OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

Racial Justice and Equity Research Fund

Announcement Release Date:	**June 22, 2023**
Application Receipt Date:	**September 7, 2023**
Award Announcement Date:	**December 6, 2023**

Purpose:
The University of South Carolina is committed to combatting racial injustice, racism, and discrimination while promoting racial equity and racial justice throughout society. The Office of the Vice President of Research, working in collaboration with the Vice President for Access, Civil Rights, and Community Engagement, is re-issuing its funding program to support research that centers on race, racial justice, and racial equity. By empowering our world-class faculty, USC aims to promote real and lasting racial justice in our local community, our state, and our nation.

Eligibility and Funding:
These funds will be available to all faculty across the USC system to address racial justice and equity issues in a variety of ways. Principal Investigators may only submit one proposal to this competition. Faculty funded previously through this program as lead PIs are not eligible for this round.

Research should represent promising directions for deepening or expanding understandings of the myriad ways race, racism, and racial prejudice function in society and explicate substantive advancements for racial equity or racial justice. Projects should be focused domestically. Funds from this initiative may be used to organize conferences or meetings provided that the purpose of these is to generate information on effective practices and gather innovative ideas. Proposals from single investigators will be considered, although collaborative, multi-unit projects are strongly encouraged. Budgets may request up to $15,000.

Awards should result in an impactful scholarly output, including submissions to external funding agencies, publications, performances, or exhibitions.

Proposal Preparation: Please use 11-point font and .5-inch margins. The following needs to be assembled into a single PDF file:

1. **Title Page**: Lead investigator name and home unit/department; names and units of any other key personnel involved; a 100-word abstract that includes the research problem, significance, approach/methods, and broader social impact of the project. Please note, the abstracts for all funded projects may be published on the Office of the Vice President for Research's website.

2. **Research Strategy or Proposal Narrative:** Must be no longer than 3 pages, including background, significance and innovation, and overall research design (including the demonstration of the need for such data; human subjects' protocol, where appropriate). Please address theoretical and/or applied benefits that might be realized from the project. Suggested timelines for the project should range from 6 months to one year.

3. **Budget:** Up to $15,000. Please adhere to the following budgetary guidelines:
   NOTE An optional budget form is available HERE
   - Faculty salary support should be minimal
   - Limited travel is allowable to support research activities; conference travel is not allowable
   - Laptops and desktop computers are not allowable expenses
   - Food is not allowable
   *A budget justification must be included

4. **Appendices:**
   - Current CV (**2 pages maximum**) that details relevant qualifications and publications, including current and pending support. A 2-page CV can be included for each investigator and/or key personnel.
   - A reference list or bibliography
   - Letters of support, if relevant

5. **Resubmissions:** Investigators may resubmit proposals that were not funded previously. Resubmissions need to include a one-page response to the reviewers (attached after the cover page), and a copy of the reviews in the appendices.

Proposal Due Date: Proposals need to be submitted through USCERA (https://sam.research.sc.edu/uscera/) by *September 7, 2023 at 5 pm*. In USCERA, please select Internal Request: "Vice President for Research" and then request type "Racial Justice and Equity Research Fund" to ensure proper routing of proposals. *The proposal must be a single PDF file.* This USCeRA guide may be helpful in submitting your proposal.

Application Review: All applications will be reviewed by a committee consisting of faculty experienced in the study of race, racism, antiracism, and racial justice. Their recommendations will be reviewed by the VPR, who will make final funding decisions.

Progress Report: A final report is due to the Office of the Vice President for Research one month after completion of your project. This will describe the research program, findings, and conclusions, as well as information on how this project might generate external funding opportunities.

Contact: For questions, please contact Julie Morris at 803-563-8376 or jmorris@sc.edu.