of the Faculty Research and Development Committee (Ghazi Abuhakema, AbuhakemaG@cofc.edu) by 5:00 PM of the deadline date.

Projects taking place in Spring 2025	10/15/24
Projects taking place in Summer 2025	01/14/25
Projects taking place in Fall 2025	04/01/25

***Deadlines will be strictly adhered to, with exceptions only being granted in extraordinary cases.***

### **Conditions of Awards**

- A. Grants may not exceed \$5,000 per project and grant recipients may not receive more than \$5,000 in Faculty R & D funds for research to be done within any 24-month period. If a grant proposer has been allocated any Faculty R & D funds within the 24-month window prior to the **END OF THE ASSOCIATED FUNDING PERIOD INDICATED ON PAGE (2)**, the maximum award amount to the proposer will be reduced by the amount previously received by the proposer within the associated window.

Example 1: A faculty member received a \$5000 award for continuous study in the summer of 2020, allowing them to receive some funds towards summer salary between May 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 and June 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 with additional funding for research supplies that had to be expended before the end of the fiscal year on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Since this award was made to this faculty member from the cohort applying for funds throughout the summer proposal period that extended from 5/15/20-8/15/20, this awardee would next be eligible for funding from FR&D awards in Fall of 2022 for the 8/16/22-12/31/22 time window.

Example 2: Consider an investigator who has already received \$1200 for research to be done between May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and another \$1700 for research to be done between January 1<sup>st</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Assuming no other requests are made, the investigator is eligible to request **at most:**

\$5000-\$2900 = \$2100 for work to be done January 1<sup>st</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**or**

\$5000-\$2900 = \$2100 for work to be done May 16<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**or**

\$5000-\$1700 = \$3300 for work to be done August 16<sup>th</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

**or**

\$5000-\$1700 = \$3300 for work to be done January 1<sup>st</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**or**

\$5000 for work to be done any time on or after May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- B. The Faculty Research and Development Committee does not support work toward completion of an academic degree on the part of the principal investigators.
- C. Awards will be made only for projects for which the proposer is one of the principal investigators.

- D. The Faculty Research and Development Committee does not determine whether a faculty member is to be released from teaching duties. Academic departments and the appropriate academic dean determine such release for research or development purposes. If a release is approved, the Faculty Research and Development Committee may award actual replacement costs for an award holder's release time, up to the applicable award limit.
- E. Recipients of grants-in-time may not teach an overload during the award period.
- F. Continuous Study Grant recipients may not accept supplementary employment during the five-week term of the award.
- G. No awards will be made to supplement salary during the academic year or during sabbaticals.
- H. All awards are subject to all College of Charleston policies, including authorized expenditures, leaves, foreign travel, copyrights, patents, royalties, conflict of interest, and research involving human or animal subjects. Please see the website for the Controller's Office at <http://controller.cofc.edu/> and the website for the Office of Research and Grants at <http://www.orga.cofc.edu/pub/>.
- I. Summer award recipients are expected to remain on the College of Charleston faculty the following academic year. If a recipient resigns from the faculty before the following fall term, the award funds must be returned to the College of Charleston. If the resignation is made before the grant funds are awarded, the award will be cancelled.
- J. All grant recipients must submit a final report electronically to the FR&D email account (fdrc@cofc.edu), to their Department Chair, on work conducted during the tenure of the award. The final report must be submitted within six weeks of the end of the term of the award. The Faculty R&D Final Report form is available in Word and editable PDF formats and can be downloaded at: <http://facultysenate.cofc.edu/committees/research-and-development/index.php>  
The Final Report is mandatory. If not submitted prior awardees will be ineligible to submit subsequent proposals for consideration unless a report is completed and submitted to the current faculty research and development committee chair, department chair, and the FR&D email account at least 1 week prior to the relevant application deadline.  
Previous recipients are expected to be prepared to resubmit a copy of their final report(s) to the current Faculty Research and Development Committee (fdrc@cofc.edu) for all previous award(s) when applying for subsequent FR&D awards.
- J. All grant expenditures must be submitted for reimbursement and/or salary by the dates indicated by the terms of the award.



K. Applicants conducting research on human or vertebrate animal subjects are encouraged to obtain approval from the college IRB (Institutional Review Board) and/or the IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee) by the time of the grant application, and must receive approval before funds can be released.



L. While the awarding of grant funds will be administered by the Provost's Office at the College of Charleston, the funds for all projects will be transferred to the recipient's academic departmental R&D budget for distribution. It will be the recipient's responsibility to work with the department head on the expending of funds within the project period and within designated budget categories. It is mandatory that the grant recipient submit the Final Report by the deadline date that outlines the proper use of the grant funds. Grant funds that remain unused for the specified grant are to be returned and must be transferred from the academic departmental R&D account to the main Faculty R&D account to be awarded in the next funding period.



### **Application Forms**

The cover sheet and complete application instructions are available on the Faculty Senate Research and Development Committee website: <http://facultysenate.cofc.edu/committees/research-and-development/index.php> Please direct questions to [fdrc@cofc.edu](mailto:fdrc@cofc.edu).

Applications must conform to the application format outlined in the instructions below and on the application form. **The Faculty Research and Development Committee will not consider proposals deviating from this format.**

The committee **strongly recommends** having a committee member review the project design and proposal text prior to finalizing and submitting a proposal, although this does not guarantee the proposal will be recommended for funding.

### ***Evaluation Procedures***

The criteria the Faculty Research and Development Committee use include the following during the evaluation of proposals:

#### **The Quality of the Project**

- A. How significant is the project for the discipline or disciplines involved?
- B. How will the results benefit the College and the professional development of the investigator? Will the project result in desirable program changes, teaching innovation, publication, exhibition, and/or performance?
- C. Is the logic, methodology or plan adequate to achieve the proposed results?
- D. Is the proposed time schedule realistic?
- E. Will the proposal lead to external funding or other new resources for the College?

#### **The Quality of the Proposal**

- A. Is the proposal clear, well organized, and understandable to non-experts? Is the proposal complete and fully detailed in describing the project? Does the proposal conform to the application format?
- B. Is the proposal well written? The committee will be biased against proposals that are carelessly written and poorly proofread.
- C. Does the proposal show familiarity (in references, bibliography, etc.) with the work that is most important to the proposed project?
- D. Is the budget realistic? Does the budget clearly state and justify the necessity and cost of each item (e.g., salary, equipment, travel, and student assistance)?

The committee identifies as a priority the support of faculty in their initial years at the College. The committee also encourages proposals from faculty working in new research and teaching areas. The committee weighs the curriculum vitae to assess the likelihood the principal investigator will be successful in carrying out the project. The committee encourages faculty to apply for external funding for research and development projects.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLEGE GRANT PROPOSALS

### General Instructions

Complete applications for College Grants must include the following items:

1. A completed and signed cover sheet available on the Faculty R&D Committee website: <http://faculty senate.cofc.edu/committees/research-and-development/index.php>
2. A project summary (one page).
3. An itemized budget (one page). The budget is mandatory and should be stated separately from the text. Include a brief justification/explanation for each budget item.
4. A description of the project (including any references), not to exceed four (4) single-spaced typed pages. (Font size, at least 12 point.)
5. A brief statement describing the status of the IRB/IACUC application, for proposals involving research on human or vertebrate animal subjects.
6. A brief statement (one page or less) describing an up-to-date summary of impacts and outcomes from any previous Faculty R&D Committee funding awards.
7. A curriculum vitae of each principal investigator.

**THE COMPLETED APPLICATION, INCLUDING A SIGNED COVER SHEET, MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO THE CO-CHAIR OF THE FACULTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (fdrc@cofc.edu) NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON THE DATE SPECIFIED ON THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS. A SCANNED PDF COPY OF THE SIGNED COVER SHEET MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO THE FR&D EMAIL ACCOUNT (fdrc@cofc.edu) BY THE SAME 5 PM DEADLINE.**

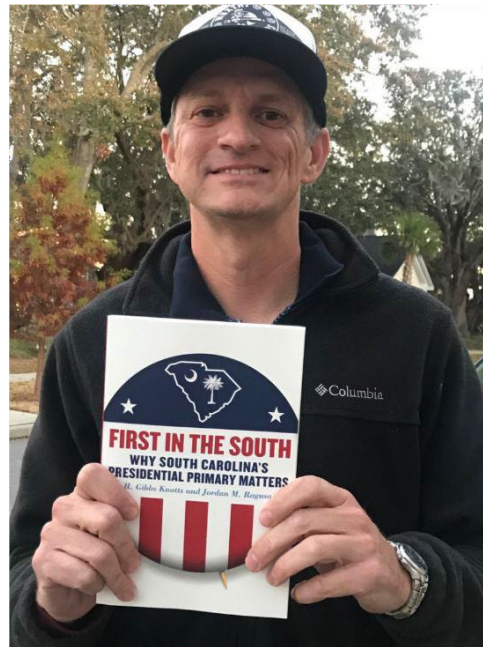
*APPLICANTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT A SINGLE PDF DOCUMENT WHICH INCORPORATES ALL SEVEN ITEMS ABOVE. SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL MATERIALS, SUCH AS ART PRINTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR MUSIC CD'S, SHOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH THE CHAIR OF THE FACULTY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE BEFORE THE PROPOSAL DEADLINE.*

