



## INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Internal funds are available from the Office of Research and Innovation (R&I) and from the Research Council to support faculty members' research, scholarship and creative activities. Visit <https://research.unl.edu/internal-funding-opportunities/> for more information. ***If you are interested in seeing a request for applications (RFA) for one of the below programs or have related questions sooner than it is appearing on the website listed above, please feel free to contact Mari Greer, Administrative Coordinator (402.472.2851 or [mgreer1@unl.edu](mailto:mgreer1@unl.edu)) or Nathan Meier, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research (402.472.3902 or [nlm@unl.edu](mailto:nlm@unl.edu)).***

UNL faculty can receive only one R&I internal funding award (Arts and Humanities, Layman, or Research Council Faculty Seed Grant/Grant-in-Aid, Interdisciplinary Grant) as a PI in any fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) and may not receive more than two R&I internal grants as PI over any four-year fiscal period. Application deadlines and program eligibility requirements vary, so please carefully read each request for applications.

### R&I AWARDS

#### Arts and Humanities Research Enhancement Program

This program is designed to foster research, scholarship, and creative activity in the arts and humanities and to support excellence in these disciplines. This program provides seed money to help faculty achieve short-term goals that, in turn, increase their competitiveness for external grants and/or increase the broader impact of their work, to ultimately set the stage for larger projects. Awards up to \$15,000 are available. Application deadline: October 7, 2024 and March 3, 2025

#### Biomedical Research Seed Grants

Evidence of prior work or preliminary data is a necessary component of most biomedical research proposals. These seed funds are intended to enhance the competitiveness of faculty submitting grant proposals requesting R21- or R01-level support from the National Institutes of Health.

Investigators are expected to leverage seed funding to accumulate evidence in support of a working hypothesis; demonstrate the feasibility of a new approach; or build reviewers' confidence in a project team's ability to handle cutting-edge technologies, understand methods, and interpret results. *Faculty must contact Nathan Meier at 402-472-3902 or [nlm@unl.edu](mailto:nlm@unl.edu) before submitting an application for this award to discuss eligibility.* Awards up to \$50,000 are available. Applications are accepted any time.

#### Book Fellowship and Manuscript Workshop Program

The purpose of a R&I Book Fellowship is to provide faculty with a block of time to write a new book and/or funding to publish a new book. The block of time may include a course buyout for one semester and/or one month of summer salary support. This program will also provide support for manuscript workshops to enhance the quality of books published by UNL faculty. Books are defined by the Association of American Universities as: books, case books, edited volumes, encyclopedia, and textbooks. Proceedings, chapters, and study guides

are **not** included in the AAU definition of books. Updates to current editions will not be supported by this program. Funding from this program is intended to complement funding from the UNL Office of Research and Innovation (R&I) for research that may generate content for a book. Application deadline: January 15, 2025.

#### **Layman New Directions**

The Layman New Directions mechanism provides **funding for *tenured* faculty** (associate/full professors) who are branching into new research directions or need funding to support pilot/development work toward the next step in a funded research program. Awards up to \$10,000 are available. Application deadline: April 1, 2025.

#### **Layman Seed Grants**

Layman Seed Grants provide funding for research projects proposed by **early-career faculty who are non-tenured at the time of submission**. Awards up to \$10,000 are available. Application deadline: April 1, 2025.

#### **Revision Awards**

Revision Awards enhance the competitiveness of faculty revising and resubmitting grant proposals by providing developmental and/or financial support to help improve highly meritorious, but previously unfunded federal funding proposals that are eligible for resubmission. *Faculty must contact Nathan Meier at 402-472-3902 or [nlm@unl.edu](mailto:nlm@unl.edu) before submitting an application for this award to discuss eligibility.* Two award levels are available. For previous proposals requesting less than \$500,000, awards up to \$25,000 are offered. For previous proposal requests that were more than \$500,000, awards up to \$50,000 are available. Applications are accepted any time.

#### **Student and Community Health Grants (Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Life)**

Notice of Intent to Submit Required: Deadline is May 16, 2025 – see RFP for details.

**Healthy Nebraska Grants:** Grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded to UNL investigators or teams working in collaboration with a non-profit organization that serves the State of Nebraska to advance student or community health in the state of Nebraska. Students for the purpose of Healthy Nebraska Grants are broadly defined as students of any age and grade level. The outcome of the grant must have direct benefit to the citizens of the State of Nebraska and must be directly connected to student or community health, specifically emotional and/or physical well-being. Notice of Intent to submit required by May 16, 2025. Proposal deadline: September 15, 2025.

