

Internal grant programs at Lehigh

Common characteristics

All programs

- are **investments** in Lehigh research.
- are intended to give rise to **new opportunities** for the people involved and for Lehigh.
- ask applicants to present their work as a **narrative of possibility**.

Common narrative

- What important work do you think you could do?
- Who, other than you (and people just like you) should care deeply about it?
- What's holding you back?
- How will the investment make a tangible difference?

Lehigh research investment programs

Program	Budget max	Requires collaboration	Goals
FRG	\$ 6,000		Conduct / completion of projects; expanded scope and impact; new opportunities
FIG	\$ 25,000		Enable initiation of new projects and programs; take existing programs in new directions
CORE	\$ 60,000	✓ (min 2)	Establish and grow productive multi-faculty research programs
Accelerator	\$ 100,000	✓ (min 3)	Building on established strengths and collaborations, accelerate growth in areas of potential national & international prominence.

FRG Program

- Offered Fall and Spring*
- Supports **conduct** and **dissemination** of research.
- Emphasis on **expanded scope and impact**, and on opening up **new possibilities**.
- Should *enhance impact, raise reputations, give rise to new possibilities*.
- ***Fast Track FRG**: For cases of fleeting opportunity

FIG Program

- Offered in the Spring
- Supports **initiation** of new projects and programs, and taking existing programs in **new directions**, and solidifying **new collaborations** among Lehigh faculty.
- Emphasis on **new possibilities** that are unlikely to exist without the CORE investment.
- Should lead to work *of scope and duration well beyond what is supported by the FIG grant.*

CORE Program

- Offered in the Spring
- Supports **establishment and growth of multi-faculty research programs.**
- Emphasis on **expanded scope and impact**, and on opening up **new possibilities.**
- Should lead to work *of scope and duration well beyond what is supported by the FIG grant.*

Accelerator Grant Program

- Offered in the Fall
- Requires identification of a **significant opportunity**: a line of research of rising importance in which Lehigh can establish a leadership position
- Intended to enable a **strong team** to more quickly pursue the opportunity
- Provides **significant flexibility** in use of funds, over a two-year period
- Requires at least one tenured member of the faculty on the team; PI must be tenured

1. The Opportunity

- Identify a **research area of clear and rising importance.**
- Identify **who will value the work**, and who will naturally be motivated and able to support it.
- Explain how your **team is positioned to lead** in this area.

2. The Team, Resources and Approach

Show that your **team is in a great position to pursue the opportunity**, including

- the particular capabilities of the team members, and your ability to work together productively
- your approach to the work
- critical resources – physical resources, existing funded projects, relationships, etc. – you will bring to bear

3. Goals and use of funds

- Accelerator grants provide **latitude in allocation of funds** over the two-year award period.
- You should have **clear initial goals, and means for making decisions** about future directions.

3. Goals and use of funds

- Describe your **initial goals and first steps**
- Describe **how you will determine allocation of resources** over time
- Aggressive pursuit of external support is expected
 - Identify sources, programs and strategies for competing successfully
 - Long-term goals should include a path to major multi-investigator programs

Budget

Concise, tabular budget with planned allocations by category

Selection Criteria

- Have the applicants identified a compelling opportunity?
- Have the applicants shown that they have a competitive advantage in this area?
- Do the applicants present a well-conceived plan for building their program?

**Read the full Selection Criteria in the Guidelines!
They will be provided verbatim to reviewers, and
serve as the sole basis for their reviews.**

QUESTIONS?

HOW TO SUCCEED

Tips for success

- Read the guidelines. If anything is unclear, ask!
- Read the review materials (score sheets, etc.).
- Follow the prescribed format carefully.
- Write clear prose.
- Remember that reviewers are reading across fields. Limit highly specialized material to what is necessary, and keep it concise.

Ways to fail

- Describe a compelling problem or research area, then fail to describe what, specifically, you can do.
- Write a dense, highly technical proposal as you might for your individual disciplinary community. At minimum, you are taking a big chance.
- For CORE or Accelerator programs,
 - describe a single project that happens to have a large budget.
 - propose a project that's not a truly substantive collaboration and get some colleagues to sign on saying they'll help.

Due dates

- FRG due date – Friday, **October 6**
- Accelerator letter of intent – Friday, **October 13**
- Accelerator proposals – Friday, **October 27**

...at 5:00 PM