

# 2021 Request for Proposals Grants to Support Programs in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS)

## Introduction

The Office of the Vice President of Research, Economic Development and Graduate Education (VPREDGE) is pleased to announce this request for proposals (RFP) for interdisciplinary, collaborative project ideas in the humanities, arts, and social sciences (HASS). The purpose of the HASS RFP is to create communities of scholarship across MSU's HASS faculty to catalyze a new era of collaborative and impactful interdisciplinary research that leads to fiscal sustainability after the end of internal funding.

As such, collaborative grants are intended to launch externally funded programs, initiatives or potential centers that will enhance the national and international reputation of Montana State University. To achieve this goal, the research team will design specific tasks that represent iterative steps toward sustainability within the granting period (e.g., key conference/activities in Year 1; competitive external grant submission(s) in Year 2).

**Scope of the Award:** We seek to fund up to 2 grants between \$50,000 and \$75,000 per year with a maximum duration of 2 years in support of interdisciplinary, collaborative project ideas. The total award will be between \$100,000--\$150,000 over 2 years.

**Reporting:** Each grantee is expected to submit an annual and final report, consisting of a maximum 4-page summary listing activities and accomplishments (conferences held, proposals submitted/awarded, results obtained, connections established, etc.).

## Submission Requirements

A proposal should contain the following and be submitted to the VPREDGE via the electronic proposal clearance form (ePCF) (<http://www.montana.edu/research/osp>).

1. **Cover Page** (one page) including the
  - Project title
  - Description of applicants (disciplines, schools/divisions, departments, centers/programs, email and phone contact information)
  - Total amount of funding requested
  - Abstract (300 words)
2. **Project Description** (maximum of 5 numbered pages, single-spaced, minimum 11-point font, minimum 1" margins)
  - Specific purpose and goals
  - Specific tasks to be undertaken during the granting period and how these tasks have the potential to lead to fiscal and scholarly sustainability
  - Expected national and international benefits and impacts of this project
  - Alignment with MSU's "Choosing Promise" Strategic Plan/Grand Challenges
  - Describe the team's strengths, including effective leadership and management
  - Plans for long-term stability/sustainability beyond the 2-year funding period

**3. Budget and Budget Justification** (1 page, coordinate with your school or departmental budget staff).

- Faculty, staff and/or student salaries
- Materials, supplies, travel, speaker fees and accommodations, and other costs
- How each budget item will contribute to the success of the project

**4. Appendices**

- Curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages per applicant/key personnel)
- Evidence/plan for leadership/management of the proposed program/initiative/center/institute

## **Submission Process**

Please submit your proposal, assembled in one combined PDF, electronically to the Office of Sponsored Programs by **August 27, 2020** using the ePCF (electronic proposal clearance form). Begin a new **full proposal** and select “MSU Vice President for Research (MONVIC001)” as the sponsor of the proposal. Please enter the Sponsor Program ID as **HASS FUNDS 2021**. A link to the form and instructions can be found on the OSP website at <https://www.montana.edu/research/osp/>.

*For questions pertaining to proposal formatting, budget, or other technical matters, please consult with your OSP fiscal manager. To determine the contact for your department, please visit the following link: [https://www.montana.edu/research/osp/aboutus/fiscal\\_managers\\_by\\_org.html](https://www.montana.edu/research/osp/aboutus/fiscal_managers_by_org.html).*

## **Selection Process**

HASS proposals will be reviewed by a committee comprised primarily of MSU faculty in the humanities, arts, and social sciences, who will make recommendations to the VPREDGE. Final selection(s) will be made by mid-to-late September.

## **Review Criteria**

Planning proposals will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

1. Intellectual creativity, originality and novelty
2. Potential for tasks identified to be undertaken during the granting period to be accomplished and to lead to potential sustainability
3. Ability to form an interdisciplinary and coherent program, initiative or center that will lead to unique, novel scholarship and enhance the national and international reputation of Montana State University
4. Alignment of project with MSU’s Strategic Plan “Choosing Promise”/Grand Challenges
5. Strength/expertise of the team
6. Appropriateness of the budget
7. Statement that explains plans for fiscal sustainability