

ADVANCE == AT WSU ==

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PROGRAM FUNDING GUIDELINES

Overview: The ADVANCE at WSU program periodically funds small grants to conduct social science research aimed at generating publishable projects on factors affecting the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine (STEMM) disciplines. ADVANCE at WSU strives to develop an inclusive research institution whose faculty are supported by a system that promotes career-long excellence.

The Social Science Research Program aims to (1) increase the representation of women in STEMM disciplines by providing institutional support through programs, policies, procedures, and climate change at critical points in the academic pipeline (e.g., recruitment, pre-tenure, and post-tenure advancement and leadership); (2) develop and disseminate innovative strategies that can be applied in similar institutions (research-intensive, rural, land grant universities) as well as other academic and workplace settings more broadly; and (3) put in place an infrastructure that gives these efforts highest institutional support and visibility and allows for transformative efforts to continue at WSU.

The program's three key initiatives are aimed at recruitment and retention efforts, targeting women in STEMM fields and historically under-represented faculty in all disciplines. ADVANCE at WSU relies upon the [NSF definition](#) of underrepresented groups.

One or more of these current initiatives should be broadly emphasized in the proposals:

1. Work/Life Support Initiative to facilitate greater integration of academic careers with family and personal life;
2. Leadership Training Initiative to identify and overcome barriers to advancement into leadership positions, and
3. Institutionalizing Transformation Initiative to assess institutional progress and disseminate best practices across WSU and to the broader academic community.

****Proposals focused on COVID-19 related effects are encouraged.****

The research must have WSU tenure-line faculty and/or the policies, practices, and structures that affect retention/advancement as its primary foci. Further, research must include STEMM disciplines, but STEMM does not need to be the primary/exclusive focus.

Amount of Funding: Proposals requesting up to \$10,000 will be considered, though higher amounts may be awarded for especially meritorious proposals that require greater funding to accomplish their objectives. Funds may be used for research materials, research assistance, and salaries, and must be expended no later than one year from the start date.

Eligibility: Applications are invited from all WSU faculty. At least one social science faculty member must be included as a member of each research team.

Proposal Format: In order to be considered, applicants must submit a [completed application](#), which includes the following:

- ADVANCE at WSU Proposal Submission Form
- Proposal: A detailed description and justification of the project that includes which asks for PI/project details, with special attention to the evaluation criteria listed below. The description should not exceed six pages (double-spaced, 12-point font) and should include:
 - 1) the disciplinary and conceptual framework for the study;
 - 2) a discussion of the literature informing the research, including any previous studies conducted at WSU, and testable hypotheses (when appropriate);
 - 3) the data and methods to be used in the research;
 - 4) the expected findings, including how the research is likely to inform policies and practices related to the ADVANCE program's goal of increasing the percentage of tenured and tenure-track women in STEMM fields and faculty from historically underrepresented groups;
 - 5) a timeline for project completion; and
 - 6) a detailed plan of where the PI (or PIs) plan/s to submit data from the project, including potential presentations, publications, and/or funding agencies.
- Detailed Budget
- Other: Copy or copies of investigator(s) C.V. (no more than two pages each), showing relevant publications or qualifications to carry out the research.

Cooperative Agreement: The applicant will be expected to work closely with ADVANCE at WSU in formulating the project and disseminating findings. Specifically, investigators will be required to consult with ADVANCE at WSU in planning and conducting the proposed research, involving Director of ADVANCE (and/or other program staff, as needed) in the development of publications arising from the funded project (authorship credit TBD). ADVANCE at WSU will also assist with disseminating information about the project and the findings.

Required Deliverables: Successful applicants will become ADVANCE Research Fellows and are expected to participate in occasional ADVANCE activities. Researchers are required to disseminate their findings by publishing them in peer-reviewed, scholarly outlets and

additional funding may be requested at the end of the grant period to assist with costs associated with publishing. Reports and presentations to the WSU community and/or the development of recommendations and action plans, for implementation at WSU based on the research are also encouraged.

Review Process and Criteria: The ADVANCE at WSU personnel will review applications and make award decisions. In evaluating the proposals, consideration will be given to:

- The potential of the proposed research to inform one of the three key ADVANCE initiatives and program goals.
- The intellectual merits of the research.
- The feasibility of completing the research within the timeframe proposed.
- The dissemination plan, including presentations, publications, and/or external grants.
- The investigator(s)' qualifications for conducting the research.
- Support of applications is subject to the availability of funds.

Deadline: Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis and are subject to the availability of funds.

Questions and Proposal Submission:

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Apply here: <https://advance.wsu.edu/internal-grant-application/>