

GUIDELINES FOR FACULTY OF SCIENCE COMPACT SEED GRANTS 2019

Faculty of Science Compact Seed Grants are designed to encourage early career researchers (ECRs), or those staff members who are relatively new to the research grant system including staff undertaking doctoral studies, to develop a research project which will lead to ongoing research and future external funding.

The underlying intent of the seed grant is to support well-defined research projects that may not otherwise receive funding, or foster new areas of research and build research capacity and career development for ECRs. Projects should be externally focused, and involve engagement and impact with industry and/or communities, rather than being a review of teaching programs or similar.

Amount: A maximum of \$10,000 for one year, non-renewable, per application. Funds must be spent within 12 months of approval.

Eligibility:

The funding is for **new** projects, or novel breakthrough projects that currently do not have external funding. It is *not* funding for extensions of existing projects or projects that have been funded through previous internal competitive application processes. Applicants must not apply for funding for the same or similar project under more than one CSU funding scheme at the same time.

Funding will be for externally focused projects, particularly those which engage an external partner or stakeholder group, which will lead to further research, publications and external funding. Funding will not be awarded for projects which focus on review of teaching programs or similar.

Only members of the Faculty of Science can apply. These grants are designed to encourage ECRs (staff generally within 10 years of receiving your PhD or CSU staff undertaking PhD studies) to build their research profile. Projects must be led by an ECR or CSU staff PhD candidate.

Senior staff are encouraged to be included as co-applicants but FOS Compact Seed Grants are not intended for experienced researchers with a track record of success in attracting external funding.

No applicant, individually or jointly, may apply on more than two projects.

In the first instance, preference will be given to FOS staff who are classified as 'Research active', and are not members of FOS Research Centres and therefore eligible for alternative funding streams through CSU.

Staff who are engaged on teaching-only contracts are encouraged to seek advice before submitting an application to this funding scheme.

Use of Funding:

Seed funding may be used to for:

- Consumables or other items needed to undertake the research;
- Materials for which there is no other identified funding source;
- Research assistant or project officer support salary;
- Specialist services including statistical, diagnostic or other CSU-delivered services, and/or
- Travel costs linked to project collaborations or field work.

Funding may **not** be used for:

- Teaching buy-out
- Conference attendance

Assessment Criteria:

- Quality of the research proposal (clear aims, research description and significance);
- The project demonstrates value for money with a realistic budget and achievable outcomes;
- Eligibility of the applicant(s) and quality of the research team;
- Likelihood of the work leading to a publishable outcome and/or to follow-up grants and future research collaborations; and
- Alignment with the CSU Research Narrative;

Additionally:

- If CSU internal funding has been awarded to the primary applicant in the last 5 years, a description of the amount, project and outcomes of this funding award must be included in an addendum to the proposal.
- Research Centre membership should be clearly identified on your proposal, where applicable (ILMS, NWGIC, GCAI). Where the applicant is a Research Centre member, if the application is considered not to be aligned with Centre objectives and therefore have higher priority through this funding scheme, a clear explanation of why the project would not be funded through a Research Centre funding scheme with a letter of support for this position from the relevant Centre Director should be included with the application.

CSU Research Narrative

It is essential that your application demonstrates how your proposed research aligns with one of the three research spheres (resilient people, flourishing communities and sustainable environments). You need to specifically refer to the three spheres that embody the University ethos in research.

The CSU Research Narrative can be downloaded from the CSU [Research](#) webpage.

Applications Procedure:

To apply for the Faculty of Science Seed Grants, your completed application form must be submitted to FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au by **5pm, 8 March 2018**.

Ensure your HOS approves of your project, including your time allocation to the project, as they will be consulted about your application during the assessment process.

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Applicants will be notified of the results in **early April 2019**.

On completion of the Project: On the completion of the project, seed funding recipients must submit a report (of up to 2,500 words).

This final project report should include the following information:

- Project Name
- Project Leader and affiliation
- Names of team members and affiliations
- Summary of project (200 words)
- Rationale and design of project
- Aims and objectives
- Findings/outcomes
- Publications (refereed and non-refereed) and conference proceedings / presentations in preparation or accepted resulting from the project
- External grants that you have submitted / accepted or plan submit for to gain further funding to continue this project
 - Confirmation that all reportable outcomes have been lodged in CRO.

Information: For further information regarding FOS Compact Seed Grant funding applications, please contact either:

- Jane Quinn, Associate Dean of Research – FOS-ADR-Exec@csu.edu.au or (02) 6933 4208
- Deborah Munns, Faculty Research Liaison Officer - FOS-RLO@csu.edu.au or (02) 6338 6168