College of Technology, Architecture & Applied Engineering

Da Vinci Society Research Support Guidelines and Application

The College of Technology, Architecture & Applied Engineering’s Da Vinci Society announces the availability of support to assist undergraduate and graduate students in meeting expenses for their research activities. This fund is not intended to support graduate thesis and project work that is a requirement for degree fulfillment. Rather it has been established as an incentive to undergraduate and graduate students to pursue and disseminate research that will enhance and strengthen their academic program. Recipients of the award are required to present the results of their research as a condition of the award.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligibility is limited to undergraduate and graduate students involved in research not related to a thesis or project required for degree completion. All applicants must be: (1) enrolled as regular fulltime student status in a major of the College of Technology, Architecture & Applied Engineering at BGSU, and (2) in good academic standing. Only one award per degree can be granted.

PROCEDURES

1. Advance Approval Required

Proposals for research support must be submitted and approved by the Da Vinci Review Committee before beginning that portion of the research activities for which support is requested; however, applications for support of your project may be made at any time. Please note that requests for retroactive funding of activities already conducted will not be considered.

2. Approval of Human Subjects Review Board/Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

A human subject is defined as any living individual about whom an investigator conducting research obtains data through intervention (physical procedures or manipulation) or interaction (questionnaires, surveys, interviews, or other interpersonal communication). All applicants doing research with human subjects or laboratory animals must obtain approval from the appropriate university board. Please keep in mind that approval for research involving human subjects or animals will be deferred until the appropriate committee has reviewed and approved the project. Human Subjects Review Board (HSRB) application procedures are available at http://www.bgsu.edu/research-economic-development/office-of-research-compliance/human-subjects-review-board/hsrb-procedures.html. To meet these criteria, advance planning is very important.

3. Expenditures

If your budget is approved for support, you will receive instructions about how to process requests for reimbursement. Expenditures can be made only upon receipt of official approval. Awards are made on a cost-reimburse basis; cash advances cannot be made. Funds should be expended within twelve months after the date of award.

4. Award Amounts

Research: up to $1000. Reimbursement procedures will be outlined in the award notification letter.

Travel: $400. Reimbursement can be for airfare, mileage, registration and accommodations only.
THE PROPOSAL (MUST BE TYPED)

A. Cover Page

This form is self-explanatory. Complete all items that apply to the research activity, obtain signature of the program advisor and project advisor, and submit it as the front page of the proposal.

B. Abstract

Provide a succinct and accurate description of the research activity, which will serve as a non-technical summary of the research. Maximum number of word is 500 words

C. Detailed Budget

A line item budget must be included that presents adequate details about each expense (detailed information on eligible expenses is provided below). A budget form is provided for this purpose. These items are to be well documented and based on reasonable charges. Please note that costs related to the final manuscript are not allowed. Those items requested for reimbursement should total not more than the allowable amount of $1000. The remaining columns should indicate the source and amount of additional financial support (if known) for the research.

Eligible Budget Expenses:

All requested budget items must be intrinsically related to the activities of the research and should be carefully justified. Allowable items include, but are not limited to:

- Materials and Supplies
  
  Laboratory supplies, specialized publications or research tools not available in the university library or through inter-library loan, film stock, artistic supplies, audio/video cassettes, or other items not readily available through an applicant’s department.

- Equipment
  
  Special laboratory or field equipment not available in a department may be eligible. All items of a permanent nature purchased with funds from this program will remain in an applicant’s department and title will rest with the university. Books or library materials must revert to the university library.

- Travel
  
  Research-related travel costs outside of Wood and Lucas Counties are allowable. The need for travel should be especially well documented, including an explanation of (1) the advantage external resources offer over local resources, and (2) the relationship of travel to project activities. Travel expenses will be reimbursed at current university rates and policies posted on the university Chrome River website. Travel of a personal nature or to professional meetings to attend or deliver a paper is NOT ALLOWABLE.

- Consultants or Temporary Employees
  
  Special talent needed for the research may be allowable. A clear justification of the need for people with additional expertise must be provided and the skills of these individuals must be substantiated. Salary requests for the applicant are not allowed.
D. **Budget Justification**

The budget justification explains the relationship of the budget items to the research activities. It should also explain how the applicants estimated this cost such as material quotation, travel quote, etc. Any funding request must be documented and justified to be eligible for support.

**REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA**

The application will be reviewed for clarity, completeness, and budget eligibility. The Da Vinci Review Committee will make the final determination of funding. If necessary, faculty from your department will be consulted for additional expertise.

The Da Vinci Review Committee will evaluate your proposal budget, and the relationship between research activities and budget items must be clear and convincingly justified.

**DECISION OPTIONS**

One of three decisions will be made: (1) Approved; (2) Approved with conditions; (3) Disapproved. An “approved with conditions” (#2) means that your proposal is approved and you can begin the research; however, before costs can be reimbursed, additional information is needed. The nature of the information will be communicated and the applicant should amend his/her proposal before submitting reimbursement requests. Finally, a “disapproved” (#3) means that, your proposal cannot be supported at this time; the rationale for the decision will be explained and the proposal may be rewritten and resubmitted.

**QUESTIONS**

Questions should be addressed to the College of Technology, Architecture and Applied Engineering office (2-7581) or email (cot@bgsu.edu). Ineligible expenses will be disallowed, so please call to confirm expense eligibility if you are unsure.

**WHEN TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS**

Submit the original completed application to the college office by the end of the 10th week of the semester prior to the semester in which you propose to perform the research. Retroactive proposals will not be accepted.

**APPLICATION FORMS**

Application forms can be obtained by contacting the college office by phone 372-7581 or e-mail (cot@bgsu.edu).

**PROPOSAL CHECKLIST** - A complete proposal must include the following:

- **Cover Page** Use the form provided. Fill it out completely and obtain the necessary signatures.
- **Abstract** Summarize your project description.
- **Budget**
  - **A. Detailed Budget**: Use the form provided. Present an itemized budget which details the basis for requested expenses.
  - **B. Budget Justification**: In order to receive support, provide written justification relating the proposed expenses to research activities.
PART A: PROPOSAL COVER PAGE

Name: ___________________________  Student ID: ___________________________
Local Address: ______________________  Major: ___________________________
________________________________  Campus Phone: ______________________
Currently registered for ____________ credit hours  Phone ______________________
GPA as of last Semester: ____________  Class standing: ____________
This proposal is for:  ○ Travel  ○ Research

BUDGET PERIOD:
Desired start date: ____________________  Anticipated research completion date: _______________
Amount requested: $ __________________

ARE HUMAN SUBJECTS/LABORATORY ANIMALS INVOLVED?  ○ No  ○ Yes
If yes, approval by the appropriate Review Board is required. See guidelines for application information.
○ Human Subjects  ○ Laboratory Animals  Date Approved: ________  HSRB ID#: ____________

CHECK LIST:  ○ Abstract  ○ Budget and Justification  ○ Copy of topic approval documentation

*********** REQUIRED SIGNATURES ***********

Obtain signatures before submitting your application to the college office.

Applicant: ___________________________  Date: __________________
(Signature)
________________________________
(Printed Name)
Faculty Mentor: ___________________________  Date: __________________
(Signature)
________________________________
(Printed Name)
Project Advisor: ___________________________  Date: __________________
(Signature)
________________________________
(Printed Name)

*********** for Da Vinci Society use only ***********

DECISION:  ○ Approved  ○ Approve w/c  AMOUNT $________  ○ Disapprove
COMMENTS/MODIFICATIONS: ___________________________

Da Vinci Coordinator: ___________________________  Date __________________

**PART B: ABSTRACT**  
Present a concise summary of the research activities proposed, including need for this activity, aims and objectives, methods, planned activities and analyses, and expected or desired outcomes.

**PART C: BUDGET**  
(This is a suggested format for budget planning. Please round amounts to the nearest whole dollar.)

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* If known, please identify the source(s) and nature of contribution in your budget justification. Identify only those cash awards received.

**PART D: BUDGET JUSTIFICATION**  
Present written justification relating the proposed expenses to the research activities. Any funding request not documented will be denied. Also, describe any budget calculations not immediately discernible on the line item budget.