

August 21, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors, Offices of Research

FROM: John Wallin
Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration

RE: I. Availability of FY 2007-08 Board of Regents Support Fund Request for Proposals for:

- A. Traditional and Undergraduate Enhancement Program
- B. Two-Year Institutions Enhancement Program
- C. Research and Development Program
- D. ATLAS Program
- E. Graduate Fellows Program
- F. Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity Program
- G. Endowed Chairs Program

II. Important Deadlines

III. Important Notices

I. AVAILABILITY OF FY 2007-08 BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS:

The updated requests for proposals (RFPs) for FY 2007-08 for the following Board of Regents Support Fund competitive grants programs: (1) Traditional and Undergraduate Enhancement; (2) Two-Year Institutions Enhancement; (3) Research and Development; (4) Awards for Louisiana Artists and Scholars; (5) Graduate Fellows Program; (6) Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity Program; and (7) Endowed Chairs Program are now available on the Internet: <http://www.laregents.org>. We would appreciate your disseminating the announcement of the RFPs being available as widely as possible on your campus as part of the Board's ongoing effort to streamline RFPs, and to ensure minimizing the number of paper copies that the Board and institutions must produce. The Board remains particularly interested in encouraging the development of projects that have statewide implications and benefits.

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II. IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

A. DEADLINE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (RCS and ITRS) NOTICES OF INTENT

September 11, 2007 - 4:30 P.M.

Applicants who desire to submit proposals under either of the Research and Development Subprograms (Research Competitiveness or Industrial Ties Research) **must first submit a notice of intent** in accordance with the guidelines in the R&D RFP.

B. DEADLINE FOR AWARDS TO LOUISIANA ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS (ATLAS) PROGRAM NOTICES OF INTENT

October 8, 2007 - 4:30 P.M.

Applicants who desire to submit proposals under the Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) Program **must first submit a notice of intent** in accordance with the guidelines in the ATLAS RFP.

C. DEADLINE DATES FOR ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE RFPs:

October 1, 2007 - 4:30 P.M.

In accordance with R.S. 39:1503, a deadline of October 1, 2007, has been established for staff responses to questions about these RFPs. After these dates, no further inquiries can be accepted, since all questions posed, and all answers provided, will be transcribed and forwarded to all directors of Offices of Research for dissemination. Operating in this manner ensures that all potential applicants receive the same information.

D. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS:

October 24, 2007 - Traditional and Undergraduate Enhancement Program

October 31, 2007 - Industrial Ties Subprogram

November 7, 2007 - Research Competitiveness Subprogram

November 7, 2007 - Enhancement Program for Two-Year Institutions Program

November 14, 2007 - Graduate Fellows Program

November 14, 2007 - Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity Program

November 21, 2007 - Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars Program

January 23, 2008 - Endowed Chairs Proposals

III. IMPORTANT NOTICES:

A. GRADUATE FELLOWS, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND ENHANCEMENT RFPs:

At its May 22, 1997, meeting, the Board of Regents reaffirmed its commitment to the reform of undergraduate education and teacher preparation and encouraged all Support Fund program applicants to consider these priorities as they develop proposals. Further, Board staff will make all external reviewers aware of the Board's commitment to undergraduate reform and teacher preparation. Reviewers will be instructed that, when all else is equal, preference should be given to those proposals which emphasize, in a meaningful manner, reform-based undergraduate education and teacher preparation. Applicants to the Board's Enhancement Program, in particular, should be aware of modifications to that Program's definition of "Education" as an eligible discipline and to point values for items b.3 - b.5 under "The Enhancement Plan."

B. GRADUATE FELLOWS RFP:

Relative to the Graduate Fellows Program, the Board would like to emphasize again this year that both the Board of Regents Support Fund Long-Range Strategic Plan for Higher Education, as well as the RFP, establish the eligibility of master's-level degree programs of critical importance to the State's economic development and diversification. Moreover, in January, 1993, the Board of Regents established a 20% set-aside program designated the "Board of Regents Support Fund Graduate Fellowships for Teachers" (GFT) Program. This one-year, master's-level fellowship program targets teachers in disciplinary areas important to Louisiana's economic development. Applicants should note, however, that participation in the GFT is limited to mathematics and science disciplines only. Applicants for master's-level awards in either the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program or the GFT Program should keep in mind that the burden of proof is on them to develop a persuasive and compelling case for why their proposals are of critical importance to Louisiana's economic development and diversification.

C. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RFP:

1. RCS and ITRS Applicants:

All equipment requests under the R&D program must show, on the appropriate budget page(s), a 25% or greater cash match. For RCS proposals, the required equipment match must be from the applicant's employing institution. Review panels will have authority to recommend to the Board that any R&D application requesting funds for equipment, but lacking the required equipment match, be reduced or not funded.

2. ITRS Applicants ONLY:

All ITRS applicants are required to have an "up front" matching commitment in writing from the private/federal sector for at least the first year of the request. Moreover, a plan to secure subsequent year matching commitments must be addressed in the budget section of the proposal. Applicants should note that

although the exact level of the commitment

is not specified in the RFP, in previous years the Board has adopted the recommendations of the final review panel which has strongly recommended that very specific matching requirements be made conditions of funding by the Board.

If you have any questions about this memorandum or the RFPs, please call Mr. John Wallin, Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration, or other members of the Sponsored Programs staff as listed below, at (225) 342-4253.

Traditional and Undergraduate Enhancement: Ms. Noreen Lockett and Mr. Bryan Jones

Enhancement Program for Two-Year Institutions: Ms. Noreen Lockett

Research and Development (RCS and ITRS): Ms. Zenovia Simmons

Graduate Fellows Program, Graduate Fellowships to Promote Diversity Program and ATLAS: Ms. Carrie Robison

Endowed Chairs Program: Mr. John Wallin

Your cooperation and assistance in disseminating the information in this memorandum will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

JW/vd

Enclosures

cc: System and Campus Heads

(RFPmemo.07 C:JW)