

2008–2009 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS VPUE FACULTY GRANTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Program Overview

VPUE Faculty Grants for Undergraduate Research are intended to promote the introduction of Stanford undergraduates to modes of inquiry, analysis, and discovery in their chosen academic discipline. The program aims to provide a bridge between introductory coursework and more advanced independent study. Grants will enable students to work on faculty-designed research and creative projects by funding student stipends as well as project-related travel expenses and materials. Student participants will develop research skills under close faculty mentorship, preparing them to undertake more independent projects in the future.

There will be two proposal submission deadlines for the 2008-2009 Academic Year:

- October 29th, 2008 (for funding available in the Winter, Spring, and Summer)
- January 21st, 2009 (for funding available in the Spring and Summer)

Eligibility

Academic Council and Med Center Line faculty are given first priority. Other Stanford research faculty may be considered if funding is available. Funds may only support current Stanford undergraduates. Funds may not support honors thesis research; honors students should apply for a UAR Student Grant instead. Off-campus project activities are only supported when students are accompanied by their faculty mentors.

Selection Criteria

Proposals are reviewed by the Vice Provost's Undergraduate Advisory Council, a panel of Stanford faculty representing diverse disciplines. Successful proposals will provide concise evidence of:

- Strong faculty mentorship
- Student training in methodologies that enable future projects of a more independent nature (e.g.- senior project, honors thesis, or graduate study)
- Student intellectual engagement with the faculty mentor's broader research agenda

Proposal Guidelines

Faculty-authored proposals must be submitted online at <http://vpuefacultygrants.stanford.edu>. The proposal submission form will open on October 15th, 2008. Incomplete proposals may be edited online up to the deadline.

Proposals are not to exceed 1500 words. Successful proposals will describe:

- The broader scholarly agenda motivating the project
- Specific student project objectives and how they contribute to the advancement of the broader agenda described above
- Specific student activities, techniques, responsibilities, and deliverables
- Strategies for providing mentorship, including guidance for students exploring the broader research agenda, training for described student activities, and faculty feedback to students regarding their analyses and presentations

- Plans for student recruitment and selection, or a description of the fit between the project and the students if the latter have already been selected
- The rationale for a separate funding request (only necessary if your department already has funding through a VPUE Departmental Grant)
- Outcomes of past student projects and ideas for improvement of student experiences (only necessary if you have previously received a VPUE Faculty Grant)*

In addition to the proposal, you will be asked to provide a budget, categorized as follows:

- Student Stipends (at \$13 per hour, with a maximum of 10 hours per week for 10 weeks during academic quarters and 40 hours per week for 10 weeks during the summer)
- Student Travel expenses (only when accompanied by the faculty mentor; combined per-student travel and stipend may not exceed \$1300 per quarter or \$5200 per summer)
- Project Materials and Supplies (specific project-related expenses, excluding infrastructure or overhead, limited to \$500 per student)

Program Administration

VPUE Faculty Grants for Undergraduate Research are administered by the office of Undergraduate Advising and Research (UAR).

For questions regarding program goals, proposal content, or review criteria, please contact Brian Thomas (bthomas@stanford.edu; 650/723-0051).

For questions regarding grant administration and budgets, please contact vpue-research@stanford.edu; 650/723-2426).

*Important note for previous VPUE Faculty Grant recipients: Please ensure that your most recent undergraduate researchers have filled out our online research experience evaluation, found at <http://vpuefacultygrants.stanford.edu>. Reviewers examine these evaluations closely when making funding decisions.