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**2015-16 Mason 4-VA Research Grants**

The 4-VA Collaborative is a program that involves George Mason, James Madison University,
Old Dominion University, University of Virginia, and Virginia Tech. 4-VA's mission is to promote inter-university collaborations that leverage the strengths of each partner in order to accomplish much more than any individual university could achieve alone.

4-VA strives to:

1. Define instructional models, including the clear definition of instructional costs,
2. Significantly expand access for all Virginians to programs preparing them for rewarding careers,
3. Increase research competitiveness, and
4. Increase opportunities for and enhance the success of students in Science, Technology, Engineering,

and Mathematics (STEM) courses and programs

The Mason 4-VA Research Grants Program is designed to advance these goals with specific grant initiatives that also enhance the priorities and interests of Mason. To this end, Mason 4-VA has identified two RFP categories for Academic Year 2015-2016:

1. **Competitive Research Grants** are intended to improve research competitiveness within the Commonwealth and at Mason by providing funding for faculty to engage in pilot research focused on 4-VA goal areas that could be used as a springboard for subsequent, major federal grants. Collaboration with a researcher at one of the 4-VA partner institutions is required, as is active dissemination of the research findings. Research proposals could also directly lead to course redesign. Funding amounts are expected to range from $5,000 to $20,000 per grant, not including complementary funding that may be supplied by partner institutions.
2. **Complementary Endeavors –** Mason faculty involved in proposals with other 4-VA institutions will be eligible to apply for **complementary funding of up to $5,000** to support cross university collaborative work. A **Complementary Funding Request Form** is available on the Mason 4-VA website.

**Deadlines:**

* For Completed Application: **October 1**
* For Award Notification: **December 1**
* For Completion of MOU for Awarded Grants: **January 1**

**Who May Apply:**

Grants are only available to full-time faculty or administrative faculty who have been with Mason for at least two years. Faculty who have received previous 4-VA grants may be eligible for additional funds, provided regular progress reports have been submitted to the Mason 4-VA Office.

**Required materials:**

1. Cover Sheet with title, unit, and signatures (see final page of this form).
2. Statement, no more than three pages, that gives the rationale for the research grant and addresses each of the following questions.
* How does your grant proposal address the goals of 4-VA? Please provide a project summary and identify what initiatives are being addressed.
* Who is involved in your grant proposal? **All participants must be listed and their role in the grant delineated, including researchers from other institutions.**
* What is the nature of your collaboration? **Projects that extend to at least one of the other 4-VA institutions will be given funding priority.**
* What will your measures or indicators for success be with this project? *Active dissemination is expected to be a major project component. To be competitive for funding, projects should have a defined dissemination plan for the 4-VA community that includes ongoing project updates and dissemination of findings.* For example, 4-VA grant recipients are encouraged to submit a presentation proposal to the annual *Innovations in Teaching and Learning* *Conference*.
* What roles, if applicable, will be available to graduates or undergraduates to participate in this research grant and how will they be selected? **NOTE:** OSCAR will directly receive any funds designated for undergraduate researchers.
1. Timeline for developing, implementing, and assessing the project. Projects that do not have articulated strategies for assessing success, or outcomes will not be considered.
2. Budget and budget justification that clearly describes the funding needed. Please break your budget down into the categories listed below. Depending on state funding, and successful reported results, projects may be extended for up to 2 years.

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|   | **Spring 2016** | **Summer 2016** | **Fall 2016** |
| **Faculty Stipends** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Graduate Student Stipends** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Undergraduate Pay** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Materials (list)** | $ | $ | $ |
| **Other (list)** | $ | $ | $ |

**Grant Process Timeline:**

1. The primary investigator (PI) submits a grant proposal in PDF form to Linda Sheridan, the Deputy Campus Coordinator at lsherid2@gmu.edu.
2. Submitted proposals are reviewed by the Mason 4-VA Advisory Board.
3. The 4-VA Campus Coordinator finalizes grant approvals.
4. Grantees are notified of outcomes.
5. Grantees complete the 4-VA MOU for their grant.
6. Funds for approved grants are released to the grantee(s) and grant work is permitted to commence.
7. Grantees comply with reporting and accountability requirements of MOU throughout the duration of the grant.

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**Mason 4-VA
Research Grant Proposal**

**Cover Sheet**

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Title of Project: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lead Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Participants (list name and institution):

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**Approval Signatures**

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|  |  |  |  |  |
| Local Unit/Department Approval | Date |  | College/School/Unit Approval | Date |

***For Provost Office’s Use Only:* CLR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CMR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CRD:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ UGS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_GS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_AMT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ APR:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**