

Subject: October Grants Newsletter

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at 11:47:24 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Office of Graduate Studies and Research

To: Mar Roig Ripoll



Division of Academic Affairs

**GRADUATE STUDIES
& RESEARCH**

Announcements

Grant Proposal Seed Money. For this academic year there will be two deadlines for [Grant Proposal Seed Money](#) - **October 5, 2026 and March 1, 2027**. Grant Proposal Seed Money is an internal funding mechanism that supports costs associated with pilot/preliminary work to increase competitiveness for an external funding application. An external solicitation is identified in the application process. For assistance, contact grants@csusm.edu. GPSM applications are reviewed by the Grants and Contracts Advisory Committee.

CSUSM Student Poster Showcase. Hosted by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, the [Student Poster Showcase](#) promotes student research and creative activity accomplishments. Please save the date in your calendars: Tuesday, December 1 from 12-12:50 PM in USU Ballroom. Applications are due November 3.

Kerri Mowen Excellence in Faculty Mentoring Award. The [Kerri Mowen award](#) recognizes faculty (including lecturers) who have mentored and guided a considerable number of students in research or creative activities, and/or faculty who have impacted the environment of the department, college, or university to significantly increase the number and diversity of students engaged in research and creative activities. Nomination letters are due October 22 by 5 PM.

Proposal Milestones

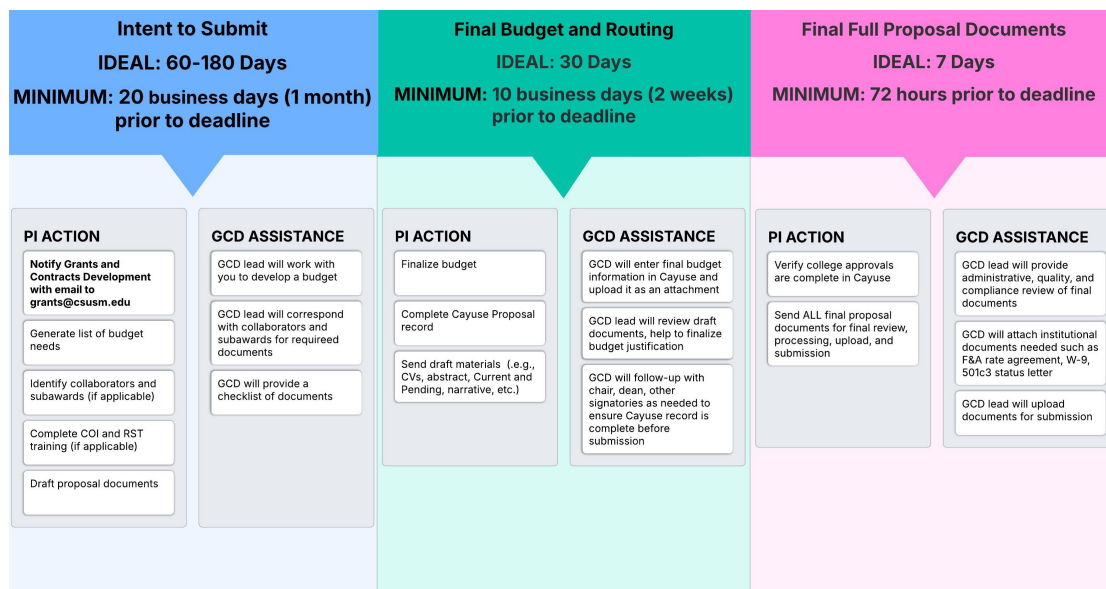
Grants and Contracts Development requires that the following [proposal milestones](#) be met for all submissions going forward. **We are no longer accepting proposals due in the month of October.** Let us know of upcoming submissions due after November 1 through January, 2027.

Milestone 1: 20 Business Days Before Submission - Notification to Grants and Contracts Development (grants@csusm.edu)

Milestone 2: 10 Business Days Before Submission - Final budget and abstract uploaded to Cayuse and routing initiated

Milestone 3: 72 Hours Before Submission - Final versions of proposal documents shared with Grants and Contracts Development for review.

If you have questions about the milestones and their implications, please send them to grants@csusm.edu.



SuRE Biennial Conference

July 15-17, 2027

Registration [information](#) available in early 2027

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Informational Webinar

[Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited Institutions \(RLI-S10\)](#)

October 21, 2026 Noon-1:30pm



National Institutes
of Health

Join [here](#)

The next cycle has a January 26, 2027 deadline. This is a limited submission.

