

# Call for Proposals, FY 2021 Scholarship & Creativity Grants for the Advancement of the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

**Rolling Submission Deadline Beginning May 15, 2020**

The Scholarship & Creativity Grant (S&C) program supports scholarship and creative activity in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Full-time faculty at Montana State University who have earned terminal degrees are eligible to apply.

## **CRITERIA**

A faculty committee representing the arts, humanities and social sciences will evaluate proposals according to the following criteria:

- The project's intellectual significance or artistic merit and its potential impact and contribution to the field.
- The appropriateness of the project's methodologies, theories, or strategies, and the feasibility of the plan of work.
- The qualifications and expertise of the artist or scholar in relation to the project goals and the stage of the applicant's career.
- The potential for success, including the likelihood that the project will be completed within the projected timeframe, and the appropriateness of the budget.

Please address each criterion in your proposal and write in a way that is accessible to your Montana State University colleagues who may not be in your discipline.

Each applicant may submit only one application to the S&C program over a 12-month period, unless invited to resubmit. Preference will be given to projects that have not been previously funded; please explain if this proposal is related to another on-going project and, if you have collaborators, how they are involved. Within three months of completion of the project, successful applicants shall provide a written report of grant activities and outcomes to the Vice President of Research, Economic Development, and Graduate Education (VPREDGE) Office, their dean, their department head and the chair of the S&C Executive Review Committee. Recipients are also strongly encouraged to present the results of their work to the university community through an exhibit, seminar or other appropriate forum. The submission of this final project report is required as a criterion for future S&C proposal consideration.

Questions about program requirement and expectations may be directed to Liz Shanahan ([shanahan@montana.edu](mailto:shanahan@montana.edu)), while questions concerning electronic submission and budgets can be directed to Shana Wold ([shana.wold@montana.edu](mailto:shana.wold@montana.edu)).

## **BUDGET**

Applicants may request funds for supplies, an approved course buy out, travel (e.g., archival work) and other expenses necessary to complete the proposed project. S&C grants will not support summer salary. Award amounts will vary, but most will range between \$4,000 (minimum) and \$16,000 (maximum). **These funds will expire and revert back to the VPREDGE Office after 12-months from award activation.**

- If a course buyout is requested, the application must include a letter of support from the department head that includes the cost of the course buy out (best to check with your College's budget administrator). The cost of a course buy-out should be the salary for someone to teach the course (rather than based upon the faculty member's salary), with benefits. Explain the need for a course buyout in the budget narrative.
- For travel expenses, explain projected travel expenses in the budget narrative, being as specific and realistic as possible about the cost of transportation, lodging and other expenses. When budgeting for travel, please follow State approved In-State, Out-of-State and International rates regarding per diem, mileage and lodging.
- Budgets must include the 6% admin fee that will be assessed to your award by the Vice President for Finance and Administration Office.
- The following items are unlikely to be funded unless specifically justified: computers; equipment, unless it has a direct and clearly explained relation to the proposed project; post-production costs of books, articles or other creative activities; travel to professional conferences regularly attended by the applicant.

### **SUBMISSION**

Please submit your proposal electronically to the Office of Sponsored Programs via the Electronic Proposal Clearance Form (ePCF). A full proposal needs to be submitted with MSU Vice President of Research (MONVIC001) selected as the sponsor. Please enter the Program ID **MSU S&C 2021**. Instructions and a link to the forms can be found on the OSP website: <http://www.montana.edu/research/osp/>

Applicants should submit the following as a **single PDF document**, which will be distributed to external reviewers and S&C Grant Review Committee members. Attach to the "Required Program Document" section of the ePCF.

- A cover sheet, including a brief abstract of the project (see attached below).
- A narrative of no more than five single-spaced pages addressing the importance and potential impact of the project, and how it will advance your artistic or scholarly program; a plan of work, including descriptions of methodologies or processes to be used; and a timetable for completion of the project.
- A budget, including budget notes or a narrative explaining budget items.
- A maximum 5-page curriculum vitae/biosketch.

In a separate document, applicants should also attach the following within the ePCF:

- **"Miscellaneous Attachments"** – the narrative, budget and final report of any S&C grant you received in the last three years. Submit each year's funded grant as a single PDF document.

### **REVIEW TIMELINE**

Once an S&C grant is submitted, it will be forwarded to the chair of the S&C review committee (Dr. Shanahan). With assistance from the Office of Sponsored Programs, the chair will identify three reviewers for the grant, with at least one reviewer being from a different department/college. Reviewers will be asked to provide their comments and recommendation within three weeks. After receiving the independent reviews, the S&C chair will share comments and recommendations with the S&C executive review committee. The S&C executive review committee will review comments and make a recommendation to the VPREDGE within approximately one week. When coupled with some administrative review time on the front and back end of the review process, applicants can expect to receive feedback approximately 6 weeks after submission.

To ensure that funds don't get applied based on first-come-first-serve basis at the beginning of a Fiscal Year, there will be staggered start dates with quarterly release of funds. As such, potential outcomes of the review would be 1) highly meritorious and fund immediately, 2) meritorious and consider for an upcoming FY quarter, 3) not competitive and do not fund.

Due to the rolling deadline, **project extensions beyond the 12-month period are highly unlikely**. Accordingly, applicants should submit when they are able to devote effort and proposed expenditures for the 12-month grant period.

**Cover Sheet**  
**Research and Expansion Funds, FY 2021**

**Name:**

**Department or School:**

**Rank:**

**Applicant's Email Address:**

**Title of Project:**

**Amount Requested:**

**Award Period Requested:**

**Proposal review quarter (please highlight):**

Q1 (April - June)

Q2 (July - September)

Q3 (October - December)

Q4 (January - March)

**Abstract of Proposal (not to exceed 250 words)**