

## OARS R&D PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS SPECIFICATIONS

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**Program Description.** OARS R&D Partnership Project awards shall provide a maximum of one State dollar of funding for each non-State dollar of matching funding (74 O.S., Section 5060.19) for one- or two-year projects of two types OARS R&D Intern Partnership Projects or OARS Applied Research Partnership Projects. Both types shall have separate criteria developed to recognize the distinctive nature of the two-year and four-year institutions (74 O.S., Section 5060.28) of higher education. OARS R&D Partnership Project funding shall be awarded pursuant to the current specifications of the OARS Program except as stipulated below:

**OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnerships.** The purpose of this project funding shall be to improve the State's R&D base by encouraging greater numbers of undergraduate students to prepare for careers in and related to scientific and technical fields through the support of undergraduate student and undergraduate teaching faculty internships in R&D facilities. OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnerships funding acknowledges the principal resources of the two- and four-year institutions are the people: undergraduate students and undergraduate teaching faculty. Necessarily, these institutions focus upon student instruction and community service. OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnerships provide undergraduate students and undergraduate teaching faculty increased experience with research and development.

Intern experience in actual R&D facilities and programs benefit participating faculty, students, institutions of higher education and industry as well as the State as a whole. Student interns are acquainted with prospective employers, better prepared for the workforce and encouraged to pursue advanced degrees in science, engineering, and areas that support high-tech firms. Faculty interns are updated in technical areas, apprised of workforce needs and acquainted with industry contacts for aid in student placement. Industry has the opportunity to become acquainted with prospective employees, interface with academic institutions on workforce needs and encourage interns, who pursue advanced degrees, to remain in, or return to, Oklahoma. Oklahoma colleges and universities gain improved status through increased numbers of graduates who pursue advanced degrees or receive higher wage jobs. The State benefits from the improved technical human resource base essential to growing or attracting technology based businesses and producing the high wage jobs associated with increased per capita income.

OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership Project funding will provide a maximum of one State dollar of funding for each non-State dollar of matching funding for one- or two-year projects requiring a minimum of \$10,000 per year and a maximum of \$50,000 per year OARS funds. R&D Internship Projects shall involve one or more students and/or faculty working at an R&D facility(s) located in Oklahoma; an individual undergraduate student or undergraduate teaching faculty member may intern for up to one-year. Required match shall be cash or grants or contracts specifically provided for the proposed project. Equipment appropriate and useful to the program under review is eligible under the terms detailed in statute (74 O.S., 5060.19). As these projects will not produce intellectual property, they shall not require a patent and licensing statement. The OARS Committee and the R&D Programs staff shall develop application requirements, which recognize the distinctive nature of the two- and four-year institutions and are in keeping with the general guidelines provided in the current OARS specifications.

**OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Supplement Awards.** Eligible applicants for an OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Supplement award shall be holders of an active OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership award. OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Supplemental awards will provide a maximum of one State dollar of funding for each non-State dollar of matching funding. The maximum amount of funding per year for the supplement is \$30,000 and minimum is \$2500 per year. In general, the application for an OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership Supplement will contain: (1) the information required for an OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership application and (2) a report prepared according the instructions for an annual report describing the progress of the OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership project. The applications for a supplemental award will be sent to three Applied Research Committee approved OARS reviewers for evaluation and for recommendation to the Board. Since the original project has already been recommended for funding in a formal review panel process, OARS R&D Faculty and Student Supplemental Awards may be recommended to the Board based on written recommendation by a majority of the reviewers.

**OARS R&D Applied Research Partnerships.** Under this designation, a two- or four-year institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall partner with a local business(s) and other persons or entities, as specified in Applicant Eligibility above, to conduct applied research under the general specifications of the OARS program. The proposed research must have the potential to solve a problem(s) associated with producing a new or improved product, process or service which has the potential for improved profitability for the Oklahoma business(s) and/or the quality of life for Oklahoma citizens.

For these awards a letter of benefit from the participating business, industry or entity shall be required in addition to the letter of commitment required of all OARS applicant organizations. As with other OARS awards, application requirements, which recognize the distinctive nature of the two- and four-year institutions and are in keeping with the general guidelines provided in the current specifications, shall be developed by the OARS Committee and the R&D Programs staff.

**Applicant Eligibility.** Eligible applicants for the *OARS Applied Research Partnership Projects* shall be two-year or four-year institutions of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education collaborating with persons, entities, cooperation programs or Oklahoma industry (74 O.S., Section 5060.28). Proposed projects shall involve one or more two- or four-year institutions of the Oklahoma System of Higher Education and one or more Oklahoma firms. These projects may also involve the collaboration of other persons or entities including Oklahoma non-profit research organizations, economic development organizations and/or trade organizations as well as one of the comprehensive universities, The University of Oklahoma or Oklahoma State University.

Eligible applicants for the *OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnerships* competition shall be Oklahoma firms as well as Oklahoma colleges and universities; however, the distinctive nature and needs of the two-year and four-year institutions and their undergraduate students is recognized. Preference for funding may be given to programs from two-year and four year institutions of higher education.

Eligible applicants for an *OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Supplement* award shall be holders of an active OARS R&D Faculty and Student Intern Partnership award.

Any applicant organization or principal investigator who, in OCAST's judgment, has failed to correct a material breach of a contract previously awarded under any of OCAST programs will not be eligible to be awarded a new funding contract.

