



## Proposal Development Support (PDS) Program

The Vice Chancellor for Research is providing funds to support the development of large collaborative grant proposals with the goal to facilitate the submission of highly competitive funding requests to federal agencies.

PDS funds shall specifically facilitate the submission of large *collaborative* grant proposals with minimum proposed budget of \$1,000,000 coming to SIU (i.e. excluding subcontracts) and carrying full F&A (exceptions will be considered), and a minimum of two participating PIs from different Schools at SIU Carbondale. The maximum level proposal development support shall be **\$30,000**.

PDS is specifically designed to support the proposal development process. PIs can request PDS to cover a variety of expenses that may arise during the Pre-Submission phase. Examples of expenses for which PDS funds may be requested include, but are not limited to:

- Travel support to facilitate meeting external collaborators or funding agencies
- Acquisition of consumables or use of equipment and facilities to generate preliminary data
- RA or postdoc support

PDS funds may not be used for faculty or staff salaries or for conference travel.

### FY25 PDS Guidelines

PDS proposals must be submitted by **April 18, 2025** and should include the following:

- a. A cover page with proposal title, PIs with affiliation, and no more than 5 keywords describing the area of research
- b. A detailed summary of the proposed research activities (maximum 5 pages)
- c. A detailed description of the research team, identifying the role of each investigator (maximum 2 pages)
- d. Intended funding agency and corresponding NOFO(s) or grant announcement(s) for future proposals that will be generated through the work supported by PDS
  - I. Clearly connect PDS funding to improving the success of a proposal to the specific grant announcement(s)
  - II. Intended submission timeline and size of estimated budget

- e. Detailed PDS budget (PDS duration is 12 months: July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026)
- f. Justification of PDS budget
- g. Current resumes of all PIs (maximum 2 pages per PI)

#### Review/selection criteria

Review will weight on each of the following criteria:

- I. Significance and innovation of the proposed research; quality and clarity of the proposal's concept, objective, timeline, and description; demonstration of an excellent understanding of the field(s) in which the project is situated
- II. Targeted external proposal opportunities: meeting PDS external proposal goals, evaluation of whether the PDS improves the probability of success with targeted research agency and grant opportunity
- III. Feasibility: PIs, facilities
- IV. Adequacy/utility of items for which PDS is requested

PDS funding will start July 1, 2025 and will cover expenses until June 30, 2026. All funds must be expended during the period of performance. Under no circumstances will the funds be extended beyond June 30, 2026.

Awarded PIs must submit a **six-month progress report** and a **one-year final report** detailing their use of PDS funds and the impact on proposal development. The six-month report should summarize key activities completed, preliminary results, and specific targeted agencies/solicitations along with any feedback from Program Directors. The final report, due at the end of the funding period, must include a summary of research progress, how the PDS support contributed to proposal submission, and any submitted/pending proposals.

**Note:** To create continuous support for the PDS program, faculty who receive PDS funds and who are successful in receiving awards through proposals that were made possible through PDS support, will allocate their 4% F&A return to a PDS fund to support future investigators, *regardless of the PIs' Center affiliation.*