Proposals

Congratulations to all who submitted proposals recently:

Drs. Tracey Brown and Denise Garcia | CTREE/Biological Sciences | Palomar College subaward, National Institutes of Health | NIGMS Institutional Biomedical Undergraduate Research Training (BURT) Program (T34) | *BURT @ Palomar College & CSUSM.*

Dr. Erika Diaz Almeyda | CSTEM/Biological Sciences | COAST | *Characterizing Coral Microbiome and Endosymbiont Dynamics During Graft Integration and Thermal Stress.*

Dr. Gerardo Dominguez | CSTEM/Physics | COAST | *Closing the Nanoplastic Measurement Gap: Size-Resolved Detection and Upper Limits in Coastal Seawater.*

Dr. Reza Kamali | CSTEM/Electrical and Computer Engineering | Grossmont Cuyamaca Community College district subaward, CA Border Region K-16 Collaborative | *Mini-grants.*

Dr. Sabrina Liu | CHABSS/Psychological Science | Chapman University subaward, National Institutes of Health | R01 | *Early life unpredictability and novel markers of risk for mental health problems.*

Dr. Joely Proudfit | CICSC | Cal Trans | *AB 776 Southern California Native American Freeway Implementation.*

Dr. Allison Monterrosa | CHABSS/Sociology | National Institutes of Health | Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) First Program (R16) | *Examining the Impact of Coercive Violence on Maternal Health Outcomes.*

Dr. Christina Holub (PI) and Drs. Theresa Andrasfay and Simon Fan (collaborators) | CEHHS/Public Health and CSTEM/Computer Science and Engineering | National Institutes of Health | Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program (R16) | *Co-Designing a Scalable mHealth Platform for Chronic Disease and Mental Health Support with AI/chat-based Tailoring.*

Dr. Reza Kamali | CSTEM/Electrical and Computer Engineering | Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) and the Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific (NIWC Pacific) | Federal contract solicitation, multiple award contract | *Cyber-Physical Systems Research for Secure and Resilient PLC Operation.*

Dr. Kang Du | CSTEM/Chemistry and Biochemistry | National Institutes of Health | Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program (R16) | *Developing Highly Magnetic Fe₂-Based MRI Contrast Agents*.

Dr. Osmar Pinto Neto | CEHHS/Kinesiology | | National Institutes of Health | Support for Research Excellence (SuRE) Program (R16) | *Prospective Cohort Development and External Validation of Machine Learning Models for Early Detection of Parkinson's Disease*.

Drs. Kaitlyn Woltz and Deya Roy | CHABSS/Economics and Communication | National Science Foundation | Education Core Research | *Gen AI: Exploring Generative AI's Impact on Student Performance*.

Drs. Rong-Ji Chen, Teru Toyokawa, and Reza Kamali | CEHHS/School of Education and Human Development and CSTEM/Electrical and Computer Engineering | National Science Foundation | STEM K-12 | *Semiconductor Technology Education for High School Students*.

Awards

Congratulations to those who received awards recently:

Dr. Ricardo Fierro | CSTEM | U.S. Department of Labor on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education | *Strengthening Institutions (Individual)*.

Dr. Carlos Luna López | CSTEM | U.S. Department of Labor on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education | *Strengthening Institutions (Cooperative Arrangement)*.

Dr. Scott Salvatore, Dr. Claudia Miranda, Dr. Ryan Stevenson, and Rosa Hunt | Student Affairs/Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) | Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration | GLS Campus Suicide Prevention Grant Program | *Connecting Cougars: A Comprehensive Approach to Suicide Prevention*.

Dr. Rachael Dombrowski, Matt Mincey, and Angie Collins | CEHHS/Public Health and Nursing | Guenther Foundation | *Mobile Wellness Initiative: Advancing Community Health in North San Diego County*.

Featured Funding Opportunities

Program: [Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program](#)

Sponsor: US Department of Agriculture

Synopsis: Promotes and strengthens the ability of Hispanic-Serving Institutions to carry out education, applied research and related community development programs, encouraging innovative teaching and education proposals with the potential to become models for other institutions regionally or nationally. Applications may propose that students gain experience through applied research and community outreach as part of

a formal education program.

Deadline: December 3

Program: [Landmarks of American History and Culture and Summer Institutes for Higher Education Faculty](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Synopsis: The Landmarks of American History and Culture and Summer Institutes for Higher Education Faculty program supports humanities education through professional development for higher education faculty members. Landmarks and Institutes are residential professional development programs that educators from across the nation to deepen their understanding of significant topics in the humanities and enrich their capacity for effective scholarship and teaching.

Deadline: December 9

Program: [Core Research in Biological Sciences \(BIO Core\)](#)

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Synopsis: This solicitation invites research that was covered previously by the Divisions of Environmental Biology, Integrative Organismal Systems, and Molecular and Cellular Biosciences.

