

FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD 2025 REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

www.calstate.edu/csUPERB

Important Dates and Information:

RFA Release Date:	September 5, 2024
Nomination Deadline:	October 21, 2024 before 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time
Award Announcement:	During CSU Biotechnology Symposium, January 9-11, 2025
Award Amount:	\$1,000

Program Description:

The Faculty Research Award is an annual award that honors a California State University (CSU) faculty member who has done significant work and built an outstanding biotechnology-related research program. The CSUBIOTECH Faculty Research Award program is designed to encourage pioneering biotechnology scholarship on CSU campuses, to celebrate the careers of outstanding faculty researchers, and to highlight the work of collaborative faculty-student research groups. The award winner is invited to deliver a public talk at the annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium about his or her research program and receives an award of \$1000.

Award Eligibility:

- Tenured or tenure-track CSU faculty, employed in the system for a minimum of 5 years, are eligible for this award.
- Nominees and nominating committee members should be available to attend the annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium January 9-11, 2025, at the Hyatt Regency Orange County, Garden Grove, CA.
- Applicants who have been found liable of a substantiated violation of Title V, Title IX, or CSU Executive Orders 1096 or 1097 in the last 5 years (after all investigations and appeals have been exhausted) are NOT eligible to apply for any CSUBIOTECH awards.

Nomination Instructions:

NOMINATION DEADLINE: Monday, October 21, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. pacific time.

Nominations must be submitted by a CSU faculty member or administrator.

Nominations must be submitted electronically using the InfoReady submission form (see application link at www.calstate.edu/csUPERB) in either Microsoft WORD or Adobe PDF format before the deadline. Faculty will log into the InfoReady system using their campus ID/username and password.

A complete nomination package consists of all of the following:

1. Signed Nomination Letter from a CSU faculty member or administrator (limit 2 pages; submitted on campus letterhead)

2. Nominee's Curriculum Vitae (CV), and
3. At least two additional, signed Letters of Support (limit 2 pages each) from students, alumni, colleagues and/or collaborators.

Applicants who are unable to access or use the InfoReady submission system should send their completed proposal template, including any additional documentation or support letters, to Christine Montgomery at rmontgomery@sdsu.edu by the submission deadline of **October 21st, 2024 at 5pm**.

Award Selection Process:

The CSUBIOTECH Program Office will evaluate nomination packages for completeness and eligibility. Only complete nomination packages (see above) will be considered.

Qualified nominations will be forwarded to a review committee comprised of CSUBIOTECH Faculty Consensus Group members and Faculty Research Award winners. The selection committee will select the award recipient based on nomination letters and the nominee's CV. The committee is charged with making award to a CSU faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in biotechnology research.

One award will be made.

The Award

The award is a \$1,000 grant for the awardee's use on their campus.

The award is made with State of California dollars and can be used for any item related to the awardees academic or research activities. This includes, but is not limited to, salary for allowable non-academic activities, purchase of release time (and associated benefits), research or academic travel, equipment (including tablets /computers), research supplies, etc. The recipient must comply with state, CSU and campus spending guidelines for the use of state funds.

Generative Artificial Intelligence Technology:

CSUBIOTECH has adopted a policy on the use of generative artificial intelligence technology similar to that of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The NSF policy can be found at <https://new.nsf.gov/news/notice-to-the-research-community-on-ai>. The CSUBIOTECH policy applies as follows to all grant and award programs, including peer review.

To safeguard the integrity of the development and evaluation of proposals in the merit review process,

- CSUBIOTECH reviewers are prohibited from uploading any content from proposals, review information and related records to non-approved generative AI tools.
- Proposers have the option to indicate in the project description or proposal/application documents the extent to which, if any, generative AI technology was used and how it was used to develop their proposal.

Use of generative AI by reviewers in CSUBIOTECH review panels. CSUBIOTECH reviewers agree to maintain confidentiality of the review process, reviewer identities, and application/proposal materials submitted to CSUBIOTECH in response to grant and award Requests-for-Proposals (RFP's) and Requests-for-Nominations (RFN's).

The obligation to maintain confidentiality of review related information extends to the use of generative AI tools and "checking" programs. CSUBIOTECH reviewers are prohibited from uploading any content from proposals, review information and related records to non-approved generative AI tools or websites not approved by the CSUBIOTECH program office. If reviewers take this action, CSUBIOTECH will consider it a violation of the program's confidentiality policy. CSUBIOTECH reviewers may share publicly available information with current

generation generative AI tools.

Use of generative AI in proposal preparation. Proposers are encouraged to indicate in the project description or narrative of their proposals and applications the extent to which, if any, generative AI technology was used and how it was used to develop their proposal. Similar to NSF, CSUBIOTECH is studying the use of generative artificial intelligence in responses to our calls for proposals and nominations. CSUBIOTECH will continue to review NSF policy and may adapt its own policies as more is learned about this tool in future rounds of grant and award programs. To be clear, the use of generative AI in proposal preparation is not prohibited in CSUBIOTECH grant and award programs.

Proposers are responsible for the accuracy and authenticity of their proposal submission in consideration for peer review, including content developed with the assistance of generative AI tools. CSUBIOTECH's policies stated in its Code-of-Conduct and Applicant Certification statements remain in force with regards to the use of generative artificial intelligence technology. Generative AI tools may create risks of violating these rules and regulations, and proposers and awardees are responsible for ensuring the integrity of their proposal and reporting of research results. This policy does not preclude research on generative AI as a topic of study.

