



## **WeR1: Investing in Faculty Success Program for Faculty Research Support Summer 2021**

**BACKGROUND:** The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR), in collaboration with Academic Affairs and ADVANCE at UNM, has launched an institutional initiative to support main campus faculty in navigating the post-pandemic world. UNM data show that during the pandemic, many faculty members spent less time on research and scholarship and related professional development as they revised their teaching and dealt with new and different demands in their home lives. As we transition out of the pandemic, the WeR1 Faculty Success Program seeks to support UNM faculty in new and creative ways.

**DESCRIPTION:** With this summer program, we seek to support faculty transitioning back to focusing more of their time and energies on their research and scholarship. In particular, this program provides a small amount of funds for faculty whose research productivity has been significantly impacted by the pandemic. Financial awards will be made for projects that promote a faculty member's research, creative, and scholarly activities. Summer research funds are available to scholars from all disciplines and can be used for a variety of aspects of a project. Preference will be given to non-tenured, early career faculty and to those who do not have significant extramural funding. *Faculty can only receive funding one time through this initial summer 2021 offering.* If this program continues, faculty can apply to receive funding in subsequent cycles (i.e. AY2021-22 and beyond).

**ELIGIBILITY:** UNM Main Campus tenure track or research faculty are eligible to apply for this program. Preference will be given to non-tenured early career, tenure-track faculty and faculty whose research progress/productivity has been demonstrably affected by the pandemic. Recipients must have submitted all reports and requirements from previous OVPR awards.

**ALLOWABLE COSTS:** This pilot program provides a maximum award of **\$5,000**. Allowable costs include, but are not limited to:

- Stipend support for graduate or undergraduate research students
- Equipment, materials and supplies, including replacement of supplies that were lost during the pandemic (e.g., outdated chemicals, expired samples, etc.), including combining these funds with other resources (e.g. startup funds) to purchase capital equipment.
- User fees for specialized equipment/analysis

- Travel to perform field work or to access research archives or other resources not accessible within NM for the purposes of analyzing and/or synthesizing materials such as historical documents, economic data, sociological data, etc.
- Travel for a research collaborator to come to UNM
- Subventions to support publication (e.g., copyediting, graphics development, etc.)
- Access to databases needed for research
- Incentives for research participants (e.g., gift cards)

Non-allowable costs include faculty and technical staff salary support, conference travel, instructional or office equipment, consultants, honoraria, and tuition.

**APPLICATION MATERIALS:** The following application materials should be submitted through the following Google form (<https://forms.gle/bKFXs3w9pQw62s5j6>)

- **Email address**
- **Name**
- **Rank/Title**
- **Department**
- **Project Title**
- **Brief Project Description (1-page maximum):** Please include a brief description of the project and need for WeR1 Faculty Success support, including availability of other funding, how this support will contribute to the PI's career trajectory, and a pandemic impact statement briefly describing how scholarly and creative work has been impacted by the pandemic (e.g., data collection interrupted or stopped; archives closed; performances cancelled, etc.).
- **Simple Budget and Justification:** Please provide a simplified budget and brief justification for how the funds will be spent. Typical categories for expenditures include but are not limited to those provided above under allowable costs. Here's an example budget and justification with appropriate level of detail: *"I am requesting a total of \$4,000, which will be spent to (a) purchase project materials and supplies lost during the pandemic (\$500); (b) provide stipend support (including fringe benefits) for a graduate student researcher to restart the project through regenerating lost data (\$3,000); and (c) travel to allow access to data in archives located in Anytown, which is necessary to complete the project (\$500)."*

**DEADLINES:** Two application deadlines will be available for summer 2021 support, COB on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021** and on **Friday, July 2, 2021**. Decisions will be made as soon as possible and no later than July 9, 2021 and July 18, 2021, for the two deadlines, respectively.

#### **REVIEW CRITERIA, AWARD PROCESS, and REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- Applications will be reviewed by the WeR1 Investing in Faculty Success steering committee, which includes representation from the ADVANCE program, the Provost's office and the OVPR. If needed, additional faculty-based subject

matter expertise will be sought. Recommendations will be made to the VPR, who will make the final selection.

- Primary review criteria will be:
  - Potential for impact on the trajectory of research progress/productivity
  - Evidence of need resulting from pandemic-related interruption of scholarly work
  - Career stage of PI (i.e. rank, tenure status) and availability of alternate funding
- Award recipients must submit a brief report summarizing the impact of the award on their research or scholarship **by December 31, 2021**. The report should be a maximum of 1 page and will be submitted electronically to OVPR. As these funds are intended to address immediate needs for restarting research/scholarship efforts, the expectation is that they will be spent by the end of the Fall 2021 semester. In addition, the awardee must respond to any request for information from OVPR, ADVANCE UNM, or UNM Marketing and Communications related to this award.
- All publications and other printed materials benefitting from this award, including websites, should acknowledge the funding source as “This work was conducted with support from the University of New Mexico Office of the Vice President for Research WeR1 Faculty Success Program.”

**Questions regarding this RFP can be directed to Greg Trejo by emailing:**  
[vpr@unm.edu](mailto:vpr@unm.edu)