Deadline: Proposals accepted anytime

Limited Submissions

[STEM-NET Faculty Interdisciplinary Research Program](#)

The program's goals are to support and encourage the development of interdisciplinary research and scholarship collaborations between faculty members in STEM and non-STEM disciplines.

CSUSM may have one submission. Internal applications should be prepared according to the guidance of the call for proposals and include the 5-page narrative, budget and justification (1 page), references, and CVs. All documents should be submitted in an email to grants@csusm.edu by **Wednesday, October 21 at 11:59 PM**. The Grants and Contracts Development Advisory Committee will review applications and make a recommendation.

[W.M. Keck Foundation Research Program](#)

Those interested in consideration for internal selection, please submit a one-page proposal to grants@csusm.edu by **Friday, October 30 at 11:59 PM**. Concept papers will be reviewed by the Grants and Contracts Development Advisory Committee. There may be three proposals submitted by CSUSM for the deadline on **December 7**.

The W.M. Keck Foundation funding priorities include:

- High-impact research in basic physical, life, and biomedical sciences, including instrumentation and engineering in service of basic science
- Pioneering, fundamental discoveries in important and emerging research areas
- Novel approaches that are distinctive, innovative, field-expanding, and challenge existing paradigms
- High-risk, high-reward proposals are welcome

NIGMS Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited Institutions (RLI-S10)
To express interest in the Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited
Institutions (RLI-S10) please email grants@csusm.edu by **Monday, November 2**
at **11:59 PM**.

From Grants and Contracts Development and the Office of Sponsored Projects

FY25-26 AT A GLANCE

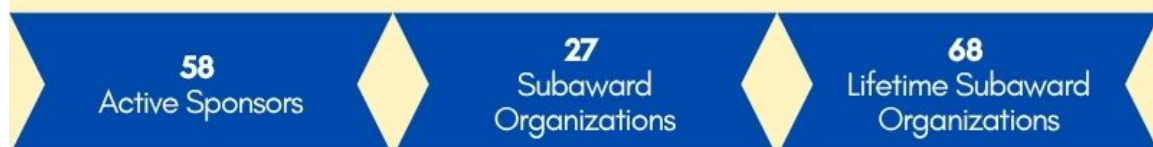
Impact of Sponsored Projects at CSUSM



Supporting Our Students



Partnerships & Reach

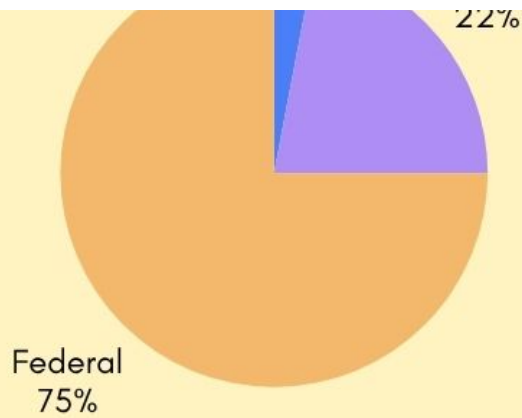


FY25-26 Expenditures (\$22.1M) by Source

Non-gov/Other

3%

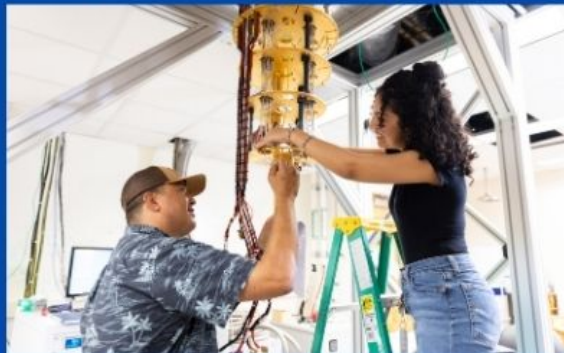
State
60%



Sponsored projects expand student opportunities, support faculty research, and further engagement with the community.

FY25-26 figures. Award and expenditure totals from annual reports; student support, employment, sponsor, and subaward metrics provided by OSP.

In 25-26, Dr. Justin Perron received a three-year award expected to total **\$1,085,815** through the Army Research Office to implement and assess a laboratory structure that will increase quantum-relevant hands-on experiences for undergraduate students.



Creative Activity Highlight

France-Luce Benson (CHABSS, School of Arts) performed on several evenings throughout the Un-Erasable Solo Festival in Los Angeles, with a concluding performance on Friday, September 25. *Worthy* is the third play in France-Luce's trilogy about the Haitian Revolution. *Worthy* had its debut in June at New York's acclaimed Ensemble Studio Theatre, where Benson remains a member playwright. She will perform *Worthy* at the Segal Center in New York City on November 16 and in January in Guadeloupe as part of an artist residency.



Contacts

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