

Program Snapshot

Title	Research Computing Center Assistance
Purpose	Research Computing Center Assistance is designed to support researchers who do not have current funding to support this particular facet of their research program; who work in areas that are traditionally not supported by external funding; or who traditionally receive funding from sources that will not permit the inclusion of research computing costs.
Deadlines	First Tuesday in each month August 2010 through April 2011.
Eligibility	Available to UGA faculty with a need to use RCC resources.
Amounts	No explicit limit. Awards will be based upon the project need (taking into consideration past usage, available funds and available RCC resources). Typical awards will be \$200-\$10,000. Awards will be valid until the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2011).
Questions?	Jessica Kissinger (RCAC Chair) – jkissing@uga.edu - 542-6632

Program Description

The goal of this program is to provide assistance to researchers who need to use the Research Computing Center. The vast majority of costs associated with the RCC are absorbed by grants obtained by researchers for equipment hosted in the RCC, OVPR and the CIO/EITS. However, there are some costs associated with research computing that fall outside of the category of items that are covered by the Facilities and Administration (F&A) return guidelines that need to be recovered from users of the facility. Because this represents a change in circumstances and policy effective July 2009 for the usage of a vital campus research resource, assistance is being made available to help researchers that need time to include these new fees in their grants, to junior or unfunded faculty who need preliminary results in order to obtain funding, and to researchers that work in disciplines that traditionally do not provide support for research expenses.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible applicants are UGA faculty. Priority will be given to researchers generating preliminary results in order to obtain funding, researchers from areas that are traditionally not externally funded, researchers who are funded by agencies that do not permit the inclusion of allowable computing costs and funded researchers in need of bridging funds to pay costs not covered by current funding.

Only one proposal may be funded by any eligible individual. Proposals can include multiple distinct research lines that require use of the RCC. If appropriate, proposals may be submitted jointly by more than one individual, but no individual may be funded on more than one proposal, whether joint or single. Budgets (RCC usage requests) must be specified for each faculty member on joint applications. If this program continues beyond FY2010 awards, renewal awards will be prioritized based upon demonstrated research progress (publications, research output, submission of grants, receipt of grants etc.)

Budget/Funding

Funds are being provided from UGARF. The amount of money available is limited to the budget shortfall of the RCC for FY2011, currently 152K and/or available RCC resources. Award amounts will be based upon the project need. Typical awards will be \$200-\$10,000.

Awards are for fiscal year 2011 only (until June 30, 2011) and carry forward is not permitted. Awards will be made in the form of an internal account that award recipient RCC expenses will be billed against. Costs other than RCC billed expenses are not eligible.

Application Procedures and Documentation

In preparing your proposal for this program, applicants should remember that the review subcommittees cannot include specialists in every field. Therefore, it is important that the research significance of the proposed RCC use be clear to a broad audience. The application process is designed to be short and focus on the specific eligibility criteria.

The application process is electronic and will only be accepted on the provided application form, which can be found under "Forms and Policies – Internal Grants and Awards" on the OVRP website. To complete, save and submit the application via email, you will need Adobe Acrobat Professional. Adobe Acrobat Reader will allow completion of the form, but it cannot be saved. If you only have access to Adobe Acrobat Reader you can complete and print the form and then scan it to submit via email.

The proposal application must contain the following components:

- *Cover sheet* (page 2 - application form) – The first page of each proposal must be the program cover sheet, completed according to its directions. If you do not know your CPU usage, leave this item blank. CPU usage statistics will be readily available by user when the new billing system is implemented. If you are requesting hosted services (a request to locate equipment in the RCC), please contact Jerry NeSmith, nesmithj@uga.edu to determine suitability and provide a description of the hosting need in the research overview.
- *Biographical Sketch* (page 3 - application form) - Do *not* attach a CV. All pertinent information should be covered on this form.
- *Users of RCC resources* (page 4 – application form) – Please provide the names and MyID of all students, staff, post-docs etc that are allowed to charge their RCC usage to this proposal. If a MyID is not available, please explain why.
- *Future Support* (page 5 - application form) (1/2 page limit). Potential sources of support for continuing the program initiated by the grant should be identified. If external support

will be required, agencies to be approached should be specified. Also, if this research is included in any currently pending external proposal, that proposal should be identified.

- *Listing of previous research* (page 5 - application form) (1/2 page limit). List previous research, publications, papers etc. that are relevant to this proposal.

- *Research Overview* (2-page limit – provide as an attachment). This section should describe, in a way that can be understood by faculty members in areas different from your own:
 - a. The research question you propose to answer (first paragraph),
 - b. The contribution of this research to the theory, methodology, practice or literature of your field,
 - c. How this research differs from earlier research in the field,
 - d. How this project will contribute to a significant program of research beyond this RCCA support.
 - e. Does the research involve human subjects or data subject to human subjects review or HIPPA compliance?
 - f. Is this research question currently supported by a funded or submitted research proposal? (If so, please identify the source and project duration)
 - g. Estimate of the number of CPU hours or storage space that will be needed until June 30th, 2011, and a justification for the estimate.

