



January 26, 2026

To: Tenured (effective July 2026) Members of the Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Padma Rangarajan, Chair
Committee on Research

Re: Call for 2026-2027 Committee on Research Grants (CoR)

Overview:

Submission Deadline	April 10, 2026 - 5:00pm (No late applications considered)
Submission Link	https://senate.ucr.edu/rsenate/grants
Award Amount	Up to \$9000 (Variable, based on budget availability)
Report Deadline	September 1, 2028
Report Link	https://senate.ucr.edu/rsenate/grants/reports
Support Email	travis.gutierrez@ucr.edu , senate@ucr.edu

Purpose & Scope:

CoR grants are intended to provide seed funding to tenured faculty members to develop major new research projects, which are designed to receive extramural funding.

- Allowed Expenses: Research-related travel, equipment, supplies, research assistance, and travel to professional meetings.
- Prohibited Expenses: Summer salary, unpaid leave periods, course buy-outs, memberships, or professional society fees.

Eligibility:

- Open to all Tenured members (effective July 2026) or those whose tenure packages have been submitted.

- Note: Assistant Professors who have applied for tenure are eligible, but funding is contingent on receiving tenure.
- Past Recipients:
 - Ineligible: Faculty who received this award in the immediate previous cycle (2025-2026).
 - Eligible: Faculty who received the award in 2024-2025 or earlier, provided a report was submitted.

Guidelines:

Please note the following guidelines:

- Funding Expiration: Funds must be spent within two fiscal years.
 - Return of funds: Any funds remaining after June 30, 2028 must be returned if not spent within that timeframe.
- Multiple Applications: You may apply for both Omnibus and CoR grants simultaneously.
 - Restriction: If you receive a CoR award of \$5,000 or more, your Omnibus application will not be funded.
- Report Requirement: A report on the use of funds and research outcomes is required.
 - Failure to report makes you ineligible for future Senate funds.
 - Faculty who received the award in 2024-2025 or earlier are eligible, provided they have submitted a report.

Application Requirements:

The application must consist of the following two parts:

– Applications should be written for a general audience –

1. Proposal Narrative (Max 4 Pages)

Format: Single-spaced, minimum 11-point font, 1-inch margins

- Introduction: Justification, significance, relevant background, and preliminary data.
- Objectives: Statement of objectives
- Approach: Outline of research methods/approaches
- Relevance (Current): How this relates to your ongoing research and contribution to the field.
- Relevance (Future): How the proposed work will advance the research program and drive new directions (including, but not limited to, extramural grant applications).

2. Supporting documentation: (No page limit) - Combined into a single PDF.

- a. Bibliography: Reference cited.
- b. Budget: Itemized budget with a succinct justification narrative.
- c. CV: Concise Curriculum Vitae (Max 2 pages).
- d. Extramural Funding Table: Current and pending funding (Title, Agency, Dates, Amount, Applicant's Share).
 - i. Requirement: Include an explanation of how this project differs from currently funded research.

Applications that DO NOT meet the length and formatting instructions will not be considered.

Review & Scoring Criteria:

Applications are randomly assigned and reviewed by two committee members from different disciplines (e.g., a CHASS member may review a BCOE application).

Criteria	Points	Key Question
Clarity & Accessibility	1-5	<p>Is it written for a general audience? Can an educated non-specialist understand what will be done and why it matters?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5: crystal clear objectives + plain-language rationale; minimal jargon; deliverables stated ● 3: mostly clear but some jargon/vagueness ● 1: hard to follow; unclear goals
Plan & Feasibility	1-5	<p>Is there a credible, bounded plan likely to succeed with the stated timeline?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5: concrete steps + data/participants access + basic analysis plan + key risks noted ● 3: plan plausible but missing a piece (access, timeline, analysis, risks) ● 1: shortcomings in plan, unclear next steps
Seed Value	1-5	<p>Will this grant likely produce a concrete next milestone?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5: quantifies the impact of funds in their area ● 3: next step mentioned but not well specified ● 1: unclear how funds impact research
Total Score	/30	Combined score from two reviewers (max 15/reviewer)

Reporting:

Recipients are required to submit a brief report describing the research accomplishments, publications, grants/fellowships, and/or other benefits obtained with the support of the grant

including the amounts of any extramural funding the award facilitated. Reports are essential for the committee to justify future intramural funding.

- Note: Reporting is now facilitated by R'Senate Report Dashboard (January - 2026)

Funding Statistics: https://senate.ucr.edu/grants/funding_statistics