CSUBIOTECH adopts the definition of GAI as stated in the NSF guidelines: "Generative artificial intelligence (GAI) is a technology that can create content, such as text, images, audio, or video, when prompted by a user. Generative AI systems create responses using algorithms often trained on large datasets of information, such as text and images from the internet." (Source: U.S. Government Accountability Office, Science and Tech Spotlight: Generative AI; June 2023 available at www.gao.gov/assets/830/826491.pdf)

CSUBIOTECH Statement of Principles on Professional Behavior, Policies and Procedures:

CSUBIOTECH values diverse perspectives where all individuals can flourish. CSUBIOTECH is dedicated to providing an environment that fosters intellectual curiosity and creativity, free and lively debate conducted with mutual respect for individuals, and freedom from intolerance. These values are applicable to any aspect of CSUBIOTECH's work, including meetings, symposia, and funded activities. Specifically, members of our community value:

- Critical scholarly discourse for the purpose of understanding, advancing scientific ideas, and educating the next generation of science and engineering practitioners;
- Education and research environments where all people are treated equally, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation and free of bias, hostility, and harassment of any kind;
- Conversations and discussions where community members can share ideas in a collegial atmosphere that is inclusive and values everyone's input and opportunity to participate;
- Advocacy for equality and inclusivity in science;
- The use of inclusive examples, graphics, and stories in presentations and proposals;
- Access for all community members, including traditionally underrepresented groups, to fully participate in and become leaders in science;
- The support and promotion of the education and careers of all scientists, engineers, and bio-entrepreneurs;
- Leadership in our fields to strengthen scientific mentorship and create an atmosphere of collaboration;
- Commitment to our own education and participation in activities related to recognizing and eliminating implicit bias.

Policies

- 1) All participants in CSUBIOTECH events and activities are expected to follow the requirements of Title V, Title IX, and California State University (CSU) Executive Orders and adhere to the CSUBIOTECH Principles of Professional Behavior and values. Non-CSU participants who do not follow these expectations may be asked to leave a CSUBIOTECH event or activity and/or prohibited from participation in future CSUBIOTECH events or activities. Individuals can report incidents immediately to the CSUBIOTECH designee to facilitate this process.

- 2) Individuals found in violation of Title V or IX or [CSU Executive Orders 1096 or 1097](#) are not eligible to receive CSUBIOTECH funding or participate in CSUBIOTECH program activities for a period of 5 years from the final substantiation of the violation or the end of any current grant award, whichever is later. Faculty who are found to be in violation before funds are transferred for an award, will be ineligible to receive funds for the award.
- 3) After a five-year ineligibility period, individuals found in violation of relevant policy for a second time lose eligibility for all future CSUBIOTECH funding or participation in CSUBIOTECH related activities permanently. [Relevant CSU Executive Orders include:](#)
 - a. Executive Order 1095 Revised (Systemwide Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking Policy);
 - b. Executive Order 1096 Revised (Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking against Employees and Third Parties and Systemwide Procedure for Addressing Such Complaints by Employees and Third Parties); and
 - c. Executive Order 1097 Revised (Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking against Students and Systemwide Procedure for Addressing Such Complaints by Students) may be found at the following website address: <http://www.calstate.edu/eo/>.

Certifications

- 1) CSUBIOTECH will include the Statement of Principles on Professional Behavior (section III above) in event registration processes. Event participants will be asked to acknowledge the principles.
- 2) Applications for CSUBIOTECH funding, award opportunities, or event registrations will include the following certifications:
 - a. Applicants will indicate whether they have been found in violation of Title V, Title IX, or CSU Executive Orders 1096 or 1097 in the last 5 years.
 - b. Applicants will allow the campus to disclose to the CSUBIOTECH program office any substantiated violations of Title V, IX, or CSU Executive Orders 1096 or 1097.

Reporting Procedures:

- 1) Incidents that involve CSU faculty, staff, or students only
 - a. Individuals who believe there has been a violation of Title V, IX, or Executive Orders 1096 or 1097 at a CSUBIOTECH event or activity should report the event following CSU policy and procedures on their home campus.
 - b. Prior to transfer of grant or awards to campus, CSUBIOTECH will ask for campus confirmation that the awardee has not been found in violation of Title V, Title IX, or Executive Orders 1096 or 1097 in the prior 5 years. The campus information provided will include only the existence of a final, substantiated violation and the date of the violation. The information will be kept confidential in the CSUBIOTECH program office.
- 2) Incidents that involve non-CSU individuals
 - a. Suspected violations of Title V, Title IX, or Executive Orders 1096 or 1097 by participants not affiliated with the CSU should be reported to CSUBIOTECH administration immediately. Participants may also e-mail CSUBIOTECH administration to report at a later date, if so desired.

Program Contacts:

Nominators are encouraged to contact CSUBIOTECH via email with any questions. CSU

Biotech Equally Effective Alternative Access Statement:

Applicants who are unable to access or use the InfoReady submission system should send their completed proposal template, including any additional documentation or support letters, to Christine Montgomery at rmontgomery@sdsu.edu by the submission deadline of October 21st, 2024 at 5pm.

Any questions about using the InfoReady system can be directed to Tyson Gadd at tgadd@sdsu.edu.

Submission questions:

Tyson Gadd
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Program and nomination questions:

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