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Welcome to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research's 2025 Fall Competition Online Application. At this time you have **TWO** application options:

1. Individual application – This is the traditional Fall Competition application involving a single Principal Investigator.
2. Multi-PI application – This is a collaborative application involving a Principal Investigator and one or more co-investigators. The investigators need not be from different academic divisions.

You may submit only one application to the Fall Competition – either an Individual application or a Multi-PI application. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in December 2025.

Like last year, the results of the competition will be available on-line on the day the awards are finalized. All applicants, chairs, and departmental administrators (identified by RSP as award contacts) will receive an email notifying them that the results are available for online viewing. THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL HARD COPY AWARD LETTERS OR FUNDING STRING CONFIRMATION LETTERS MAILED THIS YEAR. You will be able to access the online competition results and print a copy of the results notification letter if necessary. When awards are activated (e.g. a project number assigned after contingencies are cleared or activation requests approved), applicants and administrators will receive email notification with the funding string information and will be directed to a link where the award letter can be viewed and printed.

Notice Regarding Accessibility

This website has recently been updated to address previously reported accessibility barriers, but there may be additional barriers still present. If for any reason, you require any additional assistance inputting or submitting your proposal via this website, please contact the Research Competition Admin Staff at competitions@research.wisc.edu. They will assist you in submitting your proposal.

New This Year

- Some information in the application form is automatically filled in from the Person API using the NetID provided during your initial registration. While you can update the Department and Division fields within the application, other fields cannot be changed here. If any of the automatically filled information is incorrect, please contact your department.

- Project Info: When uploading a PDF with one page of figures, tables, or other material that supplements your narrative description, you may now include a second page of references.
 - Budget Request: When entering the budget details for an RA or a PA, you will select a program first; then, only valid RA or PA roles and terms will appear in the subsequent dropdown fields.
(Note that custom rates are no longer supported.)
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General Information

- The [Competition Announcement, Research Committee Policies, and Divisional FAQs](#) contain information that should help answer most questions. If you have questions that are not answered in these documents, email the Research Competitions Administrators [opens in a new e-mail window](#).
 - This year we will continue to use UW NetID authentication. If you do not have a NetID, follow the link to [activate your NetID account](#) first.
 - Please be sure you're using the latest browser version. Whether you use Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari or Opera- your version information can usually be found under the "Help" menu. Please check with your departmental IT staff or DoIT (4-4357) provides technical support to assist with your browser setup.
 - CV Uploads are required.
 - Previous award progress fields are also now a requirement before submissions are allowed.
 - Certain sections are prefaced by "yes/no" questions. If you answer "no" - the subsection will be hidden and you may proceed.
 - Prior to submitting your application, the system will confirm completeness or identify areas that need to be completed.
 - Upon successful submission, you'll receive an email confirmation for your records.
 - The Save + Previous Step and Save + Next Step buttons save the current page information when clicked. A completeness check is performed for each data collection page when viewing the Submit page. You can see the missing required fields for a page by clicking any of the linked pages in the "Application Completeness Check" section on the Submit page.
 - **NOTE:** You may receive an error while saving the application if you exceed the maximum allowed length of certain fields. Shorten the length of the inputted value to resolve these errors and try saving again.
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Sign On

- Subsequent logons require the applicant's NetID and the Password.
 - Remember the password is **case-sensitive**
 - If you forgot your NetID password, [follow these instructions](#) from DoIT Help Desk.
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Log Out

- To exit the application process at any time just exit from your browser. To do this go to your browser menu and do File | Exit or File | Quit.
 - To log out click the "Save" button if you want to save what you just changed and then click the "Log out" link in the upper right hand corner.
 - **WARNING** Save the page you are working on before you exit your browser. If you don't save before you exit, your latest changes will not be saved.
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Landing Page (Applications List)

- Displays information including current status and Interdisciplinary category for each previously created application.
 - Use View/Edit to examine or change an application.
 - When there are no applications previously created, use the drop down list to select the type of application you wish to create. Click "Create".
 - After the application is submitted, or if the Fall Comp application period is closed, you can access the application in read-only mode.
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Project Info

Project Title, Abstract, Description

- The **Project Title** may be up to 250 characters long. You cannot underline or bold text.
- The **Project Abstract** section may be up to 1000 characters long (a space is a character).
- You cannot include special characters, bolding, underlining, graphics, equations or formulas in the project abstract.
- The **Project Description** should be no longer than 10,000 characters (approximately three to four double-spaced pages with 12 point Times font size).
- You cannot include special characters, bolding, underlining, graphics, equations or formulas in the project description. **If you feel your project description will not be understandable with these limitations, take a copy to your interview or work this out with your interviewer when they contact you to set up the appointment.**

- You can type directly into the **Project Description** field or copy and paste from a variety of file formats. For safety's sake we recommend creating the project description in a word processor and saving it before you copy/paste.
 - You may upload one page of figures, tables, or other material that supplements your narrative description and a second page of references as a PDF. The Online Application will guide you through the process. **WARNING: Do not upload PDFs bigger than 50M.** If you need help reducing the file size, please contact your department's IT Staff.
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Applicant Info

Please Note: Some information in the application form is automatically filled in from the Person API using the NetID provided during your initial registration. While you can update the Department and Division fields within the application, other fields cannot be changed here. If any of the automatically filled information is incorrect, please contact your department.

