



Clemson Core Incentivized Access (CU-CIA)  
2023-2024 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 to increase awareness of the available core facilities and to leverage the services that they provide. This award will provide preliminary support to Clemson University researchers in the form of *credits*\* for use of core research facilities to enhance the likelihood of obtaining extramural funding for new projects. Access to multiple facilities is allowable. Requests should be made for the sole purpose of acquiring data for NEW grant applications.

(\*Credits encompasses the specific rates, costs, and time associated with each facility's equipment.)

Core Facilities include:

- 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 (CUMF), <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 Laboratory (AARL), <https://www.clemson.edu/research/services/facilities.html>)
- High Performance Computing (HPC), <https://ccit.clemson.edu/services/research-and-hpc/>)

<b>Round 1 deadline:</b>	Tuesday, November 7th, 2023 @4:30 PM
<b>Round 2 deadline:</b>	Wednesday, March 27th, 2024 @4:30 PM
<b>Funding period:</b>	One year from award date

## ELIGIBILITY

Tenured or tenure-track faculty and research faculty are eligible to serve as PIs on proposals. Emeritus, adjunct, and visiting faculty, as well as postdocs and staff, are not eligible to serve as PIs on proposals but may be included in research teams.

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

## PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

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

All proposal documents, including electronic signatures, must have completed InfoEd routing and be submitted to the Clemson InfoReady Submission Portal (<https://clemson.infoready4.com/>) by **4:30 p.m., on November 7th, 2023 (Round 1) or March 27th, 2024 (Round 2)**. *PIs will contact their OSP Support Centers as they would normally do for an external submission.* To ensure that all electronic signatures are received on time, faculty are strongly encouraged to submit their proposals 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.

Format all documents using 12-point Times New Roman Font (or similar), one-inch margins, single line spacing, and 8 ½ x 11-inch paper size. Submit the proposal as a single PDF file with the following ordered sections:

### **A. Cover Sheet Template [1 page - attached below]**

The following items must be included:

- A clear, concise project title (CU-CIA Round #: Project Title)
- The names and college/departmental/school affiliations of the PI, co-PIs, and any other senior personnel or key collaborators
- Center affiliations, if applicable
- Total budget amount
- An indication of whether the PI has been a previous recipient of R-Initiative funding; if yes, include the year of funding and the initiative (e.g., 2020 CU Fellows)
- Anticipated deliverables

### **B. Project Summary [1 page]**

Summarize the need for access to core facilities and services, including specific items of core equipment, technical assistance, etc., and how the data that are 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, including all figures and charts]**

- Please 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).
- Include details about which core facilities, pieces of equipment, and services will be utilized, and which users will be conducting the work.
- Detail how the experiments will be carried out and how they add to the overall goals of the proposed grant application(s). (To improve chances of proposal success, applicants are highly encouraged to contact the appropriate core director(s) for assistance with determining the instrumentation, training, technical assistance, materials, and budget required to complete their proposed projects.)
- Provide a statement regarding the overall requirements for the grant application(s) for which the data will be utilized.
- Provide 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.
- Include the number of students (graduate and undergraduate) involved in the work with the core(s).

**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. SciENCv Curriculum Vitae**

Submit a SciENCv Biosketch/CV for each PI, Co-PI(s), collaborators, and key personnel.

**F. Letters of Support [no page limit]**

Letters of support are optional; proposals may include up to three.

**REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA**

A review committee will be formed to review the proposals.

***Evaluation Criteria:***

- Probability of increased extramural funding resulting from the data generated through use of the core facilities and services
- Lack of current funding necessary to pay for use of core facilities and services for the generation of preliminary data required for the proposed grant application(s).
- Clear, concise experimental plan for generation of preliminary data using the requested core facilities and services
- Other factors that demonstrate potential benefit to the University

**AWARD INFORMATION**

After awards are made, the core facility in which 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 used for tracking of 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, this initiative provides free access to the core facilities but not cash funding for materials and supplies. Therefore, all materials (including, but not limited to, animal models) required for the completion of the proposed experimental procedures should be included as cost share in the budget.

No facilities and administrative (F&A) costs are permitted.

The grant period is twelve months from the award date, and use 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 initiative.

All applications selected for an award must receive the required approvals from the Office of Research Compliance before the award can be activated.

## DELIVERABLES & FINAL REPORT

The primary outcome of the **CU-CIA** is access to core facilities and services for the purpose of generating preliminary data needed to prepare for specific grant applications. 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 other external sponsors. Copies of the submitted proposal(s) should be sent to the Division of Research ([rifunds@clemson.edu](mailto:rifunds@clemson.edu)) upon submission.

A **final report** must be submitted via the Clemson InfoReady Research Portal (<https://clemson.infoready4.com/>) within one year of the funding end date. The final report will be assigned to PIs via InfoReady near the end of the award period. Teams who fail to submit their final reports will be ineligible for future R-Initiative funding.

- The final report will request the following details of submitted proposals:
  - The overall requested amount(s)
  - Funding agency or agencies
  - Date submitted
  - InfoEd PPN
  - Copies of the pages from the submitted grant that detail the experimental data obtained via the CU-CIA.
  - 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 (e.g., “This project was funded in part by Clemson University’s R-Initiatives” or “Special thanks to the Clemson Light Imaging Facility for use of the XXX equipment and technical assistance”).

## QUESTIONS

Questions about core facilities should be directed to the appropriate core director:

**Clemson Light Imaging Facility**

Director – Dr. Terri F. Bruce; [terri@clemson.edu](mailto:terri@clemson.edu); 656-1264

**Clemson Electron Microscope Facility**

Director – Dr. Laxmikant Saraf; [lsaraf@clemson.edu](mailto:lsaraf@clemson.edu); 656-7535

**Clemson University Micro Fabrication Facility**

Lab Manager – Bill Delaney; [fdelane@clemson.edu](mailto:fdelane@clemson.edu); 656-1118

**Godley-Snell Research Center**

Associate Director – Heather Holliday, [hmarti2@clemson.edu](mailto:hmarti2@clemson.edu); 656-0908

**Aquatic Animal Research Lab**

Manager – John A. Smink; [smink@clemson.edu](mailto:smink@clemson.edu); 656-7162

**High Powered Computing**

Executive Director – Dr. Jill Gemmill; [gemmill@clemson.edu](mailto:gemmill@clemson.edu); 656-3323

Questions about the R-Initiatives may be directed to at [rifunds@clemson.edu](mailto:rifunds@clemson.edu).



# Cover Sheet

## *R-Initiative Funding Opportunities*

R-Initiative Type:

Proposal Title:  
(ex: CU \_\_\_\_:)

### **PI Information**

Name	Position	College	Department
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### **Co-PI/Senior Personnel/Collaborator Information**

*(Additional collaborators can be listed on a separate page in the application.)*

Name	Position	College	Department
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Center and Institute Affiliations:

Total Budget:

Are you a recipient of prior R-Initiative funding? If yes, please specify and include the dates of funding.

Anticipated  
Deliverables: