



Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence Early Career Research Stipends

The Early Career Research Stipend Program is a supplemental funding option of the Research Grant-In-Aid Fund. Please refer to the Research Grant-In-Aid Program for proposal preparation guidelines.

Purpose

The goal of the Early Career Research Stipend Program is to enhance scholarly productivity by providing our junior faculty members with financial support and unencumbered time to pursue their creative agendas. This may include initiating research, continuing work on an already established research program, and/or bringing a research project to conclusion. The term 'research' refers to the normal scholarly activity in a discipline: contributing to knowledge in a subject area, or taking a well-defined step toward producing original scientific or artistic work. Faculty stipend awards are not intended for course development or for teaching-related work. Stipends are not awarded to support work toward an advanced degree.

Recipients are expected to disseminate their results outside the GVSU community via seminars, lectures, performances, and the like. They are also strongly urged to use the award as a means of obtaining external support for their efforts, if possible.

Eligibility

Proposals are accepted from faculty members who are in the **first two years of their tenure-track appointment**. Only one proposal per review cycle may be submitted.

Projects supported by these stipends will be more intensively pursued than is possible during the academic year. Therefore, the stipend period is paid only during the part of the year during which a faculty member is not on regular appointment. For most professors, this is the Spring/Summer Term. For a few whose appointments include Spring/Summer plus one other semester, the period of eligibility is the remaining semester.

The expectation is that faculty will devote significant time to their research activities during the Research Stipend award period. Faculty may teach no more than one course during the term when the stipend is received. Every effort should be made to relieve faculty of such departmental duties as advising, recruitment, and program supervision during the session in which the award is received. A limited amount of activity is possible but not recommended.

Faculty members who receive a faculty research stipend award must return to their normal duties at GVSU during the academic year following the award. Full time and part time administrators are not eligible for research stipends.



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Funding Limitations

The Faculty Research Stipend Program recognizes outstanding research proposals by supplying up to \$3,000 in salary and fringe benefits.

The stipend is in addition to the \$3000 that may be requested through the Research Grant-in-Aid program which provides support for student help, supplies, necessary travel, and other costs of projects.

Funding Cycles and Deadlines

All application materials must be received at the close of business (5:00 pm) on March 1st. If the 1st falls on a weekend or holiday, applications are due on the first work day following the 1st.

Review Process

The fundamental criteria are the same as those stated for the Research Grant-in-Aid Application. Projects recognized by stipends are expected to be of high quality, as judged by the Research & Development Committee.

Proposals are reviewed by a committee composed of faculty from several disciplines, and therefore **MUST** be written to be understood by members of these multi-disciplinary review committees, i.e., an educated lay audience, rather than by narrow specialists in your field.

Criteria used in evaluating proposals include: project justification, significance of project, appropriateness of project design and methods, qualifications of the applicant for implementing the project, probability of achieving project objectives, and appropriateness of the schedule for project activities, if applicable.



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Proposal Guidelines And Format

The format for the Junior Faculty Summer Research Stipend proposal is almost the same as for the Grant-in-Aid proposal but with one notable exception. If you plan to apply for the stipend funding, you must select the appropriate box on the application form and provide justification on the provided page. The justification should address why the stipend is necessary for the successful completion of the proposed project. In addition, the applicant should briefly discuss the expected demonstrable outcome of the project, such as a book, manuscript, creative performance, conference presentation, external grant proposal, etc.

Letter of Support

A Letter of Support should be written by your department chair. The letter should be given to the PI for upload. It is the responsibility of the PI that this letter be received by the CSCE before the due date of the proposal. A "Letter of Support Template" is available on our website. The CSCE review panel is particularly interested in your department chair's comments regarding:

- The applicant's general scholarly competence, recent performance, and promise of distinction in his or her field of interest;
- The value of the project in relation to scholarship in the field, outline the impact and significance;
- The applicant's ability to complete the described project successfully in the time schedule and the budget presented;
- How does this research fit the near-term goals of the department?

Recommendations should also address the originality of the project and the quality and concept of the plan.

CV

Please provide the review committee with an updated CV which can be uploaded along with your proposal and letter of support.