

R-Initiatives *Overview* and ***Tips for Successful Proposals***



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Division of

RESEARCH

Research Development

Welcome!

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Defining R-Initiatives
- R-I program overview
- In-depth review of programs
- Application process
- Review process
- Tips
- ORD services



Hello, I'm Brett. **Go Tigers!**

What Are R-Initiatives?

R-Initiative programs:

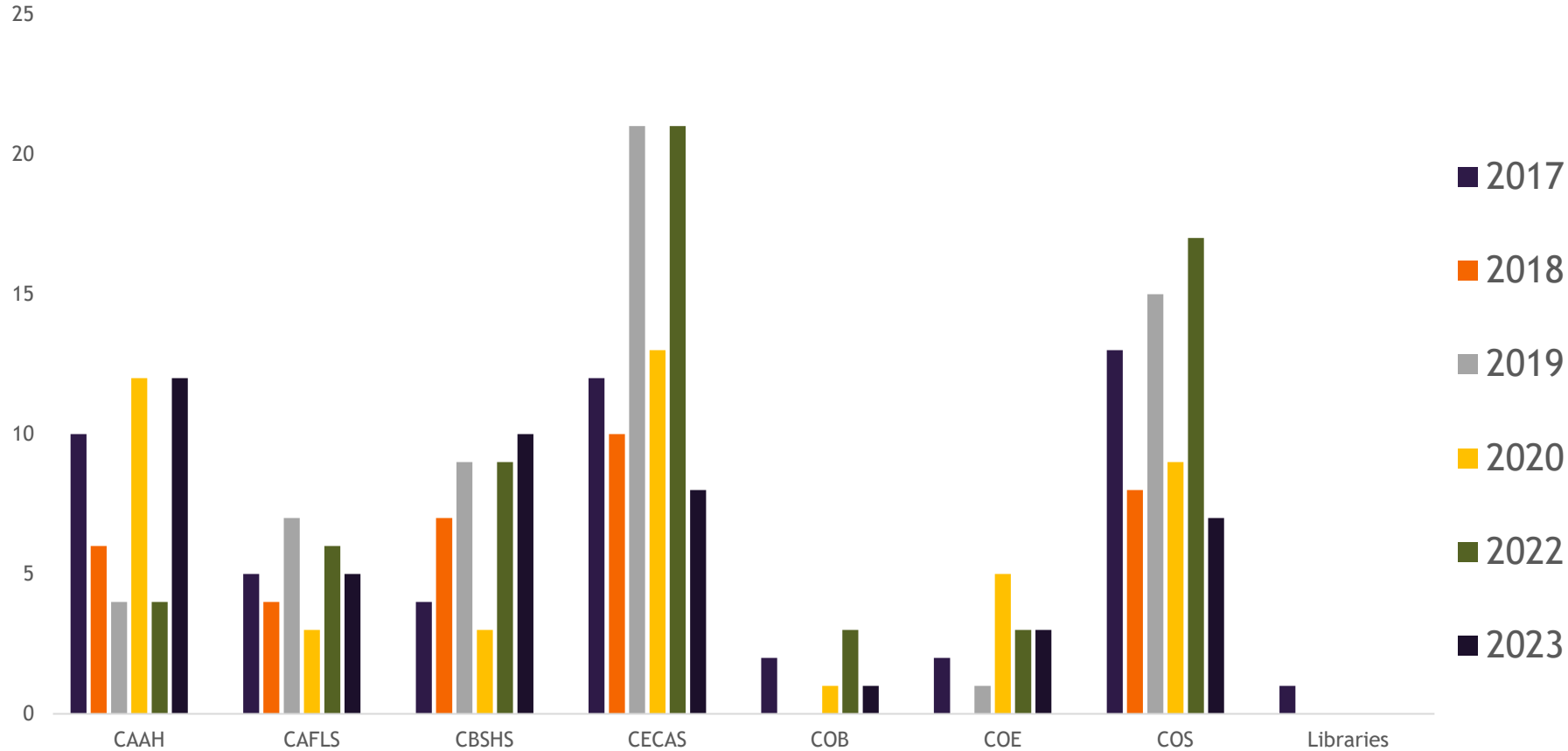
- Nurture scholarship and discovery
- Provide funding opportunities and professional development support
- Continue the ongoing work of Clemson as a Carnegie R-1 institution
- Advance Clemson Elevate

R-Initiative funding opportunities:

- Investments from the Division of Research in faculty research life
- Serve as a launch pad for innovation, discovery, and creativity and as a catalyst for external funding opportunities.

