

Research Project Awards

Student Award Criteria

Students (either as individuals or as research teams) may apply for and receive awards offered through Internal Awards (*previously called Center for Research & Scholarship*) for research projects. Students interested in applying for these awards will need to meet criteria established by the Office of Sponsored Programs & Research: Internal Awards, including an identified faculty sponsor.

For undergraduate residential students, applications directly associated with proposals emerging from Research Intensive (R-I) courses will receive prioritization, if all other qualifications are equal.

These funds resource the purchase of equipment (which becomes university assets), supplies, travel (including overseas), consultation fees, student stipends (this does not include participant support costs), or other support services needed for the execution of research projects. Students will be awarded up to \$2000.

Eligibility

- Applicant(s) should be LUR or LUO student(s).
- Applicant(s) should currently be involved in research mentorship or instruction.
 - Provide course number and description or description of research collaboration with a faculty mentor OR Supply proof of current intent to participate in a research-based collaborative project with a faculty sponsor, which can be demonstrated in the declared faculty sponsor's letter of support.
- Applicant(s) should be in good academic standing. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.2.
- Applicant(s) should provide a letter of support from the declared faculty sponsor, who holds the qualifications to guide the research/creative work agenda.

Evidence of Real-World Impact

Articulate how the proposed research enhances students' competitive advantage in pursuing career opportunities, advances the University's reputation, impacts society, and applies to the industry.

Evidence of Well-Planned Research Proposal

Ability to clearly articulate the components of the research project/creative work as specified in the application. This includes the following:

- Background and research problem/interest/question
- Connection of the project to the university mission
- Plan and method of the proposed work (including application to IRB if applicable)
- Facilities and resources needed
- Significance of the project
- Role of the faculty mentor and students in the research agenda
- Bibliography
- Implementation timeline
- Itemized budget
- The commitment of support from external collaborators (if applicable).

Evidence of Student's Contribution to Research

Content requested in the Description of the Proposed Research section of the application should clearly indicate the substantial role of the student(s) as a contributor to the research project/creative work.

Follow-Up Expectations Changes

The student(s) will be expected to submit a final report describing his/her experience in the research project and outcomes.

Please email your summary to grants@liberty.edu and ensure your report is saved in the following format: **lastname_firstname_activitycode**.

Each student must provide a final report and reflection, which includes actual budget information, an abstract ready for publication or presentation (outside of the Liberty University community) or a description of the current status of the project, and a reflective essay.

You are required to share your reflective essay with your faculty advisor using the link provided, who will then complete a form verifying the completion of your presentation.

Reflective Essay

Required content and guiding questions:

Final reflective essay should be 1-2 pages in length and should be written in a style accessible to a non-specialist reader. Please include the following:

- Research Project Title (as presented on your research project award funding application)
- Faculty Sponsor
- Program of Study
- Findings
- Guiding questions
 - What questions were you able to answer (or not answer) and why (or why not)?
 - What results did you obtain?
- Significance of the project
 - Guiding questions: What were the important takeaways for you, your work, and your field more broadly? How does your project speak to contemporary issues, needs, or fields outside of your own? How does your research address big questions beyond the specific parameters of your project? As you answer these questions, think about how you would explain the project, and why it matters, to a person with little or no knowledge of your field.
- Need
 - Guiding questions: What did OSPR funding enable you to achieve that you would not have been able to otherwise? Include specific tasks (e.g., compensating survey respondents, travel costs), as well as broader endeavors (e.g., journal publication, dissertation completion, winning larger external awards).
- Future Directions

- Guiding questions: What is the project's current status, and when do you expect its completion? Did the project change as a result of your funded research (or other factors), and if so, how? How do you envision the project's ultimate trajectory?
Discuss limitations and future directions of research.
- How did this project impact your professional and academic opportunities?