

What is the ADVANCE Mini-Grant Program?

The ADVANCE mini-grant program is intended to promote and provide financial support for empirical research projects that address issues central to the goals of ADVANCE. These projects should ultimately lead to conference presentations and publications in order to meet the goal of dissemination of information.

Proposals should be two pages in length and will be reviewed by members of the Assessment Committee of the ADVANCE program. (Should we tell them who the members are?)

Example topics:

- Analysis of changing demographics within science and engineering applicant pools.
- The experience of tokenism in being a woman in science..
- Mentoring relationships that facilitate success in academia.
- Do gender accommodating climates relate to nonlinear career trajectories?
- Reducing gender and ethnic bias in the classroom.
- Factors associated with female scientists and engineers leaving academia.
- The social networks of successful female academics.

Funding Amount and Administration

A total of \$15,000 per year will be allocated to this mini-grant program. Grant awards will typically range from \$500 - \$5000 in amount but larger requests will be considered. Grant money can be spent on purchasing materials and supplies, recruitment of participants, and wages of individuals who assist in projects, presentations, and research-related costs.

These funds must be spent within one year of receipt. At the end of one year, all award recipients must submit a two-page summary of the research project and findings, which will be shared on the ADVANCE website. Additionally, award recipients should indicate resulting conference presentations or publications supported by the grant. Finally, if significant results emerge, recipients may be asked to share their findings internally with the Rice ADVANCE community through a colloquium or poster series.

Who is eligible to apply?

Faculty members, research fellows, and undergraduate and graduate students (with sponsorship from a faculty advisor) in all departments at Rice University are eligible to apply. Proposals may be submitted individually or by a group of students and/or faculty.

Selection Criteria:

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee according to the following criteria:

- (1) The significance, merit, and feasibility of the research project, and the degree to which it will address issues relevant to the ADVANCE initiative and also help assess the impact of the ADVANCE grant.
- (2) The qualifications and commitment of the faculty member and/or student to conduct a quality research project.
- (3) The likelihood that the project will ultimately result in a conference presentation or journal publication.

How to Apply

Applicants should send an electronic copy of the proposal to Mikki Hebl (hebl@rice.edu) and two hard copies to her in the Department of Psychology, MS 205. Proposals will be reviewed twice a year, with submission deadlines of October 1st and February 15th.

Proposals must include:

- (1) A project description of no more than two double-spaced pages that indicates the nature of the research, the hypotheses, and the methods.
- (2) A description of how the project fits the initiatives of the ADVANCE grant.
- (3) A detailed budget and description of how the grant will be used.
- (4) A curriculum vitae (or resume) for each applicant of no more than three pages.
- (5) The intended timeframe of the project complete from initiation to publication.

Upon final recommendations by the Assessment Committee and approval by the ADVANCE Leadership Group, each applicant will be informed whether a grant will be forthcoming and the amount of the award. Actual distribution of the award will be contingent upon receiving IRB approval. The goal is to provide this information within four weeks of the submission deadline.

Questions: Contact Mikki Hebl (hebl@rice.edu).