Website: <https://www.clemson.edu/research/division-of-research/r-initiatives.html>

Program History



Since 2017, the Division of Research has invested > **\$14 million** in research projects involving ~ **600 faculty members** spread across every college through its R-Initiative funding programs

Program History

College	Awarded Proposals	Rejected Proposals	Grand Total	Success Rate
CAAH	31	25	56	55%
CAFLS	24	17	41	59%
CBSHS	34	17	51	67%
CECAS	64	35	99	65%
COB	5	5	10	50%
COE	10	7	17	59%
COS	46	30	76	61%
Libraries	1		1	100%
Grand Total	215	136	351	

ELIGIBILITY

Who is eligible?:

- Tenured or tenure-track faculty and research faculty



Who is not eligible?:

- Past recipients of R-Initiative funding who did not comply with the terms of funding.
- PIs/team members behind on reporting
- Postdocs, staff, and emeritus, adjunct, or visiting faculty
 - Can be included in research teams

The Initiatives



ORD R-Initiative Funding Opportunities

There are **6** major funding opportunities administered through the ORD:

- **Clemson Major Research Instrumentation (CU-MRI)**
- **Clemson Research Fellows (CU-Fellows)**
- **Clemson Core Incentivized Access (CU-CIA)**
- **Clemson Faculty Succeeds (CU-SUCCEEDS)**
- **CU Sponsor Travel Grant**
- **CU External Review Initiative**

Funded Projects

- **Clemson Major Research Instrumentation (CU-MRI)**

- *CU-MRI: Rapid Measurement of Microplastic Particles Across Environmental Systems with Laser Direct Infrared Imaging* (PI: Stefanie Whitmire, CAFLS)

- **Clemson Research Fellows (CU-Fellows)**

- *CU FELLOWS: Sustaining the Teacher Workforce: The Formation of Professional Learning Networks through the ECHO Model®* (PI: Shanna Hirsch, COE)

- **Clemson Core Incentivized Access (CU-CIA)**

- *CU-CIA Round 1: An Integrated Approach to Understanding Rooting Recalcitrance* (PI: Haiying Liang, SCIENCE - CLIF)

Funded Projects (cont...)

- **Clemson Faculty Succeeds (CU SUCCEEDS)**

- **Program 1:** *CU SUCCEEDS Program 1: Maternal Functioning and Substance Use Disorder: Postpartum Women's and Providers' Perspectives on Contributing Factors to Maternal Functioning* (PI: Rachel Mayo, CBSHS)
- **Program 2:** *CU SUCCEEDS Program 2: Proactive Planning for Park Equity: Rapid Assessment and Mathematical Optimization* (PI: Emily Tucker, CECAS)
- **Program 3:** *CU SUCCEEDS Program 3: World War II, Turkey, and the Fate of the Balkans and the Middle East* (PI: Amit Bein, CAAH)

- **CU Sponsor Travel Grant**

- *CU Sponsor Travel: Promoting character virtue development in youth affected by familial substance use disorders* (PI: Edmond Bowers, COE)

- **CU External Review Initiative**

- Insert your name! _____

Limitations

Limits on submission for **CU Fellows** and **CU-MRI**

Each **college** may be the lead on **two** proposals.

- Can be either single-college or multi-college.
 - Single-college proposal involves faculty from only one college.
 - Multi-college proposal involves faculty from two or more colleges.
(Multi-college submissions highly encouraged!)
 - Reach out to ADR office to apply for the college-level downselect.

CU-MRI

What is it?

CLEMSON MAJOR RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION INITIATIVE (CU-MRI)

- Provides funds for the purchase, replacement, or upgrade of major research equipment.
- Major research equipment is a unit having a useful life of at least 5 years and an acquisition cost of more than \$50,000.
- **Deliverable:** Equipment and proposal submission(s).

