



Broadening Life Experiences and Undergraduate Research (BLEU-R) Student Grant Program

INSTRUCTIONS

ABOUT

The Office of Research, Strategic Initiatives, and Economic Development (ORSI-ED) is committed to enhancing the research and academic enterprise of the Baton Rouge campus, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. To further promote creativity and excellence, and to move the Baton Rouge campus toward Research Level II status, the ORSI-ED is sponsoring small development grants for undergraduate researchers. The SU Broadening Life Experiences and Undergraduate Research (BLEU-R) Grant Program supports proposal development, pilot research, entrepreneurial experiences, prototype development, and other enhancement activities that advance undergraduate research, workforce training and provide opportunities to attract external funding.

The program rewards high-risk, high-return research proposals and prototype development surrounding COVID-19 relief, education, and adaptation to uncertainty caused by coronavirus ripple effects, including projects that:

- develop new technologies
- apply theories or methods to new research areas
- introduce transformational research ideas and/businesses
- aid in diversifying research and internship arenas that have traditionally had low minority participation

AMOUNT

Support is offered for a maximum of five grants of up to \$5,000. Please see the BLEU-R Grant Guidelines for current funding amounts.

ELIGIBILITY

Preference is given to supporting proposals from undergraduate students. Eligibility is limited to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents that are full-time SUBR students in good standing with the University. Students who are in the final semester of matriculation are ineligible. Please see the BLEU-R Grant Guidelines for current eligibility information.

APPLYING

Eligible students may apply [here](#) to the BLEU-R Grant Program by downloading the application and solicitation. For deadlines and other details, see the annual request for proposals (**RFP**) for this program. Submit the completed BLEU-R application (and required documentation) to Deidre Street, ORSI-ED, Southern University – Baton Rouge, LA 70813-1241; Email: bleu-rgrant@subr.edu. All BLEU-R student proposals **MUST** be routed through the Office of Sponsored Programs by a faculty researcher/mentor and have a completed [routing form](#).

Review of proposal will not begin until the **complete application** is received.

Warning: The following is considered application non-compliance:

- a.) failing to follow BLEU-R guidelines
- b.) failing to provide proposed agency formatted vitae (if submitting larger proposal to NSF, an NSF-formatted biosketch should be submitted with BLEU-R application)
- c.) proceeding with research and committing University funds before obtaining final notification of award status

If you have any questions or need assistance completing this application, please call Deidre Street (225) 771-3890, ext. 200 or e-mail: bleu-r@subr.edu

Broadening Life Experiences and Undergraduate Research (BLEU-R) Student Grant Program

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL GUIDELINES 2021-2022

PURPOSE

The SU Broadening Life Experiences and Undergraduate Research (BLEU-R) Grant Program supports proposal development, pilot research, entrepreneurial experiences, prototype development, and other enhancement activities that advance undergraduate research and workforce training projects to provide opportunities to attract external funding. The BLEU-R Grant Program also supports proposal development to aid in the alignment of SU's research goals with the State of Louisiana's workforce development goals, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

The program rewards high-risk, high-return research proposals and prototype development surrounding COVID-19 relief, education, and adaptation to uncertainty caused by coronavirus ripple effects, including projects that:

- develop new technologies
- apply theories or methods to new research areas
- introduce transformational research ideas and/businesses
- aid in diversifying research and internship arenas that have traditionally had low minority participation

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is limited to current, full-time, SUBR undergraduates in good standing with the University. Eligibility is limited to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or permanent residents. Students who are in the final semester of matriculation are ineligible.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Deadline for submission is **October 30, 2021**. The application link will be available on the ORSI-ED website:

<https://subr.edu/RESEARCH/faculty/research&enhancement-grants>

Proposals should be routed through the OSP by a **faculty researcher/mentor** with a completed [routing form](#) and submitted as a single pdf or Word document with the following:

- Cover Page (no more than 1 page)** – Project Title, PI/Co-PI applicant's name(s), student status, Name of College, Department, and contact information for PI (office, email, & phone), and a brief one-paragraph abstract that highlights at least one of the high-risk, high-return areas mentioned in the BLEU-R purpose. Abstracts must be suitable for publication.
- Project Narrative (5 page maximum)** – Project narrative should include a brief overview of the proposed research/prototype (with ties to existing research in the area), any theoretical foundation (existing or proposed), purpose and methodology of the research/prototype, the transformational nature and/or uniqueness of proposed study/invention and distinguish between the BLEU-R research project and the activities of the eventual proposal for which you will seek external funding. Please provide citations and references where necessary.

