

Subject: OGSR Newsletter - September 2026

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 1:30:08 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Office of Graduate Studies and Research

To: Mar Roig Ripoll



California State University
SAN MARCOS

OFFICE OF GRADUATE
STUDIES AND RESEARCH

Welcome to Fall 2026!

New Required Proposal Milestones

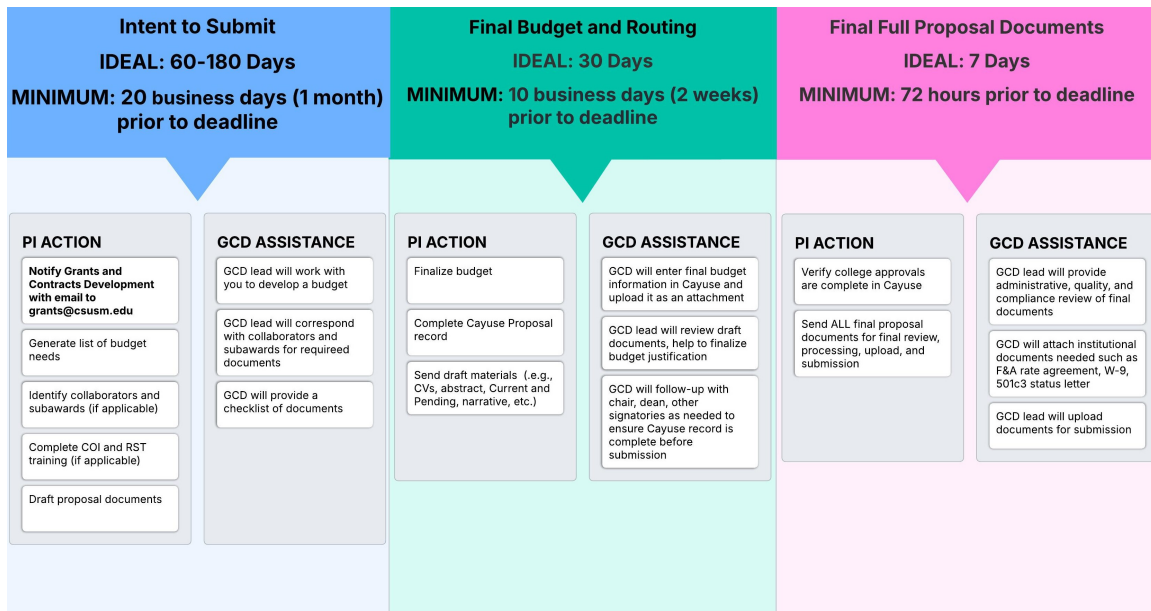
Grants and Contracts Development will require that the following [proposal milestones](#) be met for all submissions going forward.

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.



New Funding Opportunities Platform - *Coming Soon*

We are implementing a new funding opportunities platform. Please stay tuned for an update on Atom Grants.

Exploring Intellectual Property and Tech Transfer: Faculty Research Applications

Friday, September 18

12:00-1:30 PM

KEL 2413 In-Person

Lunch Provided

[REGISTER](#)

Have you made a research discovery or developed an innovation that has the potential to solve an important societal problem? This session is designed for faculty researchers and inventors who are curious about moving promising research-based innovations from academia to a wider audience, where they can create meaningful impact for communities and society.

Guest presenters from SDSU's Innovation Team, including Technology Transfer Office (TTO) Director Tommy Martindale, will discuss practical pathways for faculty translating research discoveries into real-world applications. Participants will gain an overview of intellectual property—including patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets—and learn how to work with CSUSM and SDSU innovation leaders to evaluate, develop, and protect innovations arising from their research. The session will also highlight resources available through CSUSM's collaboration with SDSU and regional

ecosystem partners, including mentorship and translational funding, to help faculty advance promising innovations toward industry partnerships, licensing opportunities, or startup formation

Announcements

Project Services Update. We are thrilled to welcome Daisy Santiago back to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research as the Project Services Technician. In this role, Daisy will work with principal investigators overseeing sponsored projects, providing administrative support and expertise. After graduating from CSUSM in 2024, Daisy was hired as Project Technician for the EL-led, ARPA-funded sponsored project.

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.

Limited Submissions

NSF's [Major Research Instrumentation](#) program is a limited submission opportunity. See the limit to the number of proposals indicated below.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than \$100,000* and less than \$1,400,000. **Max 2**
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$1,400,000 up to and including \$4,000,000. **Max 1**
- Track 3: Track 3 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$100,000 and less than or equal to \$4,000,000 that include the purchase, installation, operation, and

maintenance of equipment and instrumentation to conserve or reduce the consumption of helium. **Max 1**

INTERNAL SELECTION PROCESS: If you are interested in submitting a NSF MRI proposal in the October 15-November 16, 2026 submission window, please respond to grants@csusm.edu with the track you are interested in submitting to by **September 18**. If the level of interest is within the maximum number of submissions, no further internal process will be conducted. If interest exceeds the maximum number of submissions, we will share an expedited internal process for selection.

* Track 1 proposals requesting funds from NSF less than \$100,000 will be accepted only from: a) eligible performing organizations requesting instrumentation supporting research in the disciplines of mathematics or social, behavioral and economic sciences; or b) non-Ph.D.-granting institutions of higher education requesting instrumentation supporting research in any NSF-supported disciplines.

Proposals

Congratulations to all who submitted proposals recently:

Dr. Jimmy Kezos | CSTEM/Biological Sciences | National Institutes of Health | R16 SuRE | *Improving Cardiac Dysfunction and Lifespan in Obese Fruit Fly Populations via Exercise*.

Drs. Mallory Rice and Richard Armenta | CSTEM/Biological Sciences | Chancellor's Office | GUIDE | *From Classroom to Career: Connecting Course Content to Real Scientists Through Undergraduate Research Stories*.

Dr. Jimmy Kezos, Robyn Araiza, and Dr. Kang Du | CSTEM/Biological Sciences | Chancellor's Office | GUIDE | *Age-Specific Metabolomic Characterization of Obese *Drosophila Melanogaster* Populations with Heightened Cardiac Dysfunction and Mortality Rates During Early Adulthood*.

Donna Davis, Dr. Norma Larios, and Antonio Hernández Rodríguez | Student Affairs/Cougar Care Network and Basic Needs | Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services | CCAMPIS-Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program | *CCAMPIS at CSUSM*.

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*.

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)*.

Drs. Rachael Dombrowski, Asher Santos, and Christina Holub | CEHHS/Public Health | Department of Health and Human Services | Public Health Training Centers Program | *Health Works! SoCal Training Center*.

Dr. Osmar Pinto Neto | CEHHS/Kinesiology | National Science Foundation | Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) | *CAREER: When Can Brain-Muscle Coherence Identify the Source of Motor Impairment? Mechanism-Identifiability and Sensor-Sufficiency Rules for Neurorehabilitation*.

Dr. Shellye Sledge | CEHHS/Social Work | Spencer Foundation | Racial Equality | *Re-Positioning Equity and Assets in Partnership (REAP) with Aspiring Black Scholars Who Matter*.

Dr. Shellye Sledge | CEHHS/Social Work | William T Grant Foundation | Reducing Inequality | *Educational Accountability and Practices (REAP): A Strengths-Focused Approach to Reducing Educational Inequality for Black Students in the California State University System*.

Dr. Jeff Nessler | CEHHS/Dean's Office and Kinesiology | National Institutes of Health | Conferences and Scientific Meetings | *San Diego County Aging Research & Innovation Summit*.

Dr. Betsy Read and Carlos Luna López | CSTEM/Biology | National Science Foundation | Research Experiences for Undergraduates | *REU Site: AI-Enabled Discovery and Innovation in the Life Sciences*.

Drs. Yanyan Li, Mengjie Jia, and Ali Ahmadinia | CSTEM/Computer Science & Engineering | National Science Foundation | Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity Education Innovation and Scholarship for Service | *CyberAI SFS: Strengthening CyberAI Workforce Development through A Regional 2+2 Cybersecurity Program*.

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*.

Mihaela Kennedy | Finance and Administrative Services/University Police Department | Department of Justice - Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) | Hiring Program | *Enhancing Community Policing and Student Safety Through Dedicated Campus Engagement Officer*.

Mihaela Kennedy | Finance and Administrative Services/University Police Department | Department of Justice - Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) | Microgrants | *Drone First Responder Program: Enhancing Campus Safety and Emergency Response*.

