Division of
RESEARCH

Clemson Core Incentivized Access *(CU-CIA)*
2020–21 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

SUMMARY

Clemson University Core Facilities are shared resources for research and teaching support that offer a range of equipment and services to the university community including cutting edge technologies, high end instrumentation, technical support and education. Core facilities are recognized by the University as central to its existence, mission and character. While core facilities receive supplemental support from the University, appropriate user fees are necessary to fully recover costs associated with instrumentation use and service contracts.

The Division of Research has established the ***CLEMSON CORE INCENTIVIZED ACCESS (CU-CIA)*** grants in order to increase awareness of the available core facilities, and to leverage the services that they provide to increase research activities at Clemson University. This award will provide preliminary support to Clemson University researchers in the form of credits for use of core research facilities to enhance the probability of obtaining extramural funding for new projects. If needed, access to multiple facilities is allowable. To this end, requests should be made for the sole purpose of acquiring data for NEW grant applications.

For the purposes of this program, the Core Facilities are listed below.

- Clemson Light Imaging Facility
  (CLIF - https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/light-imaging/)
- Clemson Electron Microscope Facility
  (EMF - https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/cuadvancedmaterialscenter/electron-microscope/)
- Clemson University Micro Fabrication Facility
  (CUMFF - https://www.clemson.edu/cecas/ece-clean-room/index.html)
- Godley-Snell Research Center
  (GSRC - https://www.clemson.edu/research/godley-snell.html)
- Aquatic Animal Research Lab
  (AARL - https://www.clemson.edu/research/services/facilities.html)
- High Performance Computing
  (HPC - https://ccit.clemson.edu/services/research-and-hpc/)

ELIGIBILITY

Tenured or tenure-track faculty (regardless of academic rank), research faculty, post-doctoral researchers and full-time staff are eligible to participate as PIs, co-PIs, or key personnel.

Emeritus, adjunct, and visiting faculty, and graduate or undergraduate students are not eligible to lead projects but may be included on the research teams.

Past recipients of R-Initiative funding who did not comply with the terms of funding are ineligible.

> **SPECIAL COVID-19 GUIDELINES:**
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> - Prior to submission of the CU-CIA proposal, applicants requesting use of the Clemson Light Imaging Facility and/or the Godley-Snell Research Center Core are required to consult with the facility director regarding availability of equipment, facilities and services to support the project during COVID-19 modified operations. Applicants should review specific COVID-19 facility usage guidance for GSRC and CLIF located at the following site:
>   https://www.clemson.edu/covid-19/moving-forward/research.html
>
> - Due to modified COVID-19 operations, new user training sessions have been suspended for equipment located in the Electron Microscopy Facility (EM) and the CLIF. As such, only trained users will be eligible to perform work in these cores. Requests may still be made for work to be performed by core staff members; however, this should be discussed with the facility director prior to CU-CIA proposal submission to ensure staff availability.

CREDITS AND REQUIREMENTS
- A current lack of funding for the proposed research is mandatory.
- Upon selection for award, the specific core facility where the requested work will be performed, will receive a summary of allowable credits from the Division of Research in the awardee's name to be utilized for tracking for all aspects of the award including equipment usage hours, technical assistance and/or training for the grant personnel.
- Core facility technical staff expenses should be included in the budget.
- While a complete budget is required, it should be noted that if extensive materials (including, but not limited to, animal models) are required for the completion of the proposed experimental procedures, then cost share to - cover those expenses should be included in the budget.
- No facilities and administrative (F&A) costs are permitted.
- The grant period is twelve (12) months from the award date, and the usage of the award credits must be completed within that period. At the end of that period, all remaining credits will expire.
- No cost extensions will not be granted under this program.

DELIVERABLES
The primary outcome of the *CLEMSON CORE INCENTIVIZED ACCESS (CU-CIA)* is the access to core facilities and services, for the purpose of generating preliminary data needed in preparation for specific grant applications. The core facilities and services must be utilized to generate preliminary data and a grant submission must be made using the data within the grant period. Inclusion of usage fees for the core facilities in the new grant submission is highly recommended. Proposals may be submitted to federal agencies, foundations, corporate consortia, or any other external sponsor. Copies of the submitted proposal(s) should be sent to the Division of Research (rifunds@clemson.edu) upon submission.

A Final Report must be submitted to rifunds@clemson.edu by the end of the grant period and should include:

- o List of grants submitted with the following details:
- o The overall requested amount(s)
- o Funding agency or agencies
- o Date submitted
- o InfoEd PPN
- o Copies of the pages from the submitted grant that detail the experimental data obtained via the CU-CIA.
- o Copy of the requested grant budget and budget justification with the inclusion of usage fees for the core facilities

Should R-Initiative funding result in publication(s), PIs must acknowledge the impact of R-Initiative funding as well as all of the core facilities utilized. For example, "This project was funded in part by Clemson University's R-Initiative Program." "Special thanks to the Clemson Light Imaging Facility for use of the XXX equipment and technical assistance."

APPLICATION PREPARATION

Proposals that are not in compliance with the requirements and the instructions may be returned without review.

Format all documents using 12 pt. Times New Roman Font, one-inch margins, single line spacing, and 8 ½ x 11inch paper size.

Submit the proposal as a single PDF file with the following ordered sections:

A. **Cover Sheet [1 page]**
   The official **R-Initiatives Cover Sheet** must be used and include:
   - A clear and concise project title (CU-CIA: Project Title)
   - The names of the PI, all co-PIs, and any other senior personnel or key collaborators, including graduate and undergraduate students, should be listed along with departmental affiliations; additional personnel may be listed on a separate page if not enough space is provided in the cover sheet,
   - Center affiliations, if applicable
   - Total budget amount,
   - Indication of prior R-Initiative funding, and
Anticipated deliverables.

B. **Project Summary [1 page]**
   Include a brief summary of the need for access to core facilities and services, including specific items of core equipment, technical assistance, etc., and how the data that is generated will enhance a specific research grant application(s). The summary must include the specific grant application program(s), funding agency/agencies, request title/call number(s), due date(s) and requested grant amount(s), for which the data will be utilized. This may be in the form of a table if the data will be used in multiple grant applications.

C. **Project Description [3 pages]**
   Inclusive of all figures and charts, include a description of the research, training, and proposal activities that will be possible upon utilization of the specific core facilities and services and the impact on the competitiveness of the specific grant application(s). The

description should include details about which core facilities, pieces of equipment and services will be utilized and which users will be conducting the work.. Details about how the specific experiments to be run will be carried out and how these experiments add to the overall goals of the proposed grant application(s) are required. (**To improve chances of proposal success, applicants are highly encouraged to contact the appropriate core director(s) for assistance with determining the specific instrumentation, training, technical assistance, materials and budget required to complete their proposed projects.**) The project description should provide a statement regarding the overall requirements for the specific grant application(s) for which the data will be utilized. In addition, a brief statement regarding the applicant's current overall funding status and why the applicant does not have the funds necessary to generate the required preliminary data is required. The project description should include the number of students involved in the work with the core(s) (graduate and undergraduate).

D. **Budget**
The budget should include the estimated number of hours required on each piece of core equipment and the cost of those hours, as well as the number of requested technician and training hours required along with their associated costs. This should be done by utilizing the currently published core equipment and technician hourly rates for in-house users. These billing rates may be found on the University Controller's website (https://www.clemson.edu/finance/controller/rates/). Applicants are encouraged to seek assistance from the appropriate core director(s) when preparing the proposed budget. The budget should include cost share for any materials and/or supplies (including, but not limited to animal models) required for the completion of the proposed experimental procedures that will be purchased from and/or through the requested core(s).

E. **Biographical Sketches [2 pages]**
Submit **2-page** biosketches in NSF **or** NIH format for PI, and **all** *Co-PI(s), collaborators and key personnel.* This should include biosketches for students who may be utilizing the core(s) for the generation of data.

F. **Letters of Support [optional; up to maximum of three]**

G. **List of Suggested Reviewers (max. 4) with Their E-Mail Addresses [optional]** Faculty from any institution may be listed, but at least two must be current Clemson University faculty. Ineligible reviewers include department chairs and collaborators of the project team. Each person listed should be notified that he or she has been included and may be invited to review.

TIMELINE
Round 1:

October 14, 2020	Solicitation announced
November 20, 2020	Proposals due
January 11, 2021	Decisions announced

Round 2:

December 16, 2020	Solicitation announced
April 30, 2021	Proposals due
To be Decided	Decisions announced

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

All proposal documents, including electronic signatures, must be received by 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2020 and, April 30, 2021 by 4:30 p.m. in InfoEd. *PIs should contact their OSP Support Centers as they would for an external submission.* To ensure that all electronic signatures are received on time, **faculty are strongly encouraged to submit their final proposal documents for routing and electronic signature at least two business days before the deadline.** Only those proposals having completed the **InfoEd** routing process by the deadline will be reviewed.

REVIEW PROCESS

A review committee will be formed to review the proposals and make funding recommendations to the Vice President for Research.

Evaluation Criteria:
- ✓ Probability of increased extramural funding resulting from the data generated through usage of the core facilities and services
- ✓ Other factors that demonstrate potential benefit to the University
- ✓ Lack of current funding necessary to pay for utilization of core facilities and services for the generation of needed preliminary data for the proposed grant application(s).
- ✓ Clear and concise experimental plan for generation of preliminary data utilizing the requested core facilities and services

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE

All applications selected for award must have received all required approvals from the Office of Research Compliance before the award can be activated.

QUESTIONS

Questions should be directed to the appropriate core director.

Contact information is listed below:

Clemson Light Imaging Facility Director - Dr. Terri F. Bruce; terri@clemson.edu; 656-1264

Clemson Electron Microscope Facility Director - Dr. Laxmikant Saraf; lsaraf@clemson.edu; 656-7535

Clemson University Micro Fabrication Facility - Fab Manager – Bill Delaney; fdelane@clemson.edu; 656-1118

Godley-Snell Research Center Associate Director - Melody Willey; mclrk@clemson.edu; 656-1849

Aquatic Animal Research Lab; Manager - John Smink; smink@clemson.edu; 656-7162

High Powered Computing; Interim Executive Director – Dustin Atkins; datkin2@clemson.edu; 656-5949