



Board of Regents Support Fund

**FY 2024-25 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
& PATHS TO SUCCESS**



Board of Regents

BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND

LA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VII, SECTION 10.1 (1986)

Structure

- Trust Fund in Treasury Dedicated to Education Generates Revenues for Higher Ed/K-12
- Public Money, Public Utility, Public Processes

Constitutionally Mandated Higher Ed Goals

- Improve the Quality of Higher Education
- Enhance Louisiana's Economic Development

Constitutionally Designated Programs

- Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars
- Enhancement of Academic, Research & Agricultural Departments and Units
- Targeted Research & Development
- Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students



BoRSF AWARD TYPES

Grants (70% of funds expended since 1987):

Direct support for educational/scholarly work (Research and Development, Departmental Enhancement, Graduate Fellowships, Federal Matching)

Endowments (30% of funds expended since 1987): Matching funds to establish restricted permanent accounts that generate income for designated activities (student scholarships, faculty work – Chairs and Professorships) as defined by donors/campus/BoR



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/First-Gen Scholarship & 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.



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 markedly toward strategic goals. Up to five years, up to \$1M total funding, one proposal per academic, research, or agricultural 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



FY 2023-24 DEPT ENH COMPETITION PROFILE

- **101 Proposals Received**
 - 25 Comprehensive
 - 76 Targeted
 - Total Requested: \$15,858,025

- **24 Proposals Funded**
 - 3 Comprehensive (12%)
 - 21 Targeted (28%)
 - Total Awarded: \$3,309,029 (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 (\leq \$200,000 total for multi-year awards (with annual caps); \leq \$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 (\leq \$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 (\leq \$50,000)



FY 2023-24 R&D COMPETITION PROFILE

- **207 Proposals Received**
 - 120 RCS, 28 ITRS, 13 PoCP, 46 ATLAS
 - \$11,437,483 requested

- **52 Projects Funded**
 - Total Awarded: \$2,485,668 (22% of requested)

- **Success Rate: 25%**



ENDOWMENT PROGRAMS: INDIRECT SUPPORT



ENDOWMENT PROGRAMS

- Endowed Chairs: Recruitment and retention of distinguished senior faculty aligned with institutional role, scope, mission, and strategic priorities by pairing a 60% private-sector match (\$600,000) with 40% BoRSF (\$400,000)
- Endowed Professorships: Provides for retention of superior, high-impact faculty of any rank via a small endowment corpus (\$80,000 non-state/\$20,000 BoRSF). Can be used to create endowed scholarships for first-generation undergraduate students
- Endowed Superior Grad Student Scholarships: Matches non-State contributions of at least \$60,000 with \$40,000 from the BoRSF to create endowed scholarships in support of graduate students, first-professional students, and post-doctoral fellows
- Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships: Scholarship support for students on two-year campuses in workforce areas of high state priority



DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

- Competitive Endowments: February 1, 2025
- Departmental ENH: October 24 (discipline cycle, every other year; multidisciplinary partnerships available each cycle, but an eligible discipline must lead)
- R&D:
 - RCS: Notice of Intent (mandatory): September 11; Full Proposal: November 7
 - ITRS & PoC/P: Notice of Intent (mandatory): September 11; Full Proposal: October 31
 - ATLAS: Notice of Intent (mandatory): October 14; Full Proposal: November 21



