RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

Research Development Services (RDS) provides full-scale assistance for everything from individual fellowship proposals to large, complex research proposals. This assistance may include:

- Reviewing calls for proposals and advising applicants on agency requirements
- Outlining proposals and developing timelines for project management
- Advising on all aspects of proposals including clarity, logic, and organization
- Providing guidance on good grant writing practices
- Editing and proofreading
- Ensuring that all aspects of your proposal adhere to guidelines
- Editing and formatting biographical sketches, support letters, and cover letters
- Coordinating an external review of proposals
- Identifying collaborators both on and off campus
- Assisting researchers in obtaining sample proposals from successful applicants
- Helping with interpretation of reviewers’ comments and development of effective responses

Contact us as early in your proposal development process as possible to take full advantage of our services.

VISUALIZATION AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

RDS recognizes that a picture is worth a thousand words and tight page limits place a premium on communicating complex ideas in a small space. That is why we offer visualization services that will enhance research proposals. These services include consultation on conceptual approaches and illustration, animation, and graphic design. Depending on the project, we can contract with local resources or with nationally known scientific illustrators and animators.

Generally, RDS funds one-half of the cost of consultation, and of graphic design, animation, or illustration services, for proposals that involve multiple investigators, that have strategic significance to research at the university, or that involve an especially important opportunity for an individual. Significant lead-time is required in order for us to make the best use of resources.

INTERNAL AWARD PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND GRADUATE EDUCATION

Research Development Services is responsible for administration of internal award programs sponsored by Research, Innovation, and Graduate Education. We are glad to answer questions and help applicants interpret guidelines for the Conference Support Awards, Idea Awards, Incubating Interdisciplinary Initiatives (I3) Awards, and the Faculty Research Awards.
TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

RDS provides training in grant writing and customized workshops and information sessions that target specific agencies and programs. These sessions are provided either by RDS staff members or by outside experts with extensive relevant experience. Some training and professional development activities include:

- “Write Winning Grant Proposals” with Grant Writers Seminars and Workshops
- NSF CAREER Award Information Session
- NEH Fellowship Writing Workshop
- “How to Write Successful Grants for Instrumentation” with Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC
- PI Orientation session with Sponsored Project Services

Contact RDS to request specialized workshops on specific topics or to suggest external speakers and trainers who will enhance the UO’s ability to attract external funding.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Research Development Services maintains a calendar of honors and awards for which UO faculty members are eligible. We assist with interpreting award guidelines, developing letters of nomination or self-nomination, reviewing and editing CV’s, and proofreading and editing all elements of the application.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RDS publishes the weekly Funding Opportunities newsletter. We search announcements from federal agencies, private foundations, and other entities, and select those that most closely match the UO’s areas of research interest.

Contact RDS staff members to subscribe to our weekly newsletter or to share your research interests and request a personalized funding search.

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF PROPOSALS

To enhance the competitiveness of research proposals for funding success, RDS assists faculty members in obtaining external reviews of a proposal prior to submission. Early peer review allows applicants to identify and address potential weaknesses in proposals and increase the likelihood of funding success.

Applicants should furnish the names of up to three potential reviewers to RDS well before the application due date, along with any prior reviews from the funding agency. RDS will provide an honorarium for reviewers who agree to provide a written review of the proposal and to engage in a teleconference to discuss their review within two weeks of receiving the proposal.

This program is available to faculty members at all career stages. Priority is given to early career faculty members who have submitted a well-received preproposal and have been invited to submit a full proposal, or who have been invited to re-submit a proposal that received strong reviews but was not funded.
INFORMATION

Please contact Research Development Services (rds@uoregon.edu or 541-346-8308) to discuss your project and our services. Visit our website (rfd.uoregon.edu) for updated announcements and information on our programs, services, and resources.