

Interdisciplinary Research (IDR) Origination Awards

Proposal Instructions

Submission Process

1. Submit a Letter of Intent by January 20, 2027 at 11:59 PM. An email is automatically sent to the PI's department chair, who must provide a Statement of Endorsement (short acknowledgement that the chair supports the project). The Letter of Intent form is found online at <https://researchdevelopment.byu.edu/idr-awards>.
2. A full proposal submission must be sent to rdadmin@byu.edu by February 17, 2027 at 11:59 PM. Use the subject line "Application for IDR Origination Award."

Eligibility Criteria (Proposals not meeting these criteria will not be reviewed)

- Track One Investigators must be full-time faculty from two or more BYU colleges, and three or more BYU departments or programs.
- Track Two Investigators must be full-time faculty from one or more BYU colleges, and three or more distinct departments or programs at BYU
- Budget limited to \$60K per year for Track One, and \$20K per year for up to two years for Track Two
- Eligible departments include: academic departments, the Center for Collaborative Research and Statistical Consulting, the Harold B. Lee Library, CAPS, the Microscopy Lab, the MRI Facility, the Wheatley Institution, the Maxwell Institute, the Sorensen Center for Ethical and Moral Leadership.

Review Criteria:

- Potential to produce significant scientific, cultural, creative, and/or societal impacts
- Clearly articulated problem statement
- Identified measures of success and achievable milestones
- Diverse interdisciplinary research partnerships with clear team member contributions
- Strong potential for external funding following the IDR award

The proposal must consist of the following elements:

1. Cover page template (1 page). List the names of faculty participating and their departments and colleges (minimum requirements for each track must be met).
2. Project narrative (up to 5 pages). This section is the main body of the proposal and should include the following:
 - a. Introduction that provides background or rationale for the project; identifies the current status of the research; describes the project's long-term and short-term objectives.
 - b. Proposed plan which describes the project's expected outcomes; the project methodology; identifies specific research or scholarly activities to which funds will be applied and how these investments will enhance the competitiveness of the project for external funding; provides a schedule and expected milestones; describes the interdisciplinary team and how the IDR Origination Award will enable the team to successfully obtain future external support.
 - c. Expected research outcomes
3. Budget and budget narrative (up to 1 page). Teams can propose up to \$60K per year for up to two years for Track One, and \$20K per year for up to two years for Track Two. Funds may be used for allowable costs consistent with university rules for travel, equipment, supplies, contractual services, and core/shared user facility use. Funds also may be used for salary to support the project efforts of graduate and undergraduate students and/or technical personnel under the supervision of project investigators, where data collection is required as a part of the effort for enhance competitiveness. Funds may NOT be used to replace current funding from another source; for renovation, remodeling, or alteration of research laboratories or core/shared facilities; for instructional release/course buyout.
4. References (no page limit). List references cited in the project description.
5. Plans for external funding (up to 1 page). List of potential external and competitive internal funding (this should include all funding regardless of how it related to this project).
6. Biographical Sketches (up to 2 pages per PI).
7. Current and pending support (no page limit). List all current external and competitive internal funding (this should include all funding regardless of how it related to this project).
8. All components should be in Times New Roman 12 pt font; 1 inch margins.

Review Process

Research Development will perform a compliance review of proposals. Technical review will be conducted by members of the University Research Council (Research Associate Deans). After the reviews, funding recommendations will be made to the AAVP-Research.

Reporting Requirements

Awardees will present brief oral reports at the Research Networking Event in August 2027. Written reports are due on August 1st after each year of funding. The final report should describe external proposal(s) and their status, and other research outcomes (publications, student mentoring activities, and other results of note). A report template will be provided to the PI by the BYU Research Development Office.