**UNL Student Health and Well-being Grant:** Grants of up to \$50,000 will be awarded to UNL investigators or teams to advance college student health and well-being in the state of Nebraska. Students for the purpose of the UNL Student Health and Well-being Grants are defined as any UNL student or UNL student population. UNL applicants may, but are not required to, partner with a community organization that serves the state of Nebraska. The outcome of the grant must have direct benefit to UNL student health and well-being and must be directly connected to emotional and/or physical well-being. Notice of Intent to submit required by May 16, 2025. Proposal deadline: September 15, 2025.

**For both tracks,** grants may be used for research, education, and/or engagement activities, and award durations may be up to one year, with an expected start date of January 1, 2026.

## **RESEARCH COUNCIL AWARDS**

### **Grants-in-Aid**

This program provides support for projects that promote a faculty member's research and creative or scholarly activities that may or may not enhance the prospects for obtaining outside support. Awards are available to scholars from all disciplines and can be used for whatever aspect of a project during a 12-month period is deemed necessary by the applicant – except faculty salary support. Preference will be given to non-tenured early career faculty and to those who have not received a Grant-In-Aid or Faculty Seed Grant from the Research Council in the previous two years. Awards up to \$7,500 for individual applications and up to \$10,000 for joint applications are available.

### **Faculty Seed Grants**

Faculty Seed Grants are designed for projects that encourage and enhance research or creative and scholarly activities and enhance the prospects of obtaining outside, competitive external funding. Faculty Seed Grants are available to scholars from all disciplines. Preference will be given to early career faculty and to those who have not received a Grant-In-Aid or Faculty Seed Grant from the Research Council in the previous two years. Awards up to \$10,000 are available.

### **Interdisciplinary Grants**

The goal for Interdisciplinary Grants is to enhance the competitiveness of applications for external funding and to foster innovative, collaborative, and timely ideas that inform existing and nascent strategic initiatives specified by the institution and/or funding agencies. Interdisciplinary Research Grants are available to UNL scholars from all disciplines. The intent of this competition is to build research collaborations across UNL departments, colleges, and campuses. Preference will be given to those who have not received a Grant-In-Aid, Faculty Seed Grant, or an Interdisciplinary Grant from the Research Council during the previous two years. Awards are available up to \$20,000; however, in an effort to encourage ambitious proposals and truly multi-disciplinary initiatives, the Research Council will accept requests for larger amounts of funding.

***The following Research Council programs have two deadlines annually: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in October and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in March. For the October deadline, applications will be accepted for scheduled lectures, workshops, symposia, activities held between January and June of the following year. For the March deadline, applications will be accepted for scheduled lectures, workshops, symposia, activities held between July and December of the same year as the submitted application.***

### **Distinguished Lecturer**

Support is offered for distinguished invited scholars who appeal to and interact with a large interdisciplinary segment of the university community. The speaker must be distinguished in his or her field. The stature of the speaker will be judged by his/her academic rank and institution; the number and significance of the speaker's scholarly publications (books, journal articles and abstracts of meeting presentations); or artistic works/productions, honors or honorary degrees, volumes, books or journals edited, or research grants and contracts secured. The program must include at least one lecture that is open, free-of-charge, and advertised to the entire UNL community. Funds may be used for travel and local expenses for featured speakers and/or honorarium. Awards up to \$3,000 are made.

**Visiting Scholar**

Visiting scholars are recognized for excellence in their fields and whose research and scholarly activities are closely related to the research interests of the faculty and graduate students at UNL. Each visitor is to give at least one lecture that is open free-of-charge, and advertised to the entire UNL community. The Research Council requests that every consideration be given to having scholars visit when a maximum number of people are present on campus.

Visiting Scholars will be reimbursed for airfare, lodging and ground transportation. Meals will be reimbursed at the per diem rate established by the University of Nebraska. Honoraria will not be provided and should be sought from sources other than the Research Council. Preference will be given to proposals contributing most directly to research being done at UNL and to those which benefit the most people. Under this program the Research Council will support no more than four visitors per department during a six- month period. Awards up to \$800 are available.

**Symposia**

Support for outstanding invited scholars who will give symposia or colloquia that are of interest to a large interdisciplinary segment of the university community. The program must include at least one lecture that is open, free-of-charge, and advertised to the entire UNL community. Funds may be used to pay for (but are not limited to) the following expenses: travel and/or local expenses and honoraria. Applicants are encouraged to use good judgment when making requests for honoraria support. Any exceptional expenses or honoraria must be strongly justified. Applicants must be able to secure other funds to cover a portion of the budgeted expenses. Awards up to \$3,000 may be issued.

**Special Opportunity Fund**

The special opportunity fund helps cover the costs associated with visits by distinguished speakers to UNL in special cases when the opportunity arises after the application deadlines for the traditional Distinguished Lecturer, Visiting Scholar and Symposia programs has passed. Awards up to \$3,000 may be issued.