

University of South Alabama Faculty Productivity Grant Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Faculty Productivity Grant program (FPG) is to provide concentrated time for faculty to generate pilot or preliminary data that will enhance their competitiveness for a major grant or contract. The Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) will provide funds for up to three (3) faculty “buy-outs” from teaching annually.

Eligibility

Preference will be given to faculty at the level of Assistant Professor. Faculty from all colleges/schools, with the exception of the College of Medicine, are eligible including non-tenure track faculty. Specific eligibility criteria include the following:

- ✓ Must have been in a faculty position at USA for at least 2 years,
- ✓ Must not be within five (5) years of declared retirement.
- ✓ Should not currently be the recipient of a grant or contract that provides funds for re-assigned time.

Process

1. Faculty request approval in writing to their Chair and/or Dean (as appropriate) to receive a one class reduction under the FPG program. The request should include:
 - a. The request for a re-assignment from teaching one class.
 - b. A one-page description of the research proposed.
 - c. Anticipated results/data to be collected during the re-assigned time.
 - d. Proposed funding source for a subsequent, major research grant/contract.
2. The request should be made at least one semester prior to the requested re-assigned time.
3. The faculty member should determine, in conjunction with the Chair/Dean, an appropriate individual to cover the class from which they will be released.
4. The Dean will forward a copy of the faculty information and request funds from the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

Requirements

- ✓ Recipients may only receive one class buy-out within a two year period.
- ✓ Recipients must commit to submitting at least one major grant/contract proposal within twelve (12) months of the buy-out.
- ✓ No college/school may receive funds for more than three buy-outs annually.
- ✓ In the instance that more than 3 requests are made in an academic year, the VP Research and Economic Development will make the decision on who should receive the funds in consultation with the Deans and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- ✓ **This is a cost – reimbursable program. Requests for a fund transfer to reimburse the actual cost of the replacement instructor must include a copy of the departmental personnel action form and reference the name of the FPGP awardee and academic term during which the replacement costs were incurred. Requests must be submitted to the Office of Research and Economic Development no later than 60 days after the personnel costs have been incurred.**