

ENERGY INITIATIVES & IMPERATIVES

Utah's 10-Year Strategic Energy Plan

Energy Research Triangle – Scholar Program Guidelines

A Competitive and Collaborative Grant Program

Program Background

In Governor Gary R. Herbert's "ENERGY INITIATIVES & IMPERATIVES, *Utah's Ten-Year Strategic Energy Plan*" (online: <http://www.utah.gov/governor/docs/10year-strategic-energy.pdf>), Governor Herbert outlines the importance of energy to strengthening Utah's economy and preserving our vibrant quality of life. Governor Herbert acknowledges the important role of Utah's research universities in "development and deployment of energy technologies and work -force capabilities" including training scientists, engineers, and technicians who will advance energy-related research.

To that end, the Energy Research Triangle – Scholars grant program provides funding to university faculty researchers for student-led projects.

Program Description

The Energy Research Triangle - Scholars (ERT-S) grant program is a competitive research program open to currently matriculated students in good standing who are pursuing a Bachelors, Masters or Ph.D. degree at any non-profit higher education institutions within Utah.

The purpose of the program is to develop Utah's next generation of talent for scientific and engineering leadership while simultaneously addressing Utah's unique energy challenges with innovative solutions. These challenges include, but are not limited to: energy transportation and infrastructure, environmental quality, resource management, and sustainable energy development.

Program Funding

Each faculty mentor will receive up to \$15,000 for student-led research aimed at finding solutions to significant energy issues in the State of Utah. Funds must be used for research-related expenses such as student salary, laboratory costs, and supplies, as outlined in the application budget and may not be used to pay faculty mentor salary

and/or benefits. Funds will be administered by student recipient's academic institution. Facilities and Administrative costs (F & A) are not allowed.

Up to five one-year undergraduate or graduate level faculty-mentored research grants will be awarded.

Eligibility

The ERT-S grants are available to university researchers meeting the following guidelines:

1. Project must be led by a currently matriculated student in good standing, who is enrolled in a non-profit Utah university and is overseen by a research professor at a non-profit Utah university.
2. Student researcher must be developing a technology with applications that can address Utah-specific energy and natural resource issues.
3. Student researcher must be developing a technology assessed to be between a TRL of 2 and 5.

Application Requirements

To Apply:

1. Email a letter of intent to Tyson Todd, ttodd@utah.gov by November 2, 2016. Please include: project title, student name, professor name, and university.
2. Download application document
3. Complete the application
4. Obtain signature of institutional official (grants officer)
5. Email a pdf of the completed application to Tyson Todd, ttodd@utah.gov

Incomplete applications or applications exceeding the page limits will not be considered.

Important Deadlines:

1. Letter of intent is due Wednesday, November 2, 2016 by 5:00 PM (MDT.)
2. Application deadline is Wednesday, November 30th, 2016 by 5:00 PM (MDT.)

Additional Requirements and Provisions

Applications must be the original work of the applicant(s) and must not infringe on any third-party rights. Please ensure application responses are written in plain English, containing informative yet non-confidential information.

Selection Process

Applications will be screened by a panel convened by the Governor's Energy Advisor. Notification of award or rejection may follow within 45 days of submission. Final granting authority rests with the USTAR Governing Authority and the Governor's Office.

Award Terms and Conditions

1. Initial funding of no more than 50% of the total grant will be awarded to meet milestones
2. Remaining grant funds for individual milestones will be disbursed upon completion of those milestones
3. A final report will be completed at the end of the project. Guidelines for this report will be provided.
4. Final financial report is due within 90 days of the project end date

Milestone and Reporting Requirements

The research team is required to provide reporting, as applicable, specified in Section 63M-2-702 and 704.

Researchers may be required to present their work at the Governor's Energy Summit to be held between April and May of 2017 in Salt Lake City, UT.

Additional Information

No-cost extensions will be considered under limited circumstances and require pre-approval.

Awards are non-transferable.

Any capital equipment purchased through the grant becomes the property of the institution of higher learning.

Any Intellectual Property developed over the course of the project shall be handled according to standard University procedures.

The ERT-S grant program is funded by the State of Utah, and is sponsored by Utah Science Technology and Research (USTAR), and the Governor's Office of Energy Development.. The program is administered by USTAR (Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative). and managed for the Governor by the Executive Director of the Energy Research Triangle under the leadership of the Governor's Energy Advisor.

USTAR and OED reserve the right to offer commercialization guidance and to publish non-confidential ERT-S program success stories in the media with appropriate applicant review. Recipients agree to notify OED and USTAR prior to publicizing their projects and prior to using the OED or USTAR logo in print, online or other media.

INDEMNIFICATION: The applicant hereby releases, discharges, holds harmless and agrees to indemnify USTAR and OED, their affiliates, the State of Utah, and third party information providers from any claim or liability, whether now existing or arising in the future, arising from or related to any applications or USTAR, OED, the State's, or any third parties', use thereof, or arising from or related to ERT-S, or the applicant or vendor's participation therein. The applicant, vendor, and commercializing entity agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless USTAR and OED, their affiliates, the State of Utah, and third party information providers from and against all claims, suits, actions, losses, expenses, damages, penalties, and costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees resulting from any actual or alleged conduct as a result of their participation with a Scholarship project.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: USTAR and OED will not use, and does not have any rights in, any applications, except for the purposes of conducting and promoting the ERT-S. USTAR and OED cannot guarantee the confidentiality or security of the intellectual property rights and cannot control the use of the ideas or concepts within any applications by third parties.

FAILURE TO PERFORM – SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION: USTAR or OED, in its sole discretion, may require the applicant, vendor, or commercializing entity to repay all funds disbursed by USTAR and OED under this Agreement in the event of gross misconduct. Such repayment is to be made within 90 days of a determination by USTAR and OED of gross misconduct.

LITIGATION: In the case of any litigation arising from the ERT-S grant program, Utah will be the jurisdiction for any related legal proceedings.