Awards

Congratulations to those who received awards recently:

Dr. Carlos Rosas | CHABSS/Psychological Sciences | The San Diego Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center for Minority Aging Research subaward, National Institutes of Health | Scientist Program | *Psychosocial Factors and Cognitive Health: A Risk and Resilience Approach*.

Drs. Kim Pulvers and Richard Armenta | CHABSS/Psychological Sciences and CEHHS/Kinesiology | University of California Office of the President, Tobacco Related Disease Research Program | Smoke and Vape Free Scholars Initiative Program Award | *Research & Action for Community Health (REACH): CSUSM/UCSD Smoke and Vape Free Scholars Program*.

Dr. Majid Karimi | CoBA/Operations, Supply Chain, and Business Analytics | California Public Utilities Commission | CASF Broadband Adoption Account Grant - Digital Literacy | *Applied Analytics Pathways for Veterans Program (San Diego County and Riverside County)*.

Dr. Majid Karimi | CoBA/Operations, Supply Chain, and Business Analytics | California Public Utilities Commission | CASF Broadband Adoption Account Grant - Digital Literacy | *Supply Chain Analytics Bootcamp (San Diego County and Riverside County)*.

Drs. Justin Perron and Ed Price | CRESE | CA Jobs First | *SoCal Quantum Alliance for Development - Initialize*.

Drs. Mallory Rice and Richard Armenta | CSTEM/Biological Sciences | Chancellor's Office | GUIDE | *From Classroom to Career: Connecting Course Content to Real Scientists Through Undergraduate Research Stories*.

Drs. Carlos Luna López and Tracey Brown | CTREE | National Institutes of Health | R25 ESTEEMED | *Building Early Awareness and Research in Science (BEARS)*.

Dr. Jeff Nessler | CEHHS/Dean's Office and Kinesiology | National Institute of Aging, National Institutes of Health | Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP) R15 | *Improving the Assessment of Great Toe Function and its Association with Gait and Balance in Older Adults*.

Lia Mauga | Enrollment Management Services (EMS)/Recruitment and Outreach | Department of Labor on behalf of the Department of Education | Talent Search | *CSUSM TRIO Talent Search*.

Dr. Ali Ahmadinia | CSTEM/Dean's Office and Electrical and Computer Engineering Department | National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) | Congressionally-Identified Projects | *Engineering and Computer Science Program Capacity Building*.

Featured Funding Opportunities

Program: [Monitoring and Synthesis to Inform Offshore Development & Marine Ecosystem Management Awards](#)

Sponsor: California Ocean Protection Council and California Sea Grant College Program

Synopsis: This solicitation supports two complementary tracks to assess baseline conditions for current and/or future offshore development in California, including offshore energy. Track 1 addresses whether existing monitoring can detect disturbance against natural and/or climate-driven variability, and Track 2 supports collecting targeted new field data where monitoring is absent or out of date.

Letter of Intent Deadline: October 9, 2026

Full Proposals Deadline: November 17, 2026

Program: [Investigator Initiated Innovation in Computational Genomics and Data Science](#) (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Sponsor: National Institutes of Health

Synopsis: This program aims at supporting investigator-initiated research efforts, fostering innovation in computational genomics, data science, statistics, bioinformatics, and data visualization and exploration. Projects should be enabling for genomics research, broadly applicable to human health and disease, and generalizable across diseases and biological systems.

Deadline: February 16, 2027

Program: [HBCU/Minority Serving Institutions Equipment/Instrumentation](#)

Sponsor: Department of War

Synopsis: This funding opportunity supports the acquisition of research equipment and instrumentation to augment existing capabilities or develop new ones in areas of interest to the DoD. While funding cannot be used for student support, applicants must address how the requested equipment/instrumentation will impact student participation in research and encourage STEM career pathways.

Anticipated Deadline: Spring 2027

Contacts

[Dr. Charles De Leone](#) | Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

[Dr. Carlos Luna López](#) | Grant Support Faculty Fellow

[Melissa Teetzel](#) | Director, Grants and Contracts Development

[Mar Roig Ripoll](#) | Research and Proposal Development Officer

[Rachel Stiehl](#) | Research Development Officer

[Daisy Santiago](#) | Project Services Technician