HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS



Creation Date: 07-30-2021 Revision Date(s): 08-17-2021

Access to Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) Funds for Assistant Professors and Assistant Professors of Teaching

Time Period: July 2021 thru August 2023

Intent: The program is designed to provide funding to Assistant Professors and Assistant Professors of Teaching who do not yet have security of employment and likely experienced disruptions to their research programs due to the pandemic.

Eligibility: Existing UCR faculty who are Assistant Professors or Assistant Professors of Teaching on 7/1/2021, or new UCR faculty who are hired on or before 1/1/2022 are eligible for the program.

Program Options: Eligible faculty are given two funding options: 1) Receive \$40,000 to fund employment of a PhD or MFA student (GSR) for one academic year, including salary, benefits, GSHIP & tuition/fee remissions. This funding can be used in AY21-22 or AY22-23 OR 2) Receive a one-time grant of \$15,000 to fund research expenses.

Expenditure Deadline: All funding must be expended no later than 9/1/2023 – NO EXCEPTIONS. Funds not spent by 9/1/2023 will be returned to campus.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1. What guidance can be provided on eligible expenditures of one-time grant of \$15,000 to fund research expenses? Those funds can be used for research-related travel and for research-related expenditures (e.g., equipment, transcription services, etc.). They can be used for teaching buy-outs if arrangements can be coordinated via the department chair and written approval is granted. They cannot be used for summer salary.
- 2. Can the GSR support be used during a summer quarter? The standard assumption is that the GSR support would be provided contiguously for the three quarters of either AY21-22 or AY22-23. However, if there is a specific and written justification provided to the VPAP in support of an alternative arrangement it will be considered on an exception basis. [Updated 8/17/2021]
- 3. Can the GSR support be split between multiple students? The standard assumption is that the GSR provides a full academic year of support for one student. However, if there is a specific and written justification provided to the VPAP in support an alternative arrangement it will be considered on an exception basis. [Updated 8/17/2021]
- 4. If a new hire starts after 7/1/2021 will they be eligible for the program? *New hires with start dates* up until 1/1/2022 will be eligible for the program.
- 5. Can faculty who take approved leaves during the program window participate in the program? *Yes,* provided they are able to spend the funds during a period of time they are not on leave. In the case of GSR support, the faculty member would need to not be on leave either during AY21-22 or AY22-23.

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