

**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

Report No. 2018.02/4000.01
Grant and Contract Activity Report

Introduction

External sources of funding make substantial contributions to the advancement of faculty scholarly activities, student experiential learning, and University outreach. The work made possible by such funding supports the core values of Illinois State University, most directly the values of Learning and Scholarship, Civic Engagement, and Collaboration. Furthermore, the research, creative activities, and educational outreach made possible by such external support are integral parts of the University's Strategic Directions, Objectives, and Actions.

Summary

External support for sponsored projects at Illinois State University totaled \$19.1 million in FY17, an increase of 15% from FY16. The number of proposals submitted in FY17 (265) decreased from FY16 (315), but the total funding requested in FY17 (\$68.1 million) increased substantially (\$59.1 million was requested in FY16).

The Colleges receiving the most external funding in FY17 were the College of Education (\$8.0 million), the College of Arts and Sciences (\$4.9 million), and the College of Applied Science and Technology (\$2.0 million).

Additionally, in FY17:

- Submissions included 201 different principal investigators (PIs) from Illinois State University, and newly-funded projects involved 126 different PIs from the campus.
- Indirect funds totaling \$1.3 million were awarded through University grants and contracts. Indirect funds provide additional services in support of research, scholarship, and creative expression, plus they support initiatives designed to increase extramural funding.
- Three agencies provided nearly half of the total funding: the U.S. Department of Education (\$4.4 million), the National Science Foundation (\$2.6 million), and the Illinois State Board of Education (\$2.5 million).
- The three academic units receiving the highest amount of external funding in FY17 were the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations (\$2.3 million), the Center for

Mathematics, Science, and Technology (CeMaST, \$1.7 million), and the School of Biological Sciences (\$1.5 million).

Data Summary

The following table details sponsored project funding for FY17 and FY16. The numbers of awards/submissions for each item are included in parentheses.

	FY17	FY16
Total Awards	\$19,122,932 (209)	\$16,608,496 (215)
Federal Awards	10,919,946 (50)	7,406,546 (36)
Federal Flow-Through	2,853,749 (26)	4,615,789 (35)
State Awards	2,037,849 (15)	1,341,920 (4)
Other	3,311,388 (118)	3,244,241 (140)
Submissions	\$68,102,548 (265)	\$59,153,174 (315)
Total Indirect Funds Awarded	\$1,277,110	\$1,147,419

Current Initiatives

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies continues to provide resources and administrative support to faculty and staff involved in research and other grant-supported activities. Each of these initiatives is aligned with the Strategic Plan for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Expression.

- i. Enhanced Administrative Support for Research.* In March of 2017, Research and Sponsored Programs (RSP) began a pilot program that provides faculty and staff additional support for managing their grants and sponsored programs. As a part of this effort, RSP partnered with the Comptroller’s Office to find ways to reduce the administrative burden on faculty seeking external funding. Similar efforts to provide enhanced services to researchers are underway in Research Ethics and Compliance, the office that oversees the regulatory aspects of research, particularly research with human subjects. The goal of these efforts are to reduce the overall administrative burden for faculty and staff so that they may devote more time to their research, creative, and/or outreach activities.
- ii. Partnership for Intellectual Property Development.* In spring of 2016 Illinois State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign formed a partnership in which UIUC will provide technology transfer services to support efforts to expand the development of new intellectual property at Illinois State. UIUC’s Office of Technology Management now provides fee-based services to help identify, patent, and license new intellectual property developed at ISU. During FY17 several researchers have submitted technologies for evaluation, and in FY18 the Office of Research and Graduate Studies is working to develop further support mechanisms for the development of intellectual property at ISU.
- iii. New Faculty Startup Support.* The Office of Research and Graduate Studies has been providing start-up funding for faculty newly appointed to a tenure-track position at Illinois State University. The purpose of this program is to strengthen the University’s support for faculty research, scholarship, and creative endeavors by providing additional resources for new faculty to advance their scholarly work. The first few years in a faculty member’s position are critical for establishing a scholarly agenda that engages students and advances the University’s public service mission. In FY17, approximately \$100,000 in funding was awarded to support the scholarship efforts of 30 new faculty members.

Additional Ongoing Activities:

- **Travel Award Program.** Funds are provided to support faculty travel to meet with agency program officers, to collect preliminary data, or to meet with collaborators at other institutions. A required

outcome of this travel is the submission of a grant proposal to an external agency. Travel is arranged and coordinated by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

- ***Faculty Publication/Exhibit Support Program.*** The Office of Research and Graduate Studies provides matching funds in support of publication charges, open access fees, and exhibition costs for publications/exhibits resulting from research and creative activities.