

Summer Research and Creative Activity Grant

The Summer Research/Creative Activity Grant (SRCAG) offers a unique opportunity for full-time faculty members to engage in scholarly or creative activities during the summer. The SRCAG provides faculty members with significant benefits that extend beyond the scope of the funded project itself. Engaging in dedicated research or creative activities allows faculty to deepen their expertise in their respective fields. This enriched knowledge base can then be integrated into their teaching, resulting in more informed, up-to-date, and relevant course content and makes them more effective and engaging educators.

Faculty can bring real-world examples, the latest findings, and practical applications of theoretical concepts into the classroom. This not only enriches the learning experience but also helps students to see the practical implications and potential impact of their studies. Furthermore, faculty can involve students in their research or creative projects if they choose to, offering them hands-on experience and the chance to contribute to meaningful work. This involvement can be particularly beneficial for students considering careers in research or creative fields, as it provides them with a glimpse into professional practices and challenges.

The dissemination of the project's findings or creative outputs can enhance the university's reputation in the academic and professional communities. This, in turn, can open more opportunities for collaborations, funding, and other resources that benefit both faculty and their students. The culminating report required at the end of the grant period not only serves to document and share the project's achievements but also sets the stage for further exploration and development of the project's themes, potentially leading to ongoing projects or new avenues of inquiry.

Eligibility

- Full-time faculty members are eligible for funding from this program. Eligible faculty must assume primary responsibility for designing, writing, and submitting the proposal.
- Awardees may teach no more than one class and corresponding lab section during the summer if the grant is received.
- Faculty cannot receive a Summer Research/Creative Activity Grant in two consecutive summers.

Funding Allocation and Restrictions

- This program awards up to a maximum of \$5,000 per project to support approved research and creative endeavors. A total of approximately \$25,000 is available per summer.
- Faculty stipends for conducting or supporting the research/creative activities are an allowable funding item for this grant.
- There should be a tangible scholarly/creative product from this award.

Application Process and Materials

Submitting a comprehensive and well-prepared application is crucial for your project's success in the Summer Research and Creative Activity Grant program. To ensure a smooth and streamlined process, please adhere to the following guidelines and use the template provided for your proposal. The proposal must include:

- a. An abstract describing the purpose of the scholarly/creative activity to be completed over the summer (no more than one page, double-spaced, 12-point font).
- b. A statement describing the scholarly/creative project's relationship to the unit's or University's strategic plan/priorities or current initiatives.
- c. A detailed plan of the research and activities to be done as part of the project.
- d. Timeline that specifies when all activities will be carried out and completed.
- e. A plan for evaluating whether the project met the desired goals
- f. Dissemination Plan: How will the information from this project be shared with others or applied/used?
- g. A completed budget narrative and worksheet. The budget narrative should explain the items being purchased as a part of this project and why they are necessary for the project. The budget template can be found at [Budget Worksheet Template](#)

Timeline and Selection Criteria

The initial application review will be by a college review committee organized by the Dean. The Dean may charge an existing college-wide committee with this responsibility. The college-level review committee will provide recommendations to the Dean.

The timeline and steps required in the review process are:

Review Process	Responsible	Deadline Date(s)	Deliverables
Proposals Due	Faculty Member	March 23	Completed materials submitted online
Initial Review	College Committee	March 24 – March 31	Recommendation and Justification to Dean
Dean Recommendation	Dean of College	April 1 – April 7	Recommendation and Justification to Provost's Office
Provost Appointed Subcommittee of Graduate Council Members	Graduate Council Subcommittee	April 8 - April 15	Recommendation and Justification to Provost
Provost Makes Final Determination	Provost	April 30	Provost determines which proposals are funded and informs applicant, chair, and dean

The Graduate Council Subcommittee Will Evaluate the Proposals Based on the Following Criteria:

- Overall project impact or benefit to the university community
- Tangible scholarly or creative work identified
- Description of scholarly or creative activity
- Activity plan detailed and understandable
- Budget detail and justification understandable and reasonable
- Reasonable timeline to complete scholarly or creative work product
- Proposal's relationship to the department's or university's strategic plan, priorities, or current initiative
- Student role in the project defined (only if applicable, not required)

Award Conditions and Reporting Responsibilities

A culminating report is due no later than the first Monday of September following the summer research/creative activity period. A brief report (not to exceed two pages, double-spaced, 12-point font) should be submitted to the appropriate Department Chairperson, with copies sent to the appropriate Dean and the Vice Provost/Dean of Graduate Studies at graduatestudies@semo.edu. This report will describe accomplishments over the summer and any next steps or plans for continuing or applying what was learned or accomplished from this scholarly/creative activity.

Proposal Submission

Those wishing to be considered for a Summer Research/Creative Activity Grant should complete your proposal using the Proposal Template, create your budget using the Budget Worksheet Template, and use the below Grant Submission Form link to submit the proposal and budget.

[Grant Submission Form Link](#)

[Proposal Template Link](#)

[Budget Worksheet Template Link](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

- Does this have to be completed during the summer? Yes, SRCAG research and creative activities must be completed by summer's end.
- Can I receive a stipend as part of a SRCAG? Yes, faculty stipends are an allowable expense. All university guidelines and policies must be adhered to regarding payment of stipends.
- Can the funds of the grant cover travel costs? Yes, travel is an allowable expense.
- Who owns the equipment or materials purchased from a project? Any equipment or items purchased as part of the grant remain property of the university. Any work or products produced from the project would fall within relevant university policies and guidelines such as the intellectual property policy.