

# 2017 AAES RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM (RFA)

## PURPOSE

**AAES Research Support Program** is designed to strengthen the research capacity and capability of the AAES. These awards are intended to help fund excellent research programs and develop emerging new research endeavors.

Funding Areas for this RFA:

1. Equipment Support
2. Grants on the Edge (Good to Great)

## ELIGIBILITY

All tenured/tenure-track Auburn University faculty members with an AAES appointment and an approved AAES Hatch or Hatch/Multistate research project filed in REEport for which the applicant is the lead PI are eligible to apply. The requirement of a Hatch project for faculty members hired within the last 12 months can be waived upon the approval of the department head. The department head should email the request for waiver to the Associate Dean for Research before a proposal is submitted.

## AWARDS

### *Equipment Support*

Equipment Support of \$5,000 to \$75,000 will be provided toward the purchase of a single piece or a cluster of equipment. The total cost of the equipment is unlimited, but AAES will provide awards up to \$75,000. These awards require a minimum of 25% cost share (e.g., for a \$100,000 piece of equipment, AAES would provide \$75,000 and the PI would provide \$25,000).

### *Grants on the Edge*

Grants on the Edge Support provides funding to enhance competitiveness for extramural grant funding. The program will provide up to \$10,000 to support eligible faculty members who have had research proposals submitted and reviewed by external funding agencies since 2015 that were not funded but demonstrated merit. The program funding will provide support to address review panel comments, generate additional preliminary data or conduct other activities aimed at improving the chance of success upon resubmission of the grant proposal. Resubmission of the proposal to the granting agency is required.

## APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Applications must use an 11 point or larger font and margins must be an inch in all directions.

### *Equipment Support*

- AAES Research Support Application
- Description of PI's research program to include research area, long-term research goals, efforts to collaborate with researchers on campus, and the strategic direction of the research program (limit to 1 page).
- Justification for funding - present a justification for the need of the equipment addressing how the equipment will be used to enhance your research (limit to 3 pages).
- Vendor Quote – Attach an official vendor quote.

### *Grants on the Edge*

- AAES Research Support Application
- AU Intramural Coverform from the rejected extramural submission.

- Description of PI's research program (to include research area, long-term research goals, research productivity, funding history, competitiveness of the research program, efforts to collaborate with researchers on campus, and the strategic direction of the research program) (limit to 1 page).
- Project Summary/Abstract of the rejected extramural submission (1 page).
- Panel reviews/summary for the rejected extramural submission (highlight need for additional preliminary data or a weakness that could be addressed with modest funding) (limit to 3 pages).
- Proposed improvements to the initial rejected extramural submission (to include a description of the proposed improvements/fine-tuning in response to panel comments, how the requested budget will be used to improve the submission, and specific plans and timelines for resubmission of the proposal (i.e., agencies, target dates, budget amount, etc.) (limit to 3 pages).
- AAES Budget form. Budget requests must not include faculty salaries but can include other personnel costs and up to \$1,000 for the service of an expert reviewer/grant writer for the proposed resubmission.
- The PI will be required to resubmit the proposal within 18 months of receiving Grants on the Edge funding.

## FORM

[Request for AAES Research Support Application \(PDF\)](#)

## DEADLINE

The application deadline is 4:45 PM on March 31, 2017

## SUBMISSION

Please submit your application including the appropriate signatures, all in a single pdf file to [aaesgrant@auburn.edu](mailto:aaesgrant@auburn.edu)

## EVALUATION

Equipment Grant Proposals will be reviewed by an internal panel of AAES faculty based on the following criteria:

1. **Merit of the PI's research program** (50 points).  
Proposals should include a section entitled "*Description of the PI's research program*" to include research area, major technology or techniques used in the research, long-term research goals, research productivity, funding history, competitiveness of the research program, and the strategic direction of the research program. Please include how the PI will collaborate and work with others for programmatic development.
2. **Need for the equipment** (50 points).  
The proposals should include a section entitled "*Need for the equipment*" to explain the PI's research program/project(s) for which the equipment will be used. Include how the equipment will complement or enhance the research program and allow the applicant to become more competitive for future extramural funding.
3. **Cost share amount** (Mandatory).  
The application must include the cost share amount and sources. A minimum of 25% cost share is required. Cost share can exceed 25% but this will not affect the ranking of the proposal. Funds from federal sources including funds from AAES Hatch grants cannot be used as part of the match.
4. **Official vendor quote** for the equipment (Mandatory).

Grants on the Edge Proposals will be reviewed by an internal panel of AAES faculty based on the following criteria:

1. **Merit of the PI's research program** (25 points).  
Proposals should include a section entitled "*Description of the PI's research program*" to include research area, long-term research goals, research productivity, funding history, competitiveness of the research program, efforts to collaborate with researchers on campus, and the strategic direction of the research program.
2. **Merit of the research proposed in the initial rejected submission** (25 points).  
Proposals should include the *Project Summary/Abstract and Panel Reviews/Summary* for the rejected extramural submission).
3. **Merit of the proposed improvements** (50 points).  
Proposal should include *Description of the proposed improvements that will move the submission from Good to Great* to include a proposed improvements/fine-tuning in response to panel comments, how the requested budget will be used to improve the submission, and specific plans and timelines for resubmission of the proposal (i.e., agencies, target dates, budget amount, etc.).

## AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Based on the recommendations and rankings of the review committee, the awards will be made by May 15, 2017.

## PAYMENT PROCEDURE

Equipment support awards must be expended by August 31, 2017. Your department is responsible for preparing the necessary paperwork to purchase and pay for the equipment. The AAES Business Office will provide a FOP for the award portion of the funds. No-cost extensions will **NOT** be allowed.

For Grants on the Edge Support, the funds will be moved into a departmental FOP based on the budget provided and must be expended by May 14, 2018.

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## CONTACT

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