

Dean's Investment Fund Grant Application and Award Process Guidelines Grant Awards Exceeding \$5,000

1. Fund Allocation to Identified Priorities.

In consultation with the Leadership Team, the Dean has identified the following target allocations of the initial \$2.0 million of investment funds for initiatives that accelerate progress on the Strategic Priorities of the College of Forestry. Funds are being allocated in 2013 and 2014 to four of the five priorities and their supporting strategies:

- \$500,000 Priority 1: Academic Excellence (Strategies 4 and 5)
- \$750,000 Priority 3: Research Excellence (Strategies 10-13)
- \$500,000 Priority 4: Internationalize COF (Strategies 14-16)
- \$250,000 Priority 5: More Diverse and Pluralistic College (Strategies 17-20)

Funds not committed in 2014 may be reallocated between priorities in 2014 or 2015 at the discretion of the Dean.

2. Funding and Submission Deadlines.

For each priority area, funds will be allocated in amounts and timing as set by the Associate Dean or Director with program responsibility for the specific strategic priority (hereafter "Program Administrator").

- Grant awards exceeding \$5,000 must be submitted in response to and address specific criteria set forth in an RFP to be released by the Program Administrator. The timing and scope of any RFP will be established by the responsible Program Administrator, and will include specific preference criteria in addition to those applicable to all applications listed below.

3. Large Grant Eligibility

Proposals submitted by College of Forestry faculty and staff are eligible for award by making submissions that meet the following criteria:

- Satisfactory completion of all elements set forth in the Request for Proposals issued by the responsible Program Administrator.
- Sponsorship of the proposal by the applicant's Department Head and an Associate Dean or Director of Research with program portfolio responsibilities relevant to the proposed request.

4. Preference Criteria for Award of Funds.

Preference will be accorded those small and large grant requests which:

- Demonstrate commitment of matching funds from a source separate from the COF Priorities Investment Fund.
- Directly and measurably advance one or more of the strategies and commitments articulated for Priorities One, Three, Four or Five with preference given to those requests addressing more than one priority.
- Clearly demonstrate that articulated outcomes can be accomplished without an ongoing or future commitment of funds by the College of Forestry or other source; or, demonstration that such funding will be a logical and likely outcome of investment in the project proposal.
- Engage and demonstrate collaboration between Departments within the College of Forestry, or between the College of Forestry and other Colleges at OSU.
- Demonstrate new and scalable opportunities for program enhancements relevant to the targeted priority, strategies, and commitments.
- Any other preference criteria set forth in a specific large grant RFP the applicant is responding to.

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5. Decision Process for Proposal Consideration and Award of Funds.

Funding of large grant awards will be based on the following decision process:

Large Grant Application Processing Steps

1. Grant application forms will be reviewed by the Program Administrator.
2. If clarification is requested, a written response from applicant must be made within a time specified as reasonably necessary to avoid delay in processing all applications. In-person meeting(s) may be conducted at the discretion of the Program Administrator.
3. The Program Administrator may consult individually with members of the College FEC or FRLAC (for research proposals) on any aspect of an application.
4. The Program Administrator will present pending applications at a scheduled meeting of the FEC (or FRLAC for research proposals) for discussion. Direct interaction with the applicant may be allowed at the FEC (FRLAC) meeting as time permits.
5. FEC (FRLAC) members who participate in the meeting will be asked to individually rank all submissions based on clarity and strength of the application in support of:
 - Stated preference criteria
 - Relationship to, and support of outcomes targeted for the relevant program area
 - Ability to objectively measure project outcomes using program KPIs
6. The Program Administrator will compile individual FEC (FRLAC) rankings into a single rank order of all complete submissions.
7. The Program Administrator will meet with the Dean to review the ranked projects and a summary of FEC (FRLAC) input. Together they will determine which project proposals from the list will be funded.
8. The list of all funded and unfunded project applications will be published in COF Today.
9. Project funding decisions will be announced within approximately 60 days of the application deadline, and funds awarded on a schedule and according to conditions established by the Dean and Program Administrator.
10. Unfunded projects may reapply in subsequent cycles.