

I. SUMMARY

The Indiana Academy of Science Senior Research Grants Program provides funding of up to \$5,000 to Academy members, or students they sponsor, for the support of novel scientific research. Funding may be used to purchase supplies, support travel and field expenses, pay research assistants, and cover other costs essential to carrying out scientific investigations. Deadlines for submission are March 15 and September 15 of each year. Applications must be submitted through the Indiana Academy of Science website.

For questions, email grants@indianaacademyofscience.org.

II. PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Indiana Academy of Science Senior Research Grants Program is supported by income from the John S. Wright Fund. Since 1964, these funds have provided financial support for a wide range of scientific research projects that align with the Academy's mission and advance science within Indiana. The Research Grants Committee oversees the administration of the program, including developing guidelines, reviewing proposals, and determining funding decisions.

III. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Be a current member of the Indiana Academy of Science or have been a member in good standing during the preceding year.
- New members who have not previously applied for a Senior Research Grant are eligible.
- Students, postdoctoral associates, or non-permanent faculty must have a faculty sponsor who meets the membership requirement and assumes fiscal and administrative responsibility for the grant.
- Grants are awarded to the applicant's affiliated organization (not to individuals). Applications must include authorization from an official with signing authority at the applicant's institution.

IV. REVIEW PROCESS

Each application is reviewed by multiple members of the Senior Research Grants Committee. Review criteria include:

- Scientific merit and clarity
- Appropriateness of methodology
- Qualifications of the investigator
- Budget reasonableness and adherence to guidelines
- Alignment with the Academy's mission and contribution to Indiana's scientific community

Preference will be given to:

- Projects contributing directly to Indiana
- Applicants with limited access to external funding
- Start-up projects with potential for future funding
- Projects actively involving undergraduate and graduate students
- Modest funding requests allowing support of multiple projects
- Proposals demonstrating intent to present findings at IAS Annual Meetings or publish in the Proceedings

V. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants must upload a single PDF file containing all required components, organized in the following order:

- Completed Senior Research Grant Information Form (with all required signatures)
- Cover Page (investigator and sponsor names, affiliations, email addresses, descriptive project title, submission date, funding amount requested, and payment information for the institution)
- Abstract (maximum 300 words)
- Narrative (maximum five pages, single- or double-spaced with double spaces between paragraphs; 10–12 point font; 1" margins) including:
 - Problem statement and study justification
 - Literature review
 - Research objectives, scope, and methodology
 - Other funding efforts
 - Investigator qualifications
 - Expected publication timeline
- References Cited
- Budget (with detailed justifications)
- IRB/IACUC approval or exemption documentation (if applicable)
- Progress Report (if seeking continued funding from a previously funded project)

VI. BUDGET GUIDELINES

Allowable expenses:

- Supplies directly consumed by the project
- Vehicle travel within Indiana (fuel costs, limited rental justification)
- Room and board at study sites
- Wages for students or technicians (not for applicants or sponsors)
- Equipment specific to the project (limited to less than 50% of the total budget request)

Non-allowable expenses:

- Attendance at meetings
- Publication costs
- Institutional overhead or indirect costs
- Salaries for applicants or sponsors
- Pedagogical research
- Computer purchases or computing time

Budgets must include detailed justification for each requested item. Inadequately justified budgets may result in partial or no funding.

VII. FINAL REPORTS AND PUBLICATION EXPECTATIONS

A financial accounting and a final scientific report are required within six months of project completion. Failure to submit reports will render the applicant ineligible for future grants. Oral presentation of research results at an IAS Annual Meeting is expected. Publications resulting from supported research must acknowledge Indiana Academy of Science funding.

VIII. MODIFICATIONS TO FUNDED PROJECTS

Requests for project extensions (without additional funds), budget reallocations, or continuation funding must be submitted in writing to the Research Grants Committee Chair. Extensions may be granted for up to six months under normal circumstances.

IX. DEADLINES

Applications are due by March 1 and September 15 annually. Applicants are encouraged to submit early to ensure confirmation of receipt.