SUCCESSING IN BoRSF COMPETITIONS

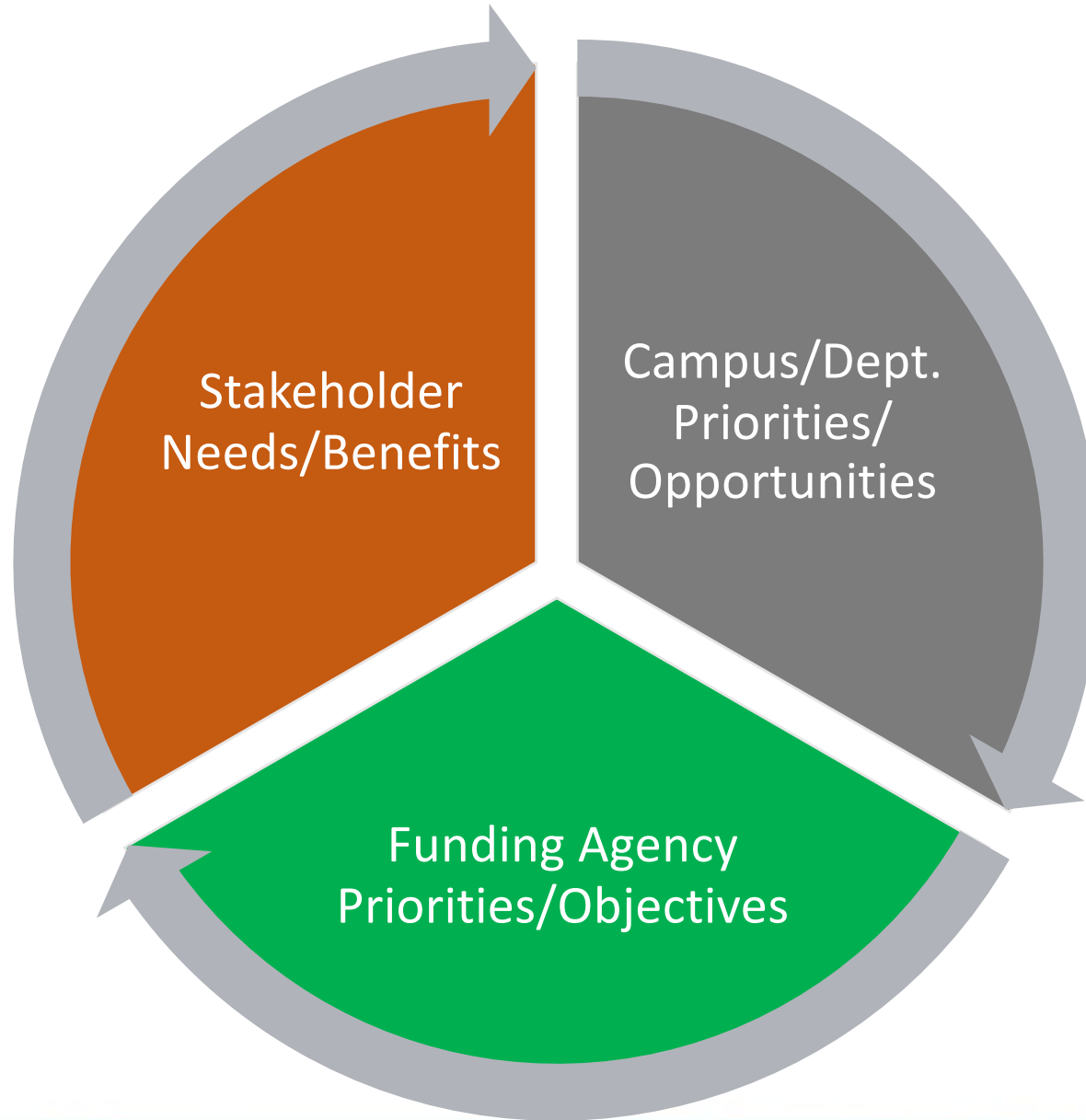


APPROACHING A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE PROCESS

- 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



BALANCE AMONG THE ELEMENTS



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/

BoRSF Staff (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)
- Contract Questions: Christine Norton (christine.norton@laregents.edu)
- General Questions and BoR/SREB: Carrie Robison (carrie.robison@laregents.edu)
- Regents Phone: (225) 342-4253



PROGRAM QUESTIONS/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

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

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

Ask-the-Program Manager Sessions:

Register now for a 10-minute discussion slot (<https://rsi.laregents.edu>)

Staff Assistance:

rsi@laregents.edu or email individual program administrators

Technical Issues with LOGAN Access, Forms, Uploads, etc.:

rsi@laregents.edu



QUESTIONS???

