

SPRING 2021 PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH (PSCoR)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JANUARY 19TH

(CHECK WITH YOUR COLLEGE FOR ANY EARLIER DEADLINE)

This is a proposal solicitation through the Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (PSCoR) to be awarded in Spring 2021 with a 12 mo. performance period. The purpose of PSCoR is to provide funding for activities that will lead to external funding for research. Please note that this RFP is only for faculty who plan to re-submit a proposal that has not already been funded by a federal agency. Funding will be available to successful applicants starting mid February 2020. Questions should be directed to Sheena.Murphy@mail.wvu.edu. This RFP and the required Cover Page can also be obtained at <http://research.wvu.edu/researchers/funding/internal-grants>.

Guidelines for proposal preparation:

- **Before you start, get a critical evaluation of your external referee comments.** Your college's Assoc. Dean of Research, your chair, a colleague or the Research Office (RO) may be able to help. PSCoR is quite competitive. Three scores of "good" from the NSF (or the equivalent from other agencies) are not indicative of reviewer enthusiasm and are very unlikely to result in a successful PSCoR application. The RO has not set a threshold for the level of support indicated in the previous reviews, but rather relies on your sober assessment before applying for a PSCoR. **We strongly recommend that you get assistance in that assessment.** If you conclude that your original proposal is not be competitive for PSCoR, the RO can still offer assistance in reformulating and rewriting the proposal to make it more competitive.
- You **must** provide copies of the panel summary and external reviewers' comments for the original proposal in their **entirety**.
- List the agency for the original submission, an interpretation of the grading scale (i.e. for 1-5, is 5 excellent? Or is 1?) and the amount of the original request. Do **not** include a copy of the original proposal.
- Description of proposed work is limited to **three pages** and should include:
 - A brief project description written for a **non-specialist**. The internal reviewers do not get copies of the original proposal; thus, this description needs to stand alone.
 - your response(s) to the funding agency reviewers' comments;
 - and an abbreviated budget¹ (note: faculty summer salary is limited to the lesser of one months salary or \$10,500, including benefits). ***Include specific explanation of how the funds requested from the Research Office will address the concerns of the referees and lead to a successful resubmission.***

Conservative budgets may improve competitiveness and should not exceed \$25,000. Include fringe benefits on all salaries. Do not include any F&A costs. Equipment is not an allowable expense, unless it is supported by cost share from the department or college. Salaries for non-WVU partners will not be covered. Consider carefully, the timing of your subsequent resubmission and allow a sufficient duration for this work to be completed.

- Separately you should attach:
 - any references you desire to include,
 - the completed PSCoR cover page,
 - a bio-sketch for the PI and co-PIs in the format of the relevant funding agency (e.g., 4-pages for NIH, 2-pages for NSF, etc.),
 - and the outcome of any previous (last 5 years) of PSCoR funding received by any of the PIs/co-PIs.

Any proposal missing any of the required items listed above or exceeding the length limit will be returned without review. Each proposal **must** be forwarded electronically through the Dean/Director of the Principal Investigator (PI). **The most significant review criterion is to what extent the requested PSCoR funds will contribute to subsequent federal funding for the activity.** Successful PSCoR applicants will agree to submit for pre-review to the RO the revised resubmission relevant to this application, and to complete a final report on developments and progress on external submissions and decisions along with referee reports. Publications resulting from a PSCoR award must acknowledge PSCoR program support.

¹ Example of an abbreviated budget:

\$XX for faculty salary and fringe; \$XY for technical salary and fringe; \$YY for student salary and fringe; \$ZZ for supplies and consumables. Total: \$XX+XY+YY+ZZ