BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND (BoRSF) OPPORTUNITIES

FY 2022-23 FUNDING CYCLE
BoRSF STRUCTURE
CONSTITUTIONAL DEFINITION & REQUIREMENTS

Two Postsecondary Education Goals Framed as Equal:

- Improve the Quality of Higher Education
- Enhance Economic Development in Louisiana

Expenditures Permitted for “Any or All” of the Following:

- Carefully Defined Research Efforts
- Endowment of Chairs for Eminent Scholars
- Enhancement of the Quality of Academic, Research or Agricultural Departments or Units Within a Post-Secondary Institution
- Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students
BoRSF FUNDING PROGRAMS

Endowed Chairs
Recruiting and retaining game-changing faculty – matches private contributions to establish chairs in increments of $1 million

Recruitment of Superior Grad Students
(Endowed Grad Scholarships)
Attracting the highest quality students to Louisiana for research & study in key programs – establishes permanent endowed scholarship funds for superior students in departments with existing or prospective eminence

Research & Development
(Research Competitiveness Industrial Ties/Proof-of-Concept Awards to LA Artists & Scholars)
Building competitiveness & partnerships to contribute to fundamental knowledge and economic development – funds summer research time, student support, travel, supplies, market research studies, and equipment/supplies

Enhancement
(Departmental BoR/SREB Professorship & Two-Yr. Workforce Scholarship Endowments Federal Matching)
Foundational support for academic & research programs/units – funds instructional and research equipment and supplies, curricular redesign efforts, student experiences, visiting speakers, endowment matching, and other academic support activities.
MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES FOR FY 2022-23?

NONE, THOUGH LOGAN REDESIGN IS COMING SOON

APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2022-23

$20M

(Same as FY 2021-22)
GRANT PROGRAMS: DIRECT SUPPORT
BoRSF GENERAL ELIGIBILITY & FUNDING

- All public postsecondary ed campuses, plus private campuses that are members of LAICU, are eligible

- BoRSF supports all academic and workforce disciplines – check restrictions for individual programs

- Most grant projects require faculty leadership and are submitted via the Office of Sponsored Programs or its equivalent; endowments are submitted by the campus and have different pre- and post-award requirements

- Funding is public, so subject to disclosure; most documentation submitted to BoR, including proposals, is public record
DEPARTMENTAL ENHANCEMENT

- **Program Goal:** Enhance the capacity and quality of high-priority departments and academic units

- **Eligibility:** All academic disciplines on a rotating basis (one year on, one year off); targeted workforce eligible every year

- **Grant Types:**
  - **Comprehensive:** Large-scale awards to move the unit in a holistic way toward strategic goals. Up to five years, up to $1M total funding, one proposal per unit
  - **Targeted:** Smaller-scale awards to provide focused enhancement of a critical unit priority. One-year award, up to $200,000, no limit on proposals per unit
Types of Projects

- **Infrastructure (non-capital):** Buy tools to create/expand capacity
- **New Frontiers:** Pilot and implement new initiatives
- **Enhancement:** Advance/change directions of work already in progress
- **Faculty Development:** Learn new skills, new approaches
- **Typically Disallowed/Undesirable Uses:** Additional compensation (overload, etc.) for LA faculty, capital expenses, standard operating costs, supplanting existing resources, restoring budget cuts
BOR/SREB DOCTORAL STUDENT SUPPORT

- **Program Goal:** Build diversity in the professoriate by recruiting, retaining and graduating URM PhD students

- **Eligibility:** Campus graduate schools or central offices for graduate training

- **Partnership with SREB:** Membership in SREB’s Doctoral Scholars Program for all appointed students; appointees must meet SREB eligibility requirements

- **Funding:** Annual provision of $10,000 student support + $5,000 SREB DSP membership for each student + $2,500 in year 1 for faculty mentors to attend DSP Institute; institutional match of $10,000 additional direct support per student required

- **Duration:** 3 years
FY 2021-22 DEPT ENH COMPETITION PROFILE

- **108 Proposals Received**
  - 17 Comprehensive
  - 91 Targeted
  - 5 BoR/SREB
  - Total First-Year Funds Requested: $15,739,089

- **35 Proposals Funded**
  - 3 Comprehensive (18%)
  - 18 Targeted (20%)
  - 5 BoR/SREB (100%)
  - Total Awarded: $3,304,917 (21%)
R&D PROGRAMS

