

UC Davis Early Career Faculty Award for Creativity and Innovation

2024-2025

Criteria and Deadlines

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

The UC Davis Early Career Faculty Award for Creativity and Innovation was established to promote and support exploration, creativity, and advances in research by UC Davis faculty. It is intended to encourage talented early-career faculty to develop their own intellectual pursuits. The Award is a one-time-only unrestricted cash award made to a non-tenured ladder rank Assistant Professor to support exceptional scholarly or creative work. One Award will be granted annually.

ELIGIBILITY

Only non-tenured ladder rank Assistant Professors are eligible for this Award.

UC Davis Assistant Professors are eligible if they are non-tenured at the time of the Award start date (April 1, 2025). Prior recipients of the Award are not eligible for future nomination, but Assistant Professors who applied in prior years but did not receive an Award are eligible to apply again.

There is no restriction on the numbers of applications a department may forward to the Dean for review and possible nomination. Deans should remind Departmental Chairs to encourage Early Career Faculty to apply.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Award recipients will be selected from nominations received by the due date based on a Review Committee's evaluations. Criteria for evaluation include how this Award will support:

- enhancing creative academic activity,
- advancing innovation, and
- advancing scholarship at UC Davis.

Several government agencies (NIH, NSF, etc.) and professional societies award substantial research grants specifically designated for scholars in the early period of their careers. Since those grants also provide recognition and funding for scholars at the Assistant Professor level, nominees who have already received such honors will have lower priority for the UC Davis Early Career Faculty Award.

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LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FROM EACH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE

Since one (1) Award will be made each year, the number of nominations that the Dean of each College or School may forward for consideration is limited to one (1), except that because of the large sizes of these colleges two (2) nominees each may be proposed by the Deans of the College of Letters and Science and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

BUDGET PROPOSALS AND APPROPRIATE EXPENDITURES

The Award will be \$40,000 to support the proposed activities.

The duration of the Award is one year. All these funds must be spent within two years of the Award.

Award funds may be used for research-related expenses, such as the purchase of laboratory equipment, travel to a site where data will be collected, attendance at a professional meeting to present a paper or performance, as well as salaries for research assistants, students (including graduate student fees), or postdoctoral fellows on the research team.

Award funds may also be used to pay the Summer Salary of a recipient who holds a nine-month appointment.

With the approval of the Department Chair, Award funds may also be used to provide partial teaching relief by paying the salary and benefits of a lecturer who will provide the necessary course relief. Applicants may request teaching relief for no more than one academic quarter during the Award year, and their Departmental Chair must explicitly support this request when the application is first submitted.

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APPLICATION PROCESS:

Faculty will submit applications through their Chair to their Dean. The Dean will select a nominee(s) to be forwarded to Academic Affairs for further consideration.

Applicants should:

1. Complete the *Application Form*, including the *Abstract*.
2. Attach an up-to-date *Curriculum Vitae*, including a bibliography of your published work.
3. Attach a *Description of the Proposed Project*, **written in lay terms**, that includes these three points:
 - a) The activity proposed, its importance, and its relevance to the three Evaluation Criteria. The application must address each of the three criteria that will be evaluated by the Review Committee.
 - b) How the proposed activity will be accomplished.
 - c) A time schedule for completion of the project.

This *Description* is limited at most to two (2) single-spaced pages, with a minimum font size of 12.

4. Attach a single Budget Page that describes how the Awarded funds will be spent.
5. Have the application approved and signed by your Department Chair and forwarded to the Dean's office by the deadline below.

DUE DATES

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Jan 20, 2025 | Deadline for Assistant Professors to submit application to Department Chair for signature and approval. |
| Jan 27, 2025 | Deadline for Chairs to forward the approved applications to the Dean for consideration. |
| Feb 3, 2025 | Deadline for Deans to forward nominations to Lynn White in Academic Affairs at Imdaum@ucdavis.edu . |
| March 2025 | Target for announcement of the 2024-2025 UC Davis Early Career Faculty Award for Creativity and Innovation. The Award will start on April 1, 2025. |

Questions/Concerns:

If you have questions about eligibility or the application process, please contact Lynn White at Imdaum@ucdavis.edu.

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APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Departmental Chair's and Dean's Signature Page

Name of Applicant: _____

Department: _____ School/College: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Title of Proposal: _____

Proposed Budget Amount: _____

Department MSO/Finance Contact: _____

Department MSO/ Finance Contact E-mail Address: _____

Does this application's budget include one quarter's course relief? YES / NO

Signatures:

Chair's Name: _____

I **DO / DO NOT** approve the inclusion of a request for
one quarter's course relief from teaching.

Chair's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dean's Name: _____

Dean's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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APPLICATION FORM

Applicant's Name: _____

Department: _____ School/College: _____

Current Rank and Step: _____ Effective Date: _____

UC Davis Hire Date: _____

Proposal Check List:

_____ Application **Cover Sheet** and **Application Form** (3 pages total)

_____ Attach **CV**, including a bibliography of your published work

_____ Attach **Project Description** (Refer to Application Process, #3)

_____ Attach **Budget Page** (Refer to Application Process, #4)

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ABSTRACT

Briefly describe **in lay terms**, the gist of the proposal and its relevance to the Award criteria (limited to 100 words).

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

(Attachments: CV; Description of the Project; and Budget page)