Pursuit Development Funds (PDFs)

The goal of this grant program is to help COE faculty increase and diversify the sources of their research funding. The proposal team should identify opportunities and related strengths and weaknesses based on their current environment (research activities, teaching duties, etc.). The team can identify what support is needed to help them write a more competitive and compelling proposal to overcome these weaknesses in order to make the most of the opportunity. Common need examples are: external grant writers, travel funds to visit a program manager or proposal team partner/member, support to collect preliminary data and results, and in extreme cases, faculty time. Opportunities for multi-investigator teams, new research directions, or large proposals are more likely to need such support.

The funding opportunity should be identified and the deadline should be approximately 6 months from the application date. An unsolicited proposal to an agency-wide Broad Area Announcement does not qualify without prior positive interaction with and encouragement from the program manager.

Applications should be emailed to Dr Lori Jarmon ljjarmon@iastate.edu. The application should contain the opportunity information, a list of the PI/Co-PIs/senior personnel, proposal abstract, the need (what is to be done and how much it costs), and a brief statement for why the team will be competitive with the requested support. A typical request will be $2,500 - $10,000. The entire application should not be more than 3 pages.

The lead PI should have a primary appointment in the College of Engineering.

Unspent funds after the submission date will revert back to the college.

First time requests for an external grant writer will be funded in full, up to $3,000. Subsequent requests by the same faculty member or proposal team should include a willingness to cost share with their department or PI incentive funds.

Application Date: The 1st business day of every month