

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Academic Federation Innovative Developmental Awards

The Academic Federation Committee on Research (AFCOR) is now accepting Research Grant applications from members of the Academic Federation for “Innovative Developmental Awards” (IDA). These awards provide support for AF members with PI status (automatic or by exception) to conduct exploratory research in new areas for which they currently have insufficient preliminary data for a competitive grant application to extramural sources. Research proposed in IDA applications may be formative in nature. Proposals should be clear, creative, intellectually exciting, and show promise to yield findings that could serve as the basis for a well-defined future research application.

Award applications will be evaluated for responsiveness to the priority areas defined by funding agencies external to UC Davis. **Review will be based mainly on prospects of successful extramural funding, and higher priority will be given for new work in research areas that are programmatic priority areas for major funding agencies.** The review will be internal to AFCOR, with assistance of external reviewers when necessary to supplement AFCOR expertise. Based on the estimated funds available this year for the program, it is expected that there will be multiple awards of up to a maximum of \$20,000 each.

Applicants in need of support to travel to professional meetings are directed to apply to the Academic Federation’s Research Travel Grant Program:

<https://academicfederation.ucdavis.edu/grants-awards>

Applicants in need of support for professional development (to take a class or to travel to a collaborator’s laboratory to learn a new technique) are directed to apply for the Academic Federation’s Professional Development Award:

<https://academicaffairs.ucdavis.edu/campus-awards>

Applicants in need of support for bridge funding are directed to apply for the Principal Investigator (PI) Bridge Program:

<http://research.ucdavis.edu/proposals-grants-contracts/funding-opportunities/links-to-funding-sources/>

DEADLINE

Complete applications for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 are due **Thursday, April 11, 2024.**

PURPOSE

The Academic Federation Innovative Developmental Awards are intended to support the research of qualified Academic Federation Members. Specifically, the awards enable AF researchers to explore new research directions. This program is not intended to supplement ongoing research projects or to provide funds for open-ended exploration. This award program will support AF members whose research is not sufficiently advanced to apply for extramural funds. Because the grant program is funded through indirect cost returns, the goal of the program is to support research that would generate extramural funding, thereby increasing indirect cost returns. Relevance of the application to obtaining external funding must be clearly stated in the application.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only Academic Federation members with Principal Investigator (PI) Status are eligible; members who are on leave without pay are NOT eligible.

Please refer to the [Sponsored Research Programs, PPM 230-02](#), for information regarding Principal Investigator Status.

Note: The following Academic Federation title series have automatic PI status: Adjunct Professor, Agronomist (--- in the AES), Clinical Professor, Professional Researcher, and Specialist in Cooperative Extension. Academic Federation members without PI status may apply for PI status by exception through the Office of Research in order to be eligible for this grant:

<https://research.ucdavis.edu/proposals-grants-contracts/spo/spo-proposal/#PI>

APPLICATION CRITERIA

1. Funding will be awarded **ONLY** for research expenses and supplies, **not** for equipment (except computers), not for travel to professional meetings or professional development, nor PI salary. Requests for computers, software or publication costs will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be fully justified based on scientific need.
2. Previous IDA recipients must submit the final usage report for any previously received IDA grants before being eligible for the current cycle. Contact AFCOR Analyst, Melisa Contreras at melcontreras@ucdavis.edu if you need additional information about usage reports.
3. Applicants will be considered for a maximum of one IDA every 3 years.
4. Applications must be submitted by the deadline listed. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Applications must be submitted electronically, via the Academic Senate Information System (ASIS) at <https://asis.ucdavis.edu/grants/index.cfm> by **Thursday, April 11, 2024**. See Submission Guidelines for details at <https://academicfederation.ucdavis.edu/grants-awards>. **Only one application can be submitted per applicant.**

AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA

AFCOR will evaluate proposals, and recipients of IDAs will be notified via e-mail. Committee discussions and comments regarding applications/proposals will be confidential, and **feedback on grant proposals will not be provided**. In the event that requests for funds exceeds the amount available, the Committee will use the following criteria to rank proposals.

1. Scientific merit
2. Demonstrated innovation
3. Prospects of successful extramural funding
4. Higher priority will be given for work that is in (i) a new research area or innovation for the PI and (ii) programmatic priority areas for major funding agencies.
5. Highest priority will be given to applicants who have not been previously funded for an IDA.

FINAL REPORTS

2024-25 IDA recipients are required to submit a final report to AFCOR by July 1, 2026. An online final report form will be available and must be submitted via the Academic Senate Information System (ASIS) at <https://asis.ucdavis.edu/grants/index.cfm>. You will receive an automated email when the report is available to be completed.

IDA ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All awardees must acknowledge the UC Davis Academic Federation Innovative Developmental Award in abstracts, publications and other creative works resulting from studies supported by an IDA.