- **Research Competitiveness**: One- to three-year awards to help faculty near competitiveness for federal research dollars overcome barriers and secure federal funding (≤$200,000 total for multi-year awards (with annual caps); ≤$20,000 for one-year)

- **Industrial Ties Research**: One- to three-year awards for research projects with industry buy-in and potential for development and diversification of LA’s economic base (≤$350,000 total with annual caps)

- **Proof-of-Concept/Prototyping**: One-year prototype development or proof-of-concept awards for research with near-term commercialization/tech transfer potential ($10,000-40,000 for one-year project)

- **Awards to LA Artists and Scholars**: One-year awards for completion of major projects in arts, social sciences and humanities (≤$50,000)
FY 2021-22 R&D COMPETITION PROFILE

- 180 Proposals Received
  - 92 RCS; 26 ITRS; 12 PoC/P; 50 ATLAS
  - $9,584,223 requested

- 48 Projects Funded
  - 30 RCS; 6 ITRS; 3 PoC/P; 9 ATLAS
  - Total Awarded: $2,318,077 (24% of requested)

- Success Rate: 27%
DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

- Departmental ENH: October 24, 2022
- BoR/SREB Doctoral Support: November 2, 2022
- RCS:
  - Notice of Intent (mandatory): September 12, 2022
  - Full Proposal: November 7, 2022
- ITRS & PoC/P:
  - Notice of Intent (mandatory): September 12, 2022
  - Full Proposal: October 31, 2022
- ATLAS:
  - Notice of Intent (mandatory): October 11, 2022
  - Full Proposal: November 22, 2022
- Competitive Endowments (EC, EWF & EGS): February 1, 2023
- Endowed Professorships: March 31, 2023
SUCCEEDING IN BoRSF COMPETITIONS
APPROACHING A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE PROCESS

- Persistence – Apply early and often, learn from experience, listen to reviewer comments even when you disagree

- Awareness – Know what opportunities are out there, how competitive they are, what kinds of projects work; ask questions to program managers

- Obedience – Follow the rules

- Empathy – Understand what every party to the transaction wants and needs
A GOOD PROPOSAL & WORKPLAN

- **Before Funding:**
  - Align the Idea
    - Department/unit strategic priorities
    - Campus role, scope, mission & priorities
    - Funding source goals
  - Document and support arguments for need and value

- **During the Project:** Specify how work will proceed, its impact over and after the grant, and what success will look like

- **After the Project:** Define consequences of project completion; present a plan for post-award sustainability (concrete, realistic, detailed plans)
WRITING FOR EXTERNAL REVIEWERS

- Awareness of program goal, program guidelines, & scoring rubric
- Strong arguments rooted in the purposes, goals, & objectives of the funding
- Explanations of specific campus/dept./professional contexts and priorities
- Knowledge of the state-of-the-art in the subject area and how the project fits/advances
- All significant data presented with appropriate context to show need, impact, and long-term value of the investment for the campus and the State
WINNING THE COMPETITIONS

- Show clear and meaningful alignment with the RFP and campus/unit priorities
- Emphasize need, impact, quality, and sustainability (if appropriate)
- Anticipate questions, concerns, and challenges
POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- Contract between BoR and campus/system
- Compliance with reviewer stipulations and match rate required
- Detailed budget and budget justification
- BoRSF payments in advance; multi-year projects have retainage
- Annual and final project and financial reports
- Major changes (project, budget, personnel) generally require BoR approval (specified in contract)
RFPs, POLICIES & MORE INFORMATION

https://rsi.laregents.edu

https://rsi.laregents.edu/programs/borsf-programs/

https://rsi.laregents.edu/downloads_page/rfps-policies-forms/

Program Managers (contact info also in RFPs):

• **Competitive Grants (DENH, R&D):** Bryan Jones (bryan.jones@laregents.edu)
• **Competitive Endowment Programs:** Chris Mestayer (chris.mestayer@laregents.edu)
• **General Questions and BoR/SREB:** Carrie Robison (carrie.Robison@laregents.edu)
• **Regents Phone:** (225) 342-4253
PROGRAM QUESTIONS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Online Q&A (updated throughout the question period, ending October 15):

https://rsi.laregents.edu/downloads_page/frequently-asked-question/

Staff Assistance:
rsi@laregents.edu or email individual program administrators