



Division of Research and Graduate Studies

East Carolina University

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RESEARCH START-UP FUNDS

STRATEGIC ROLE

In many disciplines, recruiting faculty members with substantial research potential is a highly competitive endeavor. Often times, an adequate start-up package, especially in technical fields, can make a significant difference when recruiting faculty with outstanding research potential. For this reason, the Division of Research and Graduate Studies, under the direction of Vice Chancellor Deirdre Mageean, oversees a pool of institutional funds to help department chairs and deans assemble competitive faculty start-up packages. These funds represent a significant investment in the future research productivity of East Carolina University; therefore, deans and department chairpersons are asked to set appropriate performance benchmarks during employment negotiations with candidates. RGS will assess unit and college research productivity over a period of several years, and future start-up investments will depend on success in meeting appropriate benchmarks.

A request for faculty start-up funds should be accompanied by a narrative which describes the candidate's research program to be initiated and how the initiation of the research program will enable the new faculty member to successfully compete for external funding. The research plan must describe a carefully thought-out research agenda that will enable the faculty candidate to establish a productive and sustainable research program. Stand-alone research projects will not be funded. Sufficient detail in the research plan is needed to enable us to determine that expenditures will lead to the development of a productive research program.

Candidates who have signed an employment contract with the university are not eligible to receive start-up packages.

Required items for faculty start-up packages:

1. Properly executed form
 - 25% matching is required from the College and Department
2. Candidate's CV
 - Must be complete and comprehensive
3. Detailed research plans
4. Itemized budget
 - Provide reasonable estimates; quotes are not needed
 - All major items should be listed

Inappropriate items:

1. Office equipment and furniture
2. Desktop and laptop computers (these may be requested from the faculty workstation program)
3. Travel funds to attend meetings or present papers (these should be provided by the department or college)
4. Funds to develop new academic programs