Application Deadlines

Proposals will be reviewed monthly August 2010 – April 2011. Proposals can be submitted continuously, but deadlines for review that month will be the first Tuesday of each month. Proposals should be emailed to ovprip@uga.edu. We will accept applications and review them until funds are exhausted. Users with needs that arise after April 2011 are encouraged to contact the RCAC chair to determine the availability of funds. If the program is continued, a new award cycle will be initiated for subsequent fiscal years in the months preceding that fiscal year.

Please name the application file as [Last Name]_[First Name]_RCCA-[Initials of Committee]. For example, the application for John Smith for the Life Sciences Committee would be named as "Smith_John_RCCA-LS." (See below for Initials.)

Evaluation Criteria and Procedures

The goal of this grants program is the development and maintenance of excellence in research computing at the University. Thus, while the quality and significance of the proposed work are of paramount importance, special consideration will also be given to other factors relevant to research computing and inequities in funding between different disciplines.

Major points that reviewers will consider are given below (this list is not meant to be exhaustive).
General

- a. Does the proposal communicate the importance of the work and the enthusiasm of the proposer?

b. Have the proposal format guidelines (especially page limits) been followed?

Significance

- a. Is the importance of the project within its field made clear?
- b. Will successful completion of the project have an impact upon the field?
- d. Is the project significant to the development of a program of scholarly activity by the proposer?

Project Design

- a. Are the objectives clearly defined, and is the basic question to be answered clearly identified?
- b. Does the proposer have the necessary background and expertise?

Budget

- a. Is the quantity of CPU time and/or storage space requested been justified?
- b. Is the amount requested reasonable and consistent with the total funding available to this grant program?

Appropriateness to this Program

- a. Is the proposal consistent with the "bridging or seed money" concept, which gives faculty an opportunity to continue their research or initiate new programs of research?
- b. Will the proposed project lead to further funding from external sources if continued support is needed and normally available in this area of research?

Review Subcommittee Structure

Applications in the following areas are peer reviewed by separate faculty subcommittees in each area. Potential reviews with a conflict of interest will be recused.

LS. Life Sciences. Basic Research and research covering application of scientific principles or technology in the life sciences.

PM. Physical and Mathematical Sciences. Research in the natural sciences outside the life sciences.

SB. Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Award Procedures and Conditions

All research carried out under the sponsorship of Research Computing Center Assistance is subject to all of the University's standing policies regarding research. In particular, proposers of projects involving human subjects must obtain the necessary approvals before commencing work. Awards cannot be released until these forms, when appropriate, have been submitted and approved.

Time Period. Grant funds must be spent during the fiscal year in which they are awarded. Funds not used within the award year will be forfeited. The award can be used by the PI, Co-PIs or members of the PI's research group as designated by the PI on the RCC account management page. While PI's can have only one award, members of their research groups can be designated on multiple different projects by different groups and their RCC use will be

tracked accordingly, by project.

Continued Eligibility. It is expected that those who receive an RCCA will continue to meet the eligibility requirements; otherwise, they may forfeit the award.

Reports. A *final report*, summarizing what has been accomplished during the grant period, including information on publications and grant proposals generated as a result of the grant must be received by January 31 of the year following the award year. Report forms are available on the OVPR website and should be turned in via email to jhawks@uga.edu or via campus mail to Jessica Hawks, Room 650, Boyd GSRC.

At any time that you receive external funding resulting directly from an RCCA you should submit a *Resulting Funding Report* (available on the OVPR website) to OVPR via email to jhawks@uga.edu.

Duplicate Funding. If, prior to an RCCA being awarded, external funding is obtained to support any of the items requested in the proposal, the grantee must promptly notify the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.

Acknowledgment. Funds for awarded RCCAs come from the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc., and any publications resulting from the projects awarded should acknowledge the source of funds: "(a portion of) this research was supported by a grant from the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc."

FAQ

I am a Research Professional IV; can I apply for an RCCA?

No. This is a staff position; RCCA funding is limited to faculty positions.

I need more time to complete my project and spend the money in my account. What do I need to do?

Extensions are not permitted beyond the end of the fiscal year.

I have been awarded an RCCA and I need more CPU hours. What do I need to do?

To request an increase to your number of CPU hours please contact Jessica Kissinger jkissing@uga.edu. Your request will be reviewed as quickly as possible and notification sent to you via email.

May I submit and be awarded an RCCA in consecutive years?

Consecutive requests will be considered for each fiscal year that funding remains available. In order to *submit* a proposal in consecutive years, any reports due on the previous projects must be received by OVPR. Please see the *Reports* section above for further instructions on completing your final report.