

**Society & Culture Research Advancement Program**  
**(Formerly Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (AHSS)**  
**Research Advancement Program)**  
**Funding Opportunity Announcement**  
*(Newly redesigned)*

**\$25k / 24 months**  
***Up to two \$25,000 grants will be awarded***

**KEY DATES**

- FOA Release: Thursday, January 12, 2023
- LOI Deadline: Thursday, February 2, 2023, 5:00 pm EST
- Finalists Notified: Week of February 28, 2023 (anticipated)
- Final Proposal Deadline: Thursday, March 30, 2023, 5:00 pm EST (for finalists only)
- Finalist Presentations: Week of April 3, 2023 (anticipated)
- Grantee Announced: Week of April 24, 2023 (anticipated)
- Grant Project Period: May 2023 – April 2025

Building upon previous investments in arts, humanities, and social sciences (AHSS), the Office of Research seeks to incentivize novel research, exceptional scholarship, and the production of creative and performing art works that creatively address issues of increasing societal significance. The newly named and amended AHSS program will now follow a **two-stage, LOI and finalist round process**. This program is open to UC faculty whose proposed activities fall within the areas of the arts, humanities and social sciences. The application budget limit for the Society & Culture Research Advancement program is up from \$10,000 to \$25,000 per award.

The first stage of the new process involves the submission of a 2-page letter of interest (LOI). Up to ten finalists will then be invited to submit a full proposal and pitch at a pitch event that will be held between 10am-3pm the week of April 3, 2023 (anticipated).

Applicants are asked to consider, articulate, and ultimately measure how the project positively impacts society. As high-level frames of reference, the Office of Research refers applicants to two impact frameworks:

1. [The Arts & Social Impact Explorer](#)
2. [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(UNSDGs\)](#)

## Eligibility & expectations:

- Eligible applicants include UC faculty members with at least an 80% FTE appointment;
- Faculty holding a primary appointment in one of UC's affiliates (CCHMC, VA and Shriners) are eligible to contribute effort to a team, but may not be the primary applicant;
- External collaborators are eligible to contribute effort to a team, but may not be primary applicant;
- So to foster and increase intellectual, cultural, racial, and gender-based diversity in our applicant pool and to encourage new and early-career applicants, faculty who have received Office of Research funding in the last five years (2017-2022) from the AHSS, Pilot, Pivot, Scholars, Strategic, Urban Futures Pathway and/or the Digital Futures program are **not** eligible to serve as primary applicant.<sup>1</sup>

## LOI: Information required

All applicants will be required to provide their name, UC email, UC ID-number, college, department/unit, date of hire/appointment at UC, and proposal title within the Wizehive portal prior to uploading the required pdf file. Also, applicants are required to select the area designation for review/award based on their proposed activities, which can differ from their department/unit home.

The LOI should contain the following information in the order listed below and will be submitted as a single PDF file. Figures/images may be included but cannot be used to exceed the page limit. No hyperlinks or redirects to external information may be included. Your submission must adhere to general requirements of 12 point font, 1 inch margins, and single column layout.

- Title of Research Project (required)
- Name, Title, College, and Department of primary applicant (required)
- Names, Titles, College, & Department of internal/affiliate collaborators (encouraged)
- Names, Titles, and Organization names of external collaborators (encouraged)
- Problem Statement (300 word max) *What are you doing?* (required)
- Approach (300 word max) *How?* (required)
- Impact (300 word max) *Why?* (required)
- Bibliography (1-page max – any standard format is acceptable) (required)
- 3-page bio/CV (template available on the website) (required)

## LOI: Submission

LOIs will be submitted online via *Wizehive*, a user-friendly, internal funding software. When the platform is ready to accept LOIs, the live link to apply will be posted at <https://research.uc.edu/funding/overview>.

## LOI: Review Criteria

- Project Merit
- Clarity, significance and relevance of project & the problem the project addressed
- Innovation/creativity/feasibility of the proposed approach
- Suitability of the applicant/team to undertake and complete the proposed project.
- Compliance with Application Guidelines in the FOA and the submission portal.

---

<sup>1</sup> Previously funded faculty are encouraged to serve as a collaborator to a primary applicant - particularly those led by an eligible, early career or new faculty member, an eligible female member of the faculty, and/or an eligible, URM member of the UC faculty.

### **Finalist Selection & Review Process**

Each LOI will be reviewed by a team assembled by Office of Research Program staff. No more than ten (10) finalists will be invited to submit a full proposal. Details on the full proposal process and required materials will be distributed to all finalists directly.

### **Review & Selection Process**

One-step program applications and two-step program *final* applications will be reviewed by a diverse team of previously funded faculty as well as other faculty, emeriti faculty, UC affiliates, and staff. Application scores and comments will be made available to all applicants following the public announcement of awards. The Office of Research will not be providing scores or feedback on LOIs. The Office of Research review process is managed to ensure no conflict of interest issues arise

### **Terms & Conditions**

1. Allowable costs are those listed in the primary applicant's proposal budget;
2. Grant funds cannot be used for direct support of CCHMC, VA or Shriner's employees and/or for supplemental salary for UC faculty;
3. Neither indirect costs nor graduate or undergraduate student tuition can be charged to research funded via Office of Research funds;
4. All work resulting from the internally funded research effort must acknowledge "University of Cincinnati, Office of Research, (and the name the particular internal program)" as the research funding source;
5. You (grantees) agree to submit a final report (template) which clearly indicates project outcomes, deliverables and impacts upon completion of the project at the end of the funding term.
6. You (grantees) agree to allow the UC Office of Research to the internally funded research project via the web, social media, news outlets, and the Office of Research newsletter, *Findings*.
7. Those (grantees) who successfully complete internally funded project agree to serve as a reviewer for the respective internal funding program the following two years.

### **QUESTIONS?**

[research@uc.edu](mailto:research@uc.edu)