When is it due?

Monday, October 2, 2023, at 4:30 PM

How much is funded?

At least **\$50,000**

When does the funding period begin?

6 months, beginning on December 1, 2023

CU-FELLOWS

What is it?

The *CLEMSON RESEARCH FELLOWS (CU FELLOWS)*

- Funds for hiring and training of new research faculty and postdoctoral researchers.
- Should promote collaborative and creative interdisciplinary activities, research, and demonstration projects
- **Goal:** Pursue a large funding opportunity and/or building a major research program or research center.
- **Deliverable:** Fellow funded fully by ext. grants/dept/college, proposal submission and/or center development.

When is it due?

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, @ 4:30 PM

How much is funded?

- As appropriate and justified.
- Salary and fringe for fellow the only allowable costs.

When does the funding period begin?

Hire date, lasting for 2 years

CU-SUCCEEDS

What is it?

CLEMSON FACULTY SUCCEEDS (CU SUCCEEDS)

- Funds to support leading-edge research and scholarship that capitalize on the existing intellectual capital at Clemson University.

This initiative consists of **four programs**:

- (1) Project Initiation/Seed Funding
- (2) Collaborate
- (3) Project Completion
- (4) Fast Track

CU-SUCCEEDS Program 1

What is it?

CU-SUCCEEDS Program 1: Project Initiation/SEED Funding

- Funding for the initiation of research activities
- **Deliverable:** Successfully submitted proposal to an external funding agency

When is it due?

Wednesday, January 17, 2024, @ 4:30 PM

How much is funded?

Up to \$10,000

When does the funding period begin?

- March 1, 2024, to February 28, 2025
- **Final report** due February 28, 2026

CU-SUCCEEDS Program 2

What is it?

Program 2: Collaborate

- Provide funding for multidisciplinary teams to pursue significant external research funding of at least \$1.5 million in direct costs over 3 or more years
- Proposals must include faculty from at least 3 different departments across at least 2 colleges
- **Deliverable:** submission of external research proposal(s) requesting significant funding

When is it due?

Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 4:30 PM

How much is funded?

Up to \$35,000

When does the funding period begin?

- March 18, 2024, to March 17, 2025
- **Final report** due March 17, 2026

CU-SUCCEEDS Program 3

What is it?

Program 3: Project Completion

- Funding to support the completion of research and/or scholarly activities with a targeted product
- **Deliverable:** manuscript, book, piece of art, or other relevant product; proposal resubmission to an external funding agency

When is it due?

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 4:30 PM

How much is funded?

Up to \$5,000

When does the funding period begin?

- April 15, 2024, to April 14, 2025
- **Final report** due April 14, 2026

CU-SUCCEEDS Program 4

What is it?

Program 4: Fast Track

- Funding to respond to short-notice external funding opportunities
- Submission deadline is within 2 months of the original RFP/solicitation publication date.
- **Deliverable:** submission of the grant proposal

When is it due?

Proposals accepted on a rolling basis

How much is funded?

Up to \$5,000

When does the funding period begin?

- Immediately, lasting 2 months
- **Final report** due 1 year after end of funding period.

CU-CIA

What is it?

The *CLEMSON CORE INCENTIVIZED ACCESS (CU-CIA)*

- Gain access to CU core research facilities at no cost
- Access to multiple facilities is allowable

When is it due?

Round 1: Tuesday, November 7, 2023, @ 4:30 PM

Round 2: Wednesday, March 27, 2023, @ 4:30 PM

When does the access period begin?

- The award date, lasting for 1 year
- **Final Report** due 1 year after award dates

What are the Core Facilities?

- Clemson Light Imaging Facility
- Clemson Electron Microscope Facility
- Clemson University Micro Fabrication Facility
- Godley Snell Research Center
- Aquatic Animal Research Lab
- High Powered Computing

Sponsor Travel Grant

What is it?

SPONSOR TRAVEL GRANTS

- Funds of up to \$1,000 for investigators to visit agency or foundation program officers.
- **Deliverable:** Report summarizing visit results

When is it due?

Proposals accepted on a rolling basis

How much is funded?

