THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

THE PRESIDENTIAL COST-SHARING FOR RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION FUNDING (COSRIF) PROGRAM

Background

Access to advanced scientific instrumentation is essential not only to conduct cutting-edge state-of-the-art research, but also to build 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 competitive 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 whose cost falls outside the range of federal major instrumentation grants, or is not permitted in typical individual federal research proposals. The COSRIF 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 COSRIF program will accept requests twice annually on or before October 31 and March 31. Requests for up to a maximum of $300,000 per proposal from ISU funds, with a maximum of one third contributed by the Office of the VPR, 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. Announcement of funded projects will be made on or about December 1 and May 1. 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 Iowa State?
- 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 Iowa State?
- Does it act as a magnet in recruiting and retaining faculty and students?

Requests

Requests are to be made via the COSRIF web request form, along with a brief supporting description and justification. The COSRIF web form is found here. If you have any questions about this program, please contact vprfunding@iastate.edu or Jerry Zamzow, Office of the Vice President for Research, jzamzow@iastate.edu.