

GUIDELINES

SOUTH CENTRAL ACADEMIC MEDICAL LIBRARIES CONSORTIUM RESEARCH GRANTS

The SCAMEL Board is committed to supporting research on issues of import to the health sciences library profession by awarding grants to biomedical librarians in the five-state SCAMEL service region. Grant applicants may request funds to support independent research or to respond to research topics identified by SCAMEL.

Eligibility

- An applicant must hold a graduate degree in library science.
- An applicant must be a practicing biomedical librarian in the SCAMEL service region (Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico) and must have at least two years of experience in a professional position.
- An applicant must be a member of SCC/MLA.
- An applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States, and must reside in the defined five-state region.

Terms

- An applicant must submit a completed application form to the Chair, SCAMEL Research Committee by January 2 or by July 1.
- Three letters of endorsement, support, and recommendation from persons not related to the applicant should be sent directly to the chair of the SCAMEL Research Committee. Letters should address the applicant's knowledge and abilities relevant to the proposed research. When practical, at least one letter should be from a person in a position of responsibility in the applicant's library who can address the institutional commitment to the successful completion of the project. The letters will be considered part of the application package when proposals are evaluated by the SCAMEL Research Committee.
- The application must describe the scope and nature of the proposed project, and must give evidence of an established methodology and a viable research design.
- The application must show how the proposed project would contribute significantly to the profession's body of knowledge.
- The proposal must contain the title, goals, objectives, methodology, and budget for the project. It must also contain evidence of the knowledge of the existing literature of the proposed topic, and the proposed means by which the results of the research will be disseminated.
- The application will be acknowledged by the Chair, SCAMEL Research Committee upon receipt.
- The criteria used to evaluate the *applicant* are 1) education and training, 2) experience, 3) research competence, 4) knowledge of research field, 5) research potential, and 6) previous productivity

- The criteria used to evaluate the *proposal* are 1) adequacy of project description, 2) originality, 3) relevancy and importance to the profession, 4) soundness of experimental design and detail, 5) prospects for reaching specific conclusions, 6) project feasibility, and 7) adequacy of the investigator's background and competence.
- The grant awards will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 from an annual grants budget of \$10,000. Multiple grants may be awarded in any twelve-month period; or, in the event of receipt of no qualified applications, no grant awards will be made in any twelve-month period. In the event of the identification of a qualified project for which there is no grant budget support within a twelve-month period, such project grant award may be deferred by the SCAMEL Research Committee to the next fiscal year.
- Upon recommendation by the SCAMEL Research Committee to the SCAMEL Board at its semiannual meeting, the SCAMEL Board shall vote to award or to deny award to those recommended. The Chair, SCAMEL Board will immediately send letters to all applicants informing them of the decision.
- Grantees must submit semiannual reports to the SCAMEL Research Committee, including the expenditures from the grant during the sixmonth period. Failure by the grantee to meet the reporting obligations may result in cancellation of the grant, and the subsequent return of the full grant amount to SCAMEL by the grantee.
- Funding of these grants shall be for one-year periods which shall commence with the announcements of such grant awards at the semiannual meetings of the SCAMEL Board. Grant funds will be issued to the chief investigators home institution. At the end of the twelvemonth period, grant balances, if any, shall be returned to SCAMEL by the grantee.
- No institution may be the recipient of a SCAMEL research grant more than once in any two-year period.
- SCAMEL research grants do not include any allocation for institutional overhead (or indirect) costs, and no part of the grant money may be used for such purpose. Travel expenses for the purpose of presenting the results of the research are not allowable. Eligible expenses include equipment, supplies, compensation for staff time allocated to the project, travel in conjunction with the actual research, and cost of other services necessary to support the project. All anticipated expenses should be delineated in a detailed budget submitted as part of the application.
- Grantees must submit the final report of their research to the Chair, SCAMEL Research Committee. Publications, posters, or other presentations resulting from research should acknowledge SCAMEL grant.

For additional information, contact the Chair, SCAMEL Research Committee,

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