Up to \$1,000

When does the funding period begin?

- 6 months at the award date.
- **Final report** due 10 days after returning from trip.

External Review Initiative

What is it?

EXTERNAL REVIEW INITIATIVE

- Provides honoraria for external peer-review of PIs' proposals
- PI suggests external reviewers; ORD coordinates receipt of written peer reviews
- **Deliverable:** Externally reviewed proposal

When is it due?

Proposals accepted on a rolling basis

How much is funded?

\$300 per reviewer, split by a 1:1 VPR/PI-Unit-College cost-share

When does the funding period begin?

- External Review Initiative application due at least 12 weeks before sponsor deadline
- Full draft proposal to ORD at least 8 weeks before sponsor deadline
- Reviews delivered to PI at least 4 weeks before sponsor deadline
- **Final report** due 1 month after reviews received

Submission Process

Pre-Proposal Preparation Stage

1. CU Fellows and CU MRI require a departmental downselect. Contact your ADR office.
2. Solicitations are available via the ORD website

Proposal Development Stage Preparation

1. Contact college grants support office to notify them of intent to submit a proposal
2. Work with grants office to gather needed materials, budgets, and routing approval for final submission. Listen to their feedback!
3. Must have all materials to grants offices at least 2 days before due-date.

Submission Stage

1. Once all institutional routing/approvals have been completed, submit your compiled proposal documents to the respective competition in the Clemson InfoReady portal (<https://clemson.infoready4.com/#ord>).

Review Process

- ORD will administer review process
- Review committee made of internal and external reviewers as needed
- Applications reviewed against solicitation-specific criteria
- Clarification(s) may be requested from committee
- Funding decisions will be announced within 6 weeks of proposal submission.

Final Reporting

- Final reports should be submitted through the InfoReady Portal
- Will be assigned near the end of the award period
- Crucial information is generated from these reports
- Failure to submit a report results in ineligibility for future funding

Tips for a Successful Application

- Read the solicitation. Then read it again!
 - Important information regarding formatting, proposal contents, and submission
 - Titles of proposals must include competition name: i.e., CU Fellows: _____
 - Coversheet is found in solicitation packet.
- Think creatively and innovatively.
- Start early: notify your grants offices EARLY and share your interest in applying. They are busy!
- Reference ORD Repository and website.
- Seek feedback from colleagues who have submitted R-I proposals before.
- Write in a clear, concise manner for a general audience.
- If cost-share is not required, but recommended, then it would be wise to include it! This shows that more than one entity is interested and invested in the proposed work.
- Form purposeful collaborations as warranted by the research.

Grants Office Contacts

College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences (CAFLS)

- grants@clermson.edu

College of Architecture, Art and Construction and College of Arts and Humanities (CAAH)

- caahresearch@clermson.edu

Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business (COB)

- COBGrants@clermson.edu

College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences (CBSHS)

- cbshsresearch@clermson.edu

College of Engineering, Computing, and Applied Sciences (CECAS)

- coespro@clermson.edu

College of Science (SCIENCE)

- cospreaward@clermson.edu

College of Education (COE)

- Coeresearch@clermson.edu

Office of Research Development



Faculty Support

- Early career training (CAREER Academy, NIH Accelerator)
- Proposal development support/training
- Workshops/informational sessions
- R-Initiative funding opportunities



Institutional Advancement

- Support CU mission and *Clemson Elevate* goals for research
- Build highly effective interdisciplinary teams for large grant proposals
- Position Clemson to leverage its strengths to enhance its research portfolio
- Coordinate with research development staff across campus to achieve synergies



Funding Landscape

- Monitor changes in agency priorities and programs
- Administer limited submissions process
- Strategically position faculty to be more competitive in a constantly shifting grants environment
- Foster nimbleness in faculty responses to funding opportunities

Questions?

Contact Brett Levi at rifunds@clemson.edu

Upcoming ORD Workshops

How to Thrive and Survive Once You Receive Grant Funding:
Best Practices in Post-Award Management

- October 11, 2023, from 2:00-3:30

CAREER Academy Info Session

- October 23, 2023, from 1:00-2:00



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Thank you for attending today's workshop!