Current Curriculum Vitae

- Please upload a PDF of your CV with your proposal application data. The Online Application will guide you through the process. **WARNING: Do not upload PDFs that are greater than 2MB. If you need help reducing the file size, please contact your department's IT staff.**
 - **Do not mail or email your Curriculum Vitae to OVCR**
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Awards

- If you have received Fall Competition support in the last 3 years, briefly explain the outcomes from your work. If you have more information than will fit in the space provided (500 characters per entry), use multiple entries or bring the additional information to your interview.
 - Please enter the most current and pertinent data for **Active External Awards/Grants, Proposals for which you are requesting Insurance Funding, and Other Related External Proposals.**
 - **Related** means *related to the work described in this proposal.*
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Protocols: Human Subject, Stem Cell, Animal Welfare, Fetal Tissue, or Biological Materials Approvals

- **Export Control** information: This section includes links to resources that can help you determine whether your proposal requires an Export Control disclosure. For the vast majority of Fall

Competition applications, the answers to the Export Control questions will be: Yes, then, No.

However, when in doubt, answer "yes" to both questions.

- If your project requires human subject, stem cell, animal welfare, fetal tissue, or biological safety approvals, you must provide current status information.
- At the time your OVCR award is scheduled for activation (July 1, 2026), an updated approval must be provided to the OVCR before your award can be activated.

Budget Request

- To move to the next field TAB or mouse click.
- The Principal Investigator salary should be your current 2025 - 2026 UW salary rate and base (academic or annual). OVCR will update awards with the new rate if necessary. Tenure track faculty who have a 12-month appointment will not be able to request salary support.
- The Budget page of this application includes a salary calculator for the PI. It includes space to request salary for co-investigators, but no calculator for these salary amounts. If you are requesting salary for a co-investigator, please calculate the amount manually and enter it in the "Co-Investigator Salary" section of the Budget page.
- Faculty salary and co-investigator salary requests are capped per OVCR and NIH policy. Salary is capped at \$221,900 annually for purposes of compensation. Information on this policy can be found at <https://rsp.wisc.edu/awardmgmt/DHHSSalCap.cfm>
- Graduate Assistants Appointments
 - When you fill out your budget page you can now choose between the four types of graduate assistant appointments: Academic Project Assistant, Annual Project Assistant, Academic Research Assistant and Annual Research Assistant. Please check with your department administrator to find out how graduate assistants are appointed in your department. Then use the appropriate Title: Project Assistant or a Research Assistant, and appointment type: Academic or Annual for this section of your budget
 - Different graduate student programs on campus specify a funding rate for assistants. You can select a specific program, or select the "campus default" funding level. Additionally, some programs offer different "funding levels" for a given assistant type (tier 1, 2, etc; dissertator, non-dissertator). Funding rates are displayed at a rate of 50% FTE annually, and then prorated based on the number of months selected. For an overview of this current fiscal year's rates, please visit <https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/graduate-assistantships/>

- **Tuition Remission:** Fiscal year 2025 – 2026 grants will be charged tuition at the flat rate of \$6,000 per semester for each Graduate Student that has a one-third time or greater appointment during that semester. Enter how many semesters of tuition support you will need for the graduate students in your budget.
 - You now have the ability to request only tuition remission. Select no to “Fund Salary” and then select yes for “Tuition Remission”.
 - **Fringe Benefits:** This number is calculated for you using the amounts you enter elsewhere in the individual salary sections of the budget. A grid on the budget page will show how the Fringe Benefit amount was calculated. The grid and TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS amount are calculated fields. You cannot make entries in this section.
 - When requesting funding for project travel please keep in mind that conference travel will not be awarded through this competition. Information on OVCR support for conference travel can be found at: <https://research.wisc.edu/funding/conference-travel-information/>
 - A detailed Budget justification and budget priorities is requested and may be up to 2,000 characters (a space is a character). You cannot include special characters, bolding, underlining, graphics, equations or formulas.
 - If you have startup funds that exceed 25% of the original award, provide a plan to spend your remaining startup funds. This may be up to 2,000 characters (a space is a character). You cannot include special characters, bolding, underlining, graphics, equations or formulas.
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Layperson's Summary

- The **Layperson's Summary** section may be up to 2000 characters long (a space is a character).
 - You cannot include special characters, bolding, underlining, graphics, equations or formulas in this summary.
-

Printer View

- This section allows you to view a printer friendly version of your application. The information shown on this page will vary based on the application type and data entered on the application.
- Use the buttons located in the upper-right corner of each section header to hide a particular section.
- Use the "Expand All Sections" button to restore all hidden sections to a viewable state.
- If you choose to print this page only the currently viewable sections and section headers will be printed. You can use your web browser's "Print Preview" feature to confirm which sections will be

printed.

Submit

- The "Application Completeness Check" section indicates whether all the required information has been completed, or there are certain pages with missing required information.
- Click "Submit My Application Now" only when you are sure all the information is accurate. If after you submit, you would still like to make changes to your application, you can "re-open" your submission, which you will then need to resubmit.
- After the submission period has passed, and the Research Competition has closed, you will no longer be able to "re-open" or make changes to your submission.

Please direct your questions and comments to the [Research Competition Admin Staff](#) - (608)265-6931.

Direct your computer and web questions to OVCR-Admin-IT <ovcr-it-for-administration@office365.wisc.edu> at the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research.

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