

Fostering Interdisciplinary Research Explorations (FIRE) Grants Guidelines

Deadline: January 23, 2015

Submit an electronic copy including all items in a **single file in PDF** to: firegrant@unc.edu

FIRE grants are intended to encourage innovation that transcends the boundaries of traditional disciplines, integrating varying methodologies, and fostering a collaborative and creative research infrastructure at UNC.

FIRE recipients are research collaborations co-led by UNC faculty which must contain at least one tenured/tenure-track faculty member, and must represent different disciplines, departments, divisions, schools, centers, or institutes. While post-docs and graduate students cannot co-lead a team, FIRE grant funds may be used to fund graduate student or post-doctoral research staff but may not be used to fund faculty salary.

Requirements include: 1) *New proposal applications must represent new or recently established collaborations and/or areas of research.* 2) *Proposed projects must engage faculty representing two or more distinct fields or methodological approaches.* 3) *Proposed projects should bring together investigators whose individual programs of research are not already formally connected with publications or funding.*

Preference will be given to those who bridge highly disparate disciplinary areas creating radically interdisciplinary research teams working on high risk or innovative projects that are unlikely to find initial funding from other sources.

Proposal Length: Proposals should not exceed two pages of single-spaced text in length. Font must be Arial or Calibri 10-point or larger. Margins (top, bottom, and sides) must be at least one inch. The budget is limited to one page and is not included in two-page proposal limit. Faculty CVs or biosketches are limited to four pages and are not included in the two-page proposal limit.

Proposal Guidelines: Please include the following sections in your two page proposal.

1. Project Overview: Briefly describe what you are proposing including:
 - How is your project innovative or novel?
 - What are your aims or goals?
 - What methods or plans will you use to complete the project?
2. Interdisciplinary Research: Describe how your work generates continued, long-term interdisciplinary collaboration or research.
3. Qualifications of Team: Provide CVs or biosketches for each of the faculty team members (other research staff CVs not needed), each not to exceed four pages.
4. Financial Officer: Specify one business manager who will administer the grant funds internally, if awarded. Include first and last name, office phone number, department name, and email address.

Brief Budget Overview: Include the total amount for each category (listed below) and a one paragraph narrative budget justification.

- Personnel (faculty salary not allowed),
- Equipment,
- Supplies,
- Travel and / or
- Other

Inquiries may be directed to Denise Lindley, FIRE grant Administrator, Office of Research Development, Telephone: 919-962-6227, E-mail: FIREgrant@unc.edu