Rising Star Diversity Grant

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

**FROM:** Associate Vice Chancellor for Research

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

UCCS is committed to inclusive diversity as a foundation for teaching and scholarship. The Office of Research, with support from the DEI grant program and the Provost Office, is offering funds to help recruit tenure track scholars who are from marginalized or minoritized groups and/or study diversity and equity to UCCS. 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 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 AVC-R on a rolling basis and 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 Diversity Grant every-other fiscal year.

To receive a Rising Star Diversity 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 who is from a historically marginalized or minoritized background and/or who’s scholarship includes clear connections to equity, inclusion, or diversity.
* Explain how the department will support this scholar to create an inclusive 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**

Awards will be based on the merits of the proposals, and must include the following information:

1. Details on the candidate and how that candidate helps meet our university’s diversity and equity mission through their lived experience, their scholarship, or both.
2. A brief summary of the department’s current TT faculty diversity composition and evidence of a sustained commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.
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 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 Diversity 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 Diversity 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 diversity and equity mission through their lived experience, their scholarship, or both.**

 Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **A brief summary of the department’s current TT faculty diversity composition and evidence of a sustained commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.**

 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.