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March 5, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: Directors, Offices of Research and Sponsored Programs

From: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Research and Sponsored Initiatives

RE: 1. Out-of-State Consultants' Reports and Funding Recommendations for Proposals Submitted under Board of Regents Support Fund Competitive Programs, FY 2025–26

2. **MARCH 20, 2026 DEADLINE** for Institutional Responses to Consultants' Recommendations

FY 2025–26 BoRSF FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Three reports from out-of-state consultants engaged by the Board of Regents Support Fund recommend funding for proposals submitted in FY 2025–26 under its competitive programs. These reports are now posted on the website of the Board of Regents Research and Sponsored Initiatives Section, <https://rsi.laregents.edu>. The Board is expected to act on the recommendations, as well as requests for matching funds to endow non-competitive professorships and first-generation undergraduate scholarships, at its March 25, 2026 meeting.

NOTE: ACTION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS IS REQUIRED BEFORE FUNDING IS ASSURED FOR ANY OF THE PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED

ENDOWED CHAIRS PROGRAM

Competitive and Restricted Bequests

RECRUITMENT OF SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENTS PROGRAM

Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Research Competitiveness Subprogram (RCS)

Though revenue levels for the BoRSF continue to be uncertain, sufficient monies are available to recommend funding levels in line with the FY 2025–26 budget. Available funds are insufficient to recommend support for any proposals ranked below Priority I. If revenue projections are reduced, the recommendations contained herein are subject to revision.

One competitive endowment matching subprogram – Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships – received fewer qualified requests for match than could be supported with budgeted funding and a competitive review was not conducted. All qualified proposals submitted in this subprogram, requesting a total of \$1,760,000, will be recommended for funding in March 2026. The list of scholarships to be matched is posted with the consultant reports.

Rank orders for which funds are available in each of the posted reports are:

REPORT	FUNDING RECOMMENDED	PROJECTS RECOMMENDED
Endowed Chairs	\$2,000,000	Ranks 1-4*
Research Competitiveness (RCS)	\$2,090,000	19 projects – see report
Endowed Superior Graduate Student Scholarships (EGS)	\$1,000,000	Ranks 1-13**
Endowed Two-Year Workforce Scholarships (EWS)	\$1,760,000	All recommended – see above

* Two proposals are ranked #4. Both are recommended for funding.

** Two proposals are ranked #13. Both are recommended for funding.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES

All institutions with proposals recommended for funding must inform the Research and Sponsored Initiatives Section in writing no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, March 20**, of intent to accept or decline awards recommended and if any or all of the following conditions apply:

1. Difficulties are foreseen in adjusting to any recommended modifications in funding levels, institutional matching requirements, or other stipulations set forth in these reports. Note that, if the award is accepted, stipulations specified in reports are binding and become a part of the award contract. If budgets have been reduced with no indication of the manner in which the reduction should/must be accomplished, principal investigators are permitted to reduce the budget as they deem most appropriate to accomplish the objectives set forth in the proposal as originally submitted and/or as revised by consultant stipulations.
2. There has been a change in the employment status of any individual listed as a lead principal investigator, or of any other individual named in the application who is critical to the successful completion of the proposed project as originally submitted.
3. The same or a very similar project has already been funded or will be funded in the near future from another source.
4. Problems exist or funding stipulations have been recommended that cannot be resolved within the next few weeks, which, therefore, might preclude the Board's being able to award Support Fund money by June 30, 2026, or at all. Problems of this type include but are not limited to: (a) the

institution's inability to fulfill a promised institutional matching commitment as set forth in the proposal; or (b) the Support Fund award being contingent upon the applicant's success in securing additional funding from, for example, a federal agency or industry.

Institutions with proposals recommended for funding for which none of the preceding conditions apply must also provide written assurance that (a) no problems will exist if the proposal(s) recommended are funded in the manner and at the budgetary level(s) stipulated by the consultants; and (b) the commitments made by the applicant(s) and the institution, as set forth in the original proposal(s) and/or required in consultants' stipulations, will be met. Responses are due in writing no later than **March 20, 2026**.

All responses must be emailed to Research and Sponsored Initiatives (rsi@laregents.edu). Please contact me if other arrangements are needed to submit a response.

As soon as possible following Board action at its March meeting, contracts for approved RCS projects will be transmitted through the appropriate institutional LOGAN account. Institutions should inform applicants whose projects are funded as quickly as possible after contracts are disseminated of the items required for their contracts. Instructions and the due date for contract completion and submission will be provided with the contracts in LOGAN. The effective date of contracts for funded projects will be June 1, 2026.

If you have any questions about this memorandum or the consultants' reports, please contact the appropriate program administrator or me. I can be reached via email (carrie.robison@laregents.edu) or phone (225-219-7169).

cc: System and Campus Heads
Members, Board of Regents