

August 2017

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

SPECIAL RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM

Background

Access to advanced scientific instrumentation is not only essential for the conduct of cutting-edge state-of-the-art research, but also critical to building an infrastructure that promotes the development of new knowledge and enhances the potential for increasing sponsored research funding through expanded research opportunities.

Goal

Sponsored by the Office of the President, the goal of this program is to provide faculty, departments and units with cost-sharing funds to purchase new equipment, replace or expand capabilities of existing equipment, or support de novo assembly of an integrated new instrument.

Scope

This program is targeted at supporting instrumentation in instances where seeking other support, such as external funding, may not be feasible. The program will only consider funding for instrumentation that will be made accessible to investigators across campus. If similar or identical equipment already exists on campus, a clear justification must be made for the acquisition of the new piece.

Process and limits

The Special Research Instrumentation program will accept requests at **any time** during the year. Requests for up to \$100,000 in cost-share per proposal will be considered. The purchase value of requested equipment and associated components must be at least \$100,000. Total value below this amount will not be considered for funding. The total number of awards and their respective amounts are subject to change based on availability of funds. Decisions on applications will be made as soon as possible following the submission of an application. Funds will be transferred at time of purchase. Recipients are expected to provide a brief report on usage and impact after the first year of use. The report should be submitted to vprfunding@iastate.edu.

Evaluation

The following criteria will be used in evaluation of requests:

- How does the new instrument add to the research infrastructure of ISU?
- Does the instrument promote collaboration across a plurality of programs?
- Is there commitment of cost-share from departments/colleges?
- Does it enhance the potential for increased extramural funding?
- Does it catalyze interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research productivity and scholarship?
- Does it raise the visibility and national stature of ISU?
- Does it act as a magnet in recruiting and retaining faculty and students?

Requests

Requests are made via the web form found [here](#). Please provide detailed information about the requested equipment as well as supporting documentation and justification. If you have any questions about this program, please contact vprfunding@iastate.edu or Jerry Zamzow, jzamzow@iastate.edu.