### Specific Instructions

1. The **project summary** should be written in terms clear to evaluators who are not specialists in the discipline. Summaries may be up to one page in length. Indicate in your summary if your grant should be considered as a faculty research, development, or professional support grant. If your grant would qualify as a starter grant, teacher-scholar grant, and/or would be a continuous study award, you should also indicate this clearly in your summary.
2. The **itemized budget** must clearly state and justify the necessity and cost of each item. Budgets may include items in such categories as salary, personnel (e.g., secretarial or student assistance), travel, equipment\*, supplies, and duplicating. Budgets should indicate the estimated replacement cost for any grant-in-time required. Standard rates should be used in determining budgets; deviations from standard rates must be justified. Travel and *per diem* expenses should not exceed College rates.

*\*If you include equipment expenses in your budget, be sure to specify why your department cannot cover this cost.*

3. **Proposal narrative** Describe the project under the following categories [a-e] (except Faculty Professional Support Grant Requests, which only require a one-page description). *Applicants must provide detailed narratives, not to exceed four single-spaced pages.*
- a) Include a description of the nature, method, objectives, and significance of the project. **This narrative must be presented in language that can be understood by a general academic audience, not necessarily experts in your field.** The committee recommends avoiding the technical jargon of your discipline.
  - b) Include a description of the expected results and/or impact. Discuss the mode and place of communication of results and practical consequences of the project.
  - c) **Include a timetable for the project.** Give the present state of the project, expected completion date, and an outline of work to be done in the time covered in the application. Applicants for Continuous Study Grants must propose to work during a continuous five-week period. In choosing the five-week period for your work, please keep in mind that there can be no carryover of the Faculty Research and Development budget between fiscal years. This means that all your expenses, including salary, must be reimbursed *before or after* June 30. Make the fiscal year decision on the Application Cover Sheet. *For budgetary reasons, it is preferable if your research is substantially completed before the end of June.*
  - d) State current support for this project, listing both College and external sources of support, with amounts awarded. If there is current support, please explain why it does not cover the expenses for which you now seek assistance.
  - e) Describe efforts made to secure both internal and external funding and/or support for this project. Indicate grant proposals written and agencies contacted.



## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLEGE GRANT RECIPIENTS**

Award recipients should arrange for the timely expenditure of their grant award as soon as possible after notification. This is especially important for Round 2 proposals, since the summer spans two fiscal years (see item 3.c. of the previous section). Award recipients will be given written guidelines for the expenditure of grant funds in accordance with College of Charleston policy. Expenditures must be based on the budget submitted with the successful grant proposal.

While the awarding of grant funds is administered by the Provost's Office, the funds for all projects will be transferred to the recipients' academic departmental R&D budget for distribution and management by the academic Department Head. Grant funds that remain unused for the specified grant are to be returned and must be transferred from the academic departmental R&D account to the main Faculty R&D account to be awarded in the next funding period.



All grant recipients must submit a final report **electronically** to the FR&D Email Account [fdrc@cofc.edu](mailto:fdrc@cofc.edu), and to their Department Chair, on work conducted during the tenure of the award. The final report must be submitted within six weeks of the end of the term of the award. The Faculty R&D Final Report form is available in Word and editable PDF formats and can be downloaded at:

<http://faculty senate.cofc.edu/committees/research-and-development/index.php>

If a Final Report is not submitted to the Research and Development Committee, the award recipient will be ineligible for future grant consideration.

Award recipients are expected to complete their projects within the specified award period. In the rare instance when it proves impossible for an award recipient to undertake his or her project during the actual period for which the award was made, a letter detailing the problem(s) should be sent to the FR&D Email account ([fdrc@cofc.edu](mailto:fdrc@cofc.edu)). The Committee, in consultation with the Provost's Office, will decide if the recipient should resign the award, re-apply for support in another term, or receive an extension of the project end-date.

Applicants should direct any questions they have about the application process, proposal development, or award procedures to [fdrc@cofc.edu](mailto:fdrc@cofc.edu).