- C. Plan for Obtaining External Funding (no more than 1 page)** – Please include: a) government agencies or foundations your faculty mentor plans to approach and provide a copy of the agency/foundation solicitation to which he/she plans to submit; b) any conversations/past proposals he/she may have had with program administrator(s) at the agency/foundation and provide feedback or proposal reviews; c) timeline for applying to agency/foundation; d) the expected scale of the proposed larger project; and e) how the activities of the associated BLEU-R grant would aid the pursuit of external support. Also list any current or pending grant applications that are related to the project, including funds requested or received from sources both internal and external to Southern University and A&M College.
- D. Relation of Proposed Activities to Existing Research (no more than 1 page)** – If the BLEU-R grant is related to an existing, ongoing, currently funded COVID-19 relief, prevention, and/or education research project, describe the relationship including: a) how the activities funded by the BLEU-R grant will benefit the existing project; and b) how the existing project will benefit the activities supported by the BLEU-R grant.
- E. Budget and Justification (justification should be no more than 2 pages)** – A maximum of five grants of up to \$5,000. Budget should provide clear indication of expenses by category (tuition costs, materials, equipment, participant support, etc.) and the total. Tuition costs should **NOT** exceed 25% of the project total. Equipment costs cannot be the **ONLY** expenses on the project unless funding is to support a prototype build and should **NOT** exceed \$5,000. Travel costs are **ONLY** allowable when in support of the presentation of research findings that result from BLEU-R project activities. To receive travel permission through BLEU-R funds, a copy of the invitation to present or conference approval of presentation/research abstract is required. **NO international travel is allowed.** A brief budget justification addressing each category, as well as the overall budget rationale should be attached. Funds are awarded for a period of **ONE** project year. All awards are final and will not be renewed. Expenditures must be made within the project year. Cost- and or no-cost extensions may be allowed in certain circumstances. Requests for extensions (with proper justifications and approvals) must be made via the BLEU-R Grant Program Portal.
- F. Curriculum Vitae** – Vitae for each investigator listed should be in the format of the Agency to which external funding will be requested (i.e., if submitting to NSF, all vitae should be a 2-page NSF-formatted biographical sketch).

REVIEW PROCESS

All student proposals must be supported by a faculty researcher/mentor. ***A letter from research faculty/mentor acknowledging that the student investigator is/will work on a research project under his/her management is required.*** Proposals will be reviewed by the BLEU-R Executive Committee. The most important evaluation criteria are intellectual merit and the promise of innovative, transformative research/potential for manufacturing. Secondary criteria may include the extent to which the research is interdisciplinary or involves collaborative activities.

Grant awards will be announced by: **NOVEMBER 15th and every two weeks after, as applications are submitted.**

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Research projects involving human subjects must maintain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. While proposals that have not yet undergone IRB review may still be considered for funding, no funds will be disbursed until the project is approved by the IRB.

Recipients of BLEU-R grants are obliged to report on the activities to which the grant is being applied on a quarterly basis. Progress toward obtaining external support for the eventual project must also be reported prior to the close of the project year. The BLEU-R grant investigator reporting schedule is November 15th (initial report should include information regarding budget status ONLY), December 1st and March 1st immediately following the award of the grant, and June 1st to close out the project.

Funding and reporting schedules are subject to change as agency deadlines may be extended.

Investigators who receive external grants based on BLEU-R research are expected to administer those funds through the Office of Sponsored Programs, as well as acknowledge BLEU-R support in any papers and publications ensuing from the research.

All BLEU-R requests and reports should be submitted via the BLEU-R Grant Program Portal.

For more information regarding the BLEU-R Grant Program, Contact:

Deidre Street

Office of Research, Strategic Initiatives,
and Economic Development (ORSI-ED)

P.O. Box 9272

Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Ph: 225.771.3890, ext. 200

Email: bleu-rgrant@subr.edu



RED/BLEU-R INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION

Principal Investigator Name: _____
 Faculty Staff *

Department: _____ College: _____

Mailing Address (SU): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Co - Investigator Name (if any): _____
 Faculty Staff Undergraduate Student*#

Department: _____ College: _____

Mailing Address (SU): _____ Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Please list additional investigators (if applicable): _____

***For Students: Answer the following and list your faculty advisor**

Is this study part of an Honors College Thesis? YES NO

If Yes, do you have approval from your Thesis Committee? YES NO

Thesis Committee Chair/Faculty Advisor Name/#Signature: _____

Department: _____ College: _____

Mailing Address (SU): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Title of Research Project:

Anticipated Start and End Dates: _____

***All student proposals are required to receive faculty researcher/mentor approval to be eligible for funding.**



RED/BLEU-R INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION

Funding Status:

- Externally Funded* Grant Application Internally Funded* Not Funded
- Other _____

Funding Agency (if applicable): _____

****Must include a draft of the external grant program RFP. Once proposal is completed/submitted, a final draft must be submitted to the OSP.***

Title of Grant or Program: _____

Grant or Program Deadline: _____

Agency Contact Person (name, address, telephone number, email address: