

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PLAN

VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant FY 2025 Request for Applications

Purpose: The VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant (AHSS) supports, facilitates and enhances the creation, production and dissemination of arts, humanities and social sciences research and creative activity at any stage of development, including initial or mid-stage project development, presentation or performance, and final publication. This fund is supported through a collaboration between the Office of Research and Innovation and the Office of the Provost.

VCU AHSS Grant At-A-Glance *(additional details below)*

Proposal Deadline	December 13, 2024
Award Start Date and Project Period	May 16, 2025 (12 months)
Award Ceiling	Up to \$10,000, no unit cost share
Program Category	Pilot/small project funds for part of a larger project
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal investigators must be a full-time VCU faculty member. Applicants can be of any rank or tenure status. Both single- and multi-scholar and artist applications are eligible. PIs and Co-PIs with <u>active</u> AHSS awards at the time of proposal submission are ineligible to apply as a PI or Co-PI on an additional AHSS proposal during this funding cycle. Projects must demonstrate alignment with a research strategic plan initiative, along with specific goal(s) and objective(s) identified in the One VCU Research Strategic Priorities Plan. <p><i>Faculty who receive a grant from the AHSS fund as either PI or Co-PI cannot serve as PI or Co-PI on future submissions to the AHSS fund until three years have elapsed from the end date of their most recent award.</i></p>

Full proposal deadline: Application packages must be submitted via RAMS-SPOT Internal Opportunities here: [Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant \(OP0000696\)](#) no later than **5 p.m. (EST), Friday, December 13, 2024**. You will receive a confirmation email upon receipt. Applications cannot be accepted after the deadline for any reason.

Format: Applications must use [this template](#). Text must be single-spaced, Arial, 11-point (minimum) font. The template margins should not be altered. Proposals not following the format requirements will be returned without review. Once complete, **the template and any supporting documents must be converted to a single PDF file for upload.**

Forms for submission:

- [AHSS Application](#)
- [Biosketch template](#)

Budget guidelines: All requested costs directly related to the project should be listed and justified in the budget section of the AHSS Application Template. Facilities and administrative (F&A or indirect) costs are not allowed. **Budgets require approval from applicable chairs (or their designees) and deans before submission in RAMS-SPOT. Please consult with your department chair ahead of time and allow adequate time for approval routing.** See the Budgeting Guide below for additional information about eligible and ineligible costs.

VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant Budgeting Guide

CATEGORY	ELIGIBLE COSTS	INELIGIBLE COSTS
Salary support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary support, including fringe benefits, for PI(s) and co-investigators. Salary support, including fringe benefits, for project staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary support for administrative personnel or 12-month UAP or executive personnel.
Equipment and supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research/project supplies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office equipment and supplies (including faculty computers, laptops, and tablets unless strictly related to project).
Student costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergraduate, graduate student, and postdoctoral stipends, if relevant to the project, with a detailed justification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition other than graduate student tuition.
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential travel related to the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel not strictly related to the project.
Other costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant fees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional organization dues or membership fees. Sub-contracts to institutions or salary support for individuals external to VCU. Pre-award costs.

Review process: The submission, review, and funding process are coordinated by the Office of Research and Innovation. Applications will be reviewed and scored by faculty members from across the University. Subject matter experts will be selected whenever possible. Recommendations from the panel will then be submitted to the Vice President for Research and Innovation and Provost for final selection. Review feedback will be sent to all applicants. Review criteria will include:

- Merit, including scholarly merit, impact on the field of study, and feasibility (budget and timeline)
- Broader impacts, including translational potential and potential for high return on investment.
- Relation to the One VCU Research Strategic Priorities Plan, including specific potential for a project to further the goals and objectives identified.
- Team, including PI(s) preparedness, transdisciplinary qualities, and diversity (meaningful participation of trainees, students, URM and/or minoritized faculty and early-stage investigators as well as cross-campus collaboration).

Award and reporting process: The project start date is May 16, 2025 and project end date is May 15, 2026. The entire funds awarded will be released at the start of the award. A final project report including an accounting of all funds expended will be required 30 days after the project end date. Periodic progress reports or financial updates may also be requested.

Additional requirements for all Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fund awards:

- Projects are required to adhere to all VCU research-related policies, procedures, and compliance approvals, including intellectual property, IRB, IACUC, etc.
- The principal investigator(s) will be required to participate in an annual survey of results and outcomes (e.g., external grants submissions and awards, publications, creative work, intellectual property, etc.) associated with their fund-sponsored research. Participation will begin one year after the project end date and continue annually for a total of three years.
- All publications, presentations, etc., resulting from the project must acknowledge financial support from the VCU Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Grant, as appropriate. Please provide DOIs or other standard identifiers in project progress reports.
- Projects are expected to be completed within the specified budget period. If an extenuating circumstance should be considered for a no-cost extension, the PI(s) will be expected to fully justify the request in writing. Extensions are at the discretion of the VPRI and Provost and there is no guarantee that the extension will be approved.
- In support of VCU's culture of collaboration, PIs and Co-PIs who have been awarded funding are expected to serve as subject matter expert peer reviewers for future submission cycles throughout the duration of their project, as needed.

Questions: Please direct all questions to ovprifunds@vcu.edu.