



## ACCEL: CU-ADVANCE Program



*Advancing Cornell's Commitment to Excellence and Leadership*

### Research Initiation Awards for Associate Professors

#### **Description and Application**

The CU-ADVANCE *Research Initiation Awards* are offered under the auspices of the National Science Foundation ADVANCE program. The goal of the NSF ADVANCE program is to increase the recruitment, retention, and promotion into leadership positions of women in engineering and the sciences, and to institutionalize best practices, policies and programs across colleges as they pertain to women faculty.

The CU-ADVANCE *Research Initiation Awards* (RIAs) are supported and administered by the CU-ADVANCE Center and are explicitly dedicated to the success of mid-career women faculty at Cornell. The goal of CU-ADVANCE RIAs is to support women associate professors in Engineering, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and the Social Sciences *as they near promotion from associate to full rank*. These awards will fund research activities and initiatives that represent either a new direction or a renewed line of inquiry which are likely to support their promotion. These grants are intended to help foster activities at a critical career stage for tenured associate professors.

These grants are not intended as financial support for conference attendance or as extensions of already funded research, but rather as opportunities to develop new or renewed lines of inquiry that have lain dormant due to lack of time or resources.

Applicants for RIAs must have the support of the Director or Chair of their department or School for their proposal.

Applicants are encouraged to consult with the CU-ADVANCE Center before and during the preparation of an application to evaluate the suitability of the proposal.

**Eligibility.** A female faculty member is eligible for a RIA if her research area is one supported by the National Science Foundation and she is at the Associate rank nearing promotion to full. The application should identify which directorate(s) of the NSF support research in her area. Multiple applications from a single department are permissible.

**Deadlines.** Applications are due by the last Friday in January each year. Future deadlines will be announced at a later date. Funds will be available immediately upon selection.

**Budget.** The maximum amount of a RIA is \$50,000 to be used over a 1-year period. Funds from the RIA program may only be used to cover:

- Teaching relief (for instructors)
- Capital equipment
- Support for a graduate research assistant or post-doctoral fellow
- Research expendables (facilities costs, materials and supplies, etc.)
- Travel related to the specific research proposed
- Other project related expenses (justify)

Note: Overhead will not be paid by these grants.

**Required application materials.**

- Applicant's CV
- Statement of purpose
  - Description of new or renewed line of inquiry and its role in promotion to full professor
  - Timeline of proposed activities
  - Budget justification
- Support letters from Chair/Director or other senior faculty member

**Reporting requirements.** A report to the CU-ADVANCE Center that describes the activities the applicant carried out and any accomplishments that came about as a result of her work on the new or renewed line of inquiry is required at the end of the year in which the grant is awarded. The final 10% of the awarded funds will be disbursed upon receipt of the final report.

**Criteria used to evaluate applications.** Applications will be evaluated by a committee of faculty based on

- Quality and Clarity of the Statement of Purpose
- Letter of support from Chair/Director or senior faculty member

A cover page and template for the application is provided on the next pages.

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**CU-ADVANCE Research Initiation Award**

**Application Cover Page**

Date Request Submitted:

Name, campus address, phone and email of Applicant:

Name of Department:

Chair or Director:

Relevant NSF Directorate(s):

Total Amount Requested (maximum \$50,000) (\$)

Period of requested funds (start/end dates):

Project title

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Please attach material which addresses the following requirements to the cover page.

**Justification** (please answer all questions):

1. CV from the Candidate.
2. Statement of Purpose, Activities Timeline

The candidate should provide a 1-2 page document that describes the following:

- a) Research interests
  - b) Description of intended activities
  - c) Timeline of intended activities
  - d) Relevant NSF Directorate(s) and programs
3. Letters of recommendation.
    - a) Letter from Chair or Director or senior faculty member
  4. Requested Budget
    - a) Spreadsheet showing budget items
    - b) Contribution (if any) from the department (\$):
    - c) Contribution (if any) from the College): (\$)
    - d) Contribution requested from the Professional Development Grant (\$):
    - e) Total request (\$):