Rising Star Grant

**TO:** UCCS Search Committee Chairs & Department Chairs

**FROM:** Acting Associate Vice Chancellor for Research

**SUBJECT:** Call for Applications for Rising Star Grant

UCCS is committed to promoting research and creative excellence and fostering a community of learning, engagement, and inclusive belonging as a foundation for teaching and mentoring of students. The Office of Research, with support from the Provost Office, is recruiting new tenure track scholars whose research or creative works align with the UCCS strategic plan, and in particular [Core Strategies 1 and 3](https://strategicplan.uccs.edu/strategies). These funds are intended to be used as one-time salary-support and can take several forms (e.g., a one-time course reduction, summer salary, TA salary). The goal is to provide awardees more time to set up their research/creative program during their first couple of years at UCCS. **The awardee is expected to show scholarly impact within two years of using the funding and must fill out a short “final report” survey.**

Applications submitted under this funding program are evaluated by the Acting AVC-R on a rolling basis and participation is contingent on funding. Typically, two awardees will be supported in a given fiscal year. If awarded, the funds will be made available to awardees during the specified semester (within 2 years of their start date) that the candidate requests to use the funding. Departments may only receive one Rising Star Grant every-other fiscal year.

To receive a Rising Star Grant, applications must:

* Be submitted by the Search Committee Chair and the Department Chair
* Be limited to a maximum of $5,500 in salary plus benefits.
* Be for the recruitment of a Tenure Track candidate whose background or area of research / creative works is not well represented in the recruiting department and will enhance the inclusive research culture of the recruiting department.
* Explain how the department will support this scholar and create a supportive and welcoming environment that sets this person up for success.
* Must have an acknowledgment of the terms and conditions from the candidate.

**CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION**

Protected class information should not be provided and will not be used in the evaluation of proposals. Awards will be based on the merits of the proposal as demonstrated in the following information provided:

1. Details on the candidate and how that candidate will help meet our university’s strategic initiatives and in particular [Core Strategies 1 and 3](https://strategicplan.uccs.edu/strategies).
2. Evidence that the candidate’s background or area of research / creative works is not well represented in the recruiting department and will enhance the inclusive research culture of the recruiting department.
3. Once hired, what specific steps will be taken to ensure that the new hire feels supported and valued? How will the department gauge its success at this?

**PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION VIA EMAIL**

1. Applications that request a course buy out must include a completed [Course Buy Out Approval Form](https://research.uccs.edu/sites/g/files/kjihxj1536/files/2021-10/Course%20Buy%20Out%20Approval%20Form_sign.pdf) with the submission.
2. Save your proposal as a single pdf file.
3. Email your proposal to the Acting AVC for Research directly.

**AWARD CONDITIONS**

Conditions are determined by the Office of Research (OOR) and may be subject to change. The OOR will send one notice to recipients about reporting deadlines and requirements.

**Awardees requirements:**

1. If applying for a differential workload course buy-out, approval must be given by the dean.
2. The candidate must show scholarly impact of the Rising Star Grant project within two years from the award date.
3. Complete a short “final report” survey two years from the award date. Awardees will receive further instructions.

**Administration of Funds**

Course buy-outs must be approved by the college Dean in advance and will be at the rate of $5,500 plus fringe. Other use of the salary funds (e.g., summer salary, research assistant support) do not require approval of the Dean. The funds should not take the place of other departmental and college/school commitments. Funds are meant to augment current start-up packages.

The Office of Research shall distribute funds to the home department within one month of the semester in which the salary support out was requested.

**Application**

Date: Today’s Date

Search Committee Chair: Enter Name

Department Chair: Enter Name

Position to be Filled: Enter Position

Candidate Name: Name of Candidate

School/College: Name of School/College

Department or Discipline: Department/Discipline

What salary-support will funds be used for?

Course Buyout  TA/GA Summer Salary Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Requested Semester for funding use (Within 2 Years of Start Date): Semester

Does the candidate accept the terms and conditions of this award? Yes ☐ No ☐

Has your department received a Rising Star Grant in the past? Yes  No

If yes, dates of prior award(s) Date of Prior Award

1. **Details on the candidate and how that candidate helps meet our university’s strategic initiatives and in particular** [**Core Strategies 1 and 3**](https://strategicplan.uccs.edu/strategies)**.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **A brief summary of the department’s current TT faculty and how the candidate’s background or area of research or creative works is not well represented in the recruiting department and will enhance the inclusive research culture of the recruiting department. (Note: do not provide protected class information)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Once hired, what specific steps will be taken to ensure that the new hire feels supported and valued? How will the department gauge its success at this?